

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2744
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2018**

Education in Border Areas

2744. SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to bring in mainstream the youth belonging to the border belt/area of Punjab;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal for giving special incentives to the teachers teaching in the rural areas and especially the border areas so that the quality of the education and instructions may also improve for the youth of the said areas;
- (c) whether the Government is planning or has in stock special funds for the development of infrastructure of schools in border areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)**

(a) : As informed by Department of Youth Affairs, in order to mobilize, motivate and organize the youth including those belonging to border belt /area of Punjab, various programmes have been initiated. To enhance their participation and to develop democratic institutional mechanism and village based Youth Clubs and to empower them to become productive and responsible citizens, following programmes and activities are conducted by the Department of Youth Affairs through Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) in 623 districts across India, including border belt/area of Punjab. Some of the programmes/activities of NYKS are (i) Youth Club Development Programmes (ii) Training on Youth Leadership and Community Development (iii) Promotion of Sports in rural areas (iv) Skill up-gradation Training Programme (v) Promotion of Folk Art and Culture, (vi) District Youth Convention, etc.

The centrally sponsored scheme, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) envisages inter-alia provision of a secondary school within a reasonable distance of any habitation and to improve quality of education imparted at secondary level by making all secondary schools conform to prescribed norms, removing gender, socio-economic and disability barriers etc. Students of the age group of 14-18 years form the target group of the scheme.

One of the components of the scheme is introduction of **vocational education** at secondary and senior secondary level. The aim is to increase employability of youth if they aspire to enter the work force. Providing vocational Education within the school curriculum gives students an exposure to the world of work and helps them to take conscious decisions

about their future. The Vocational Education component has been approved in **238 schools** of border districts of Punjab covering Eleven trades namely Apparel, Agriculture, Automobile, Beauty & Wellness, Construction, Healthcare, IT/ITeS, Physical Education & Sports, Retail, Security, Travel & Tourism.

(b): The payment of salary and allowances and recruitment and service conditions of Government teachers are primarily in the domain of respective State governments/UT Administrations. The Central Government through RMSA programme provides financial assistance/salary for teachers in new secondary school and additional teachers in existing school. Further, the Department has also requested all States/UTs regarding the desirability of having a policy to fix a minimum tenure for teachers in rural areas.

(c)&(d): Under RMSA Scheme, every year State/UT Governments propose their Annual Work Plan and Budget on basis of their requirement, for Central Assistance, which are examined and approved as per RMSA guidelines depending on the identified gaps in access in the State and physical & financial progress of earlier approved interventions.

A Statement showing approvals given in respect of Border Districts of Punjab under different components of RMSA for infrastructure development in schools is at **Annexure-I**.

ANNEXURE-I

Statement Referred to in reply of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2744 to be answered on 12.03.2018 regarding Education in Border Areas asked by Shri Gurjeet Singh Aujla.

Approvals under different Component of RMSA (Punjab- Border Areas)

No of new Schools Approved	No of Schools Approved under strengthening	Girls Hostel approved	No of Schools Approved under Vocational Education	No of Schools Approved under ICT@ schools component
32	762	7	238	1018
