

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2358

ANSWERED ON:05.02.2014

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATORS UNDER SSA

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

- (a) whether the dropout rates amongst differently abled children are high as compared to the normal children;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has instructed the States to appoint special educators under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) to help students with disabilities;
- (c) if so, the response of the State thereon;
- (d) whether a large number of special educators, appointed under SSA, were not specially qualified in teaching the differently-abled particularly blinds; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

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

(a) : Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), the dropout rates amongst Children With Special Needs (CWSN) are not compiled separately. However, the enrolment of CWSN has been increasing gradually every year. The enrolment of Children With Special Needs (CWSN) has increased from 14.05 lakh in 2010-11 to 21.74 lakh in 2012-13. (Source: DISE).

(b) & (c): For resource support to Children With Special Needs (CWSN), especially trained special educators can be appointed, particularly for teaching special skills to children with special needs. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) norm for disabled children is Rs.3000/- per child per annum, with Rs.1000/- per child exclusively for the engagement of resource teachers. Each Block Resource Centre should also have two resource persons exclusively for

Children With Special Needs (CWSN) to enhance academic support for students with disabilities. The resource teacher may be posted at the block or cluster level and can operate in an itinerant mode, covering a group of schools where children with special needs are enrolled. So far under SSA, 16863 resource teachers and 4079 resource persons have been engaged exclusively for students with disabilities.

(d) & (e): The States/UTs are appointing resource teachers as per the guidelines issued by the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI). In case qualified special teachers as per prescribed qualifications are not available, teachers with short training courses recognised by the RCI may be appointed with the condition that they will either complete the full course within three years of appointment or the long term training of regular teachers shall be undertaken.