

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2198
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013
VILLAGE EDUCATION COMMITTEES
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Village Education Committees (VECs) have been constituted all over the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including their role in improving rural primary education;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch awareness and advocacy campaigns to enhance public participation through VECs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the funds earmarked for the purpose?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Prior to the enactment of the Right of Children to Free & Compulsory Education (RTE) Act 2009, Village/school level committees had been constituted under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme in all States/UTs. However, under the RTE Act 2009 mandate, a School Management Committee (SMC) has to be constituted for every elementary school.

All States/UTs have notified the constitution of the SMCs. Under the RTE Act, 2009, the SMCs have been assigned the function of monitoring the working of the school, preparing and recommending the school development plan and monitoring the utilization of the grants received by the school.

(c) & (d): Under the SSA, community awareness is provided in the form of community training and community mobilization. The SSA norms provide for an allocation of 0.5% of the district outlay towards community mobilization including advocacy and awareness campaigns.