

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1536
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2013
EDUCATION FOR WOMEN
Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the standard of education of women and girls in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures taken by the Government for improving the education of women and girls during the last three years;
- (d) the total funds sanctioned/released/spent during the said period, State-wise; and
- (e) the results achieved in this regard so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) & (b): The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts a National Achievement Survey to assess the learning level of children, including girls, for class III, V & VIII. The survey has shown that the average pupil achievement levels have increased, even though overall achievement is low.

(c) to (e): To encourage the participation of girls in elementary education, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides for the opening of schools in the neighborhood to make access easier for girls, the appointment of additional teachers including women teachers, free textbooks, free uniforms, separate toilets for girls, early childhood care and education centers in/near schools in convergence with ICDS programme etc., teachers' sensitization programmes to promote girls participation, gender-sensitive teaching learning materials including textbooks, the scheme of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalyayas as residential upper primary schools and the National Programme Of Education For Girls At Elementary Level (NPEGEL).

Under the Rashtriya Madyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) interventions to promote girls participation in secondary schools include the opening of new schools, the strengthening of existing schools, the appointment of teachers, the construction of residential quarters for teachers in remote/hilly areas, hostel facilities for girls, teacher sensitization programmes and separate toilet blocks for girls. In addition, a Girls' Hostel Scheme, the National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (NSIGSE), exemption from paying tuition fee in Kendriya Vidyalyayas, and 33% reservation for girls in Navodaya Vidyalyayas, are also being implemented.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has also undertaken several schemes for the benefit of girls and women. These include the construction of Women Hostels Scheme, the Capacity Building of Women Managers in Higher Education Scheme, the Indira Gandhi Post Graduate Scholarship Scheme for Single Girl Child and a fellowship for single girl child for taking up research in science departments, which have been covered under the Basic Scientific Research (BSR) programme.

The Funds released and expenditure incurred under the SSA and the RMSA programmes including the interventions for promotion of girls' education is at Annexure.

The enrolment of girls has been steadily increasing and the dropout rates declining at all stages of education. The Census 2011 reveals a rise in female literacy rates from 53.67% in 2001 to 65.46% in 2011.