

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3258
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009
PUNITIVE ACTION AGAINST PARENTS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether there is a demand from certain quarters to bring legislation providing for punitive action against parents failing to send their children to school thereby denying them the fundamental right to primary education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a mechanism to see that every parent sends his child to school;
- (d) if so, the present status of the aforesaid proposal; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (e): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 has been enacted by Parliament to provide for free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years. Section 10 of the Act provides that it shall be the duty of every parent or guardian to admit or cause to be admitted his or her child or ward, as the case may be, to an elementary education school. However, the Act does not provide for any punitive action against the parents. Instead, it casts an obligation on the Appropriate Government and the Local authority to provide free and compulsory elementary education to every child in the 6-14 age group.