

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2849

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2014

NON-AVAILABILITY OF SCHOOLS

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that in some places of our country, the students have to trek regularly more than 5 kms. to attend classes;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has prepared any list of such villages/places where there is no school within 2 kms. radius;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the follow up action taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (d): After enactment of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) norms have been revised which provide for opening of new primary and upper primary schools as per neighbourhood norms laid down by the State governments under their State RTE Rules to provide access to all children of 6-14 years age group. So far, under the SSA 2.02 lakh primary schools and 1.55 lakh upper primary schools have been opened, mostly in rural areas, which have enhanced access to school going age group for habitations which were hitherto deprived of access to schools. For out of school children, special training is also provided to enable children to complete bridge courses and to join age appropriate classes in regular schools. Further, revised SSA norms also provide for transport facility to those children residing in remote and sparsely populated areas.