

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3437
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2013
CHILDREN OF SEX WORKERS
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set up/proposes to set up schools for the children of sex workers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) to (c): The Government has enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, which covers all children including children of sex workers in the age group of 6-14 years. The Act provides for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of 6-14 years till completion of elementary education in a neighbourhood school.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) a flagship programme of the Government provides for a variety of interventions for universal access and retention, bridging of gender and social category gaps in elementary education and improving the quality of learning. With the enactment of the RTE Act, changes have been incorporated into the SSA approach, strategies and norms. Equity is one of the key principle of the new approach which means not only equal opportunity, but also creation of conditions in which the disadvantaged sections of the society including children of sex workers can avail of the opportunity.