

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:525
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2013
FORMAL EDUCATION
Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay

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

- (a) whether the Union Government is taking any steps to ensure that prisoner's children receive a formal education once they are made to leave prison at five years of age;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory education for all children including prisoners' children in the age group of 6-14 years. In order to ensure that all the children get an opportunity to go to school, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), which is the main vehicle for meeting the objectives of the RTE Act, supports the States/UTs in the opening of new neighbourhood schools, residential school facilities for hilly, dense forest areas and also for urban deprived children and children in sparsely populated areas, special training for the mainstreaming of out of school children and also for transport/escort facility in exceptional cases.