

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2288
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2019

Education for Children of Farmers and Labourers

†2288.SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:

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

- (a) the schemes being run by the Government especially in rural areas to ensure the bright future of the children of farmers and labourers in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

(a) & (b): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, entitles every child of age 6 to 14 years to a right to free and compulsory education in a neighbourhood school till completion of elementary education. Section 8(c) of the RTE Act, 2009 provides that the appropriate government would ensure that the child belonging to weaker section and the child belonging to disadvantaged group are not discriminated against and prevented from pursuing and completing elementary education on any grounds. Further, Section 12 (1) (c) of RTE Act, 2009 provides that all specified category schools and unaided schools shall admit at least 25% children belonging to weaker section and disadvantaged group in the neighbourhood in class I and provide free and compulsory elementary education till its completion.

Samagra Shiksha, an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII, aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education. It envisages the 'school' as a continuum from pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to senior secondary levels. Bridging gender and social category gaps at all levels of school education is one of the major objectives of the scheme. The scheme reaches out to girls, Children with Special Needs (CwSN) and children belonging to Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), minority communities and transgender. The focus of major interventions under the Scheme includes provision of RTE

Entitlements such as free uniforms, text books, special training of Out of School children etc., provision for Inclusive Education of Children with Special Needs (CwSN) and Vocational Education among others. The scheme also gives attention to urban deprived children, children affected by periodic migration, including children of farmers and labourers and children living in remote and scattered habitations. Under the scheme, provision has been made for giving preference to Special Focus Districts (SFDs), Educationally Backward Blocks (EEBs), LWE affected districts, and aspirational districts while planning interventions like setting up/ upgradation of schools upto senior secondary level, strengthening of existing infrastructure, upgradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs), residential schools and hostels, etc.

The Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme provides for opening of one JNV in each district of the country to bring out the best of rural talent. Its significance lies in the selection of talented rural children as the target group and the aim to provide them quality education comparable to the best in a residential school system.

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**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
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(a) & (b): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides every child of the age of 6-14 years, the right to free and compulsory education in a neighbourhood school till the completion of his or her elementary education. Section 4 of the RTE Act provides for special training for age appropriate admission of out of school children. Those children who have missed out certain academic years either because they were never enrolled in school or dropped out of school, have a right to Special Training in residential and non residential mode, subsequently to be mainstreamed in formal schools in age appropriate class. Sections 8(C) and 9(C) of RTE Act 2009 makes it obligatory upon the 'Appropriate Government' and 'Local Authority' to ensure that the child belonging to weaker section and the child belonging to disadvantaged groups are not discriminated against and prevented from pursuing and completing elementary education on any grounds. Section 12 (1) (C) of the Act mandates all private aided, Special Category schools and private unaided schools to admit to the extent of at least 25% of the strength, children belonging to weaker section and disadvantaged group.

Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing Integrated Scheme for School Education (ISSE) namely **Samagra Shiksha**, effective from 2018-19. The Integrated Scheme for School Education envisages the 'school' as a continuum from Pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to Senior Secondary levels. It supports States and UTs in implementation of the RTE Act, 2009.

Major Provisions under Samagra Shiksha for Education of Children:

(I) Free Uniform and Textbooks: The major interventions, across all levels of school education, proposed under the Samagra Shiksha scheme includes RTE Entitlements including uniforms and textbooks. The Scheme will provide two sets of uniform to all girls, SC, ST children and Below Poverty Line (BPL) children and there is support for provisions for textbooks to all children in Government/Local Body and Government Aided schools, including Madarsas desirous of introducing the State curriculum, at primary level and at upper primary level.

(II) Vocationalization of School Education: Under Samagra Shiksha, there is a provision for vocationalisation of School Education. It seeks to integrate vocational education with general academic education with an aim to prepare educated, employable and competitive human resource for various sectors of the economy and the global market. Till the year 2018-19, the scheme has been implemented in 8654 schools.

(III) State specific interventions for Adolescents: Further, Special state specific projects for varied interventions under equity are emphasized for enhancing access, retention and quality by promoting enrolment drives, retention and motivation camps, gender sensitization modules etc. Financial Support is also provided under State Specific projects as per the allocation of flexi fund under quality to the state subject to viable proposal received from the respective State and UTs.

State specific projects for varied interventions including menstrual health and hygiene are sanctioned by the Project Approval Board as per the Annual Work Plans proposed by the State/UT concerned which are as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Particular	Budget Approved for the year 2019-20	
	Physical	Financial
A. Elementary		
• Adolescent Programme for Girls Students and Empowering Adolescents with life skills education in schools	12533	1037.6
• Drug /Substance abuse camp	1	40.00
B. Secondary		
• Adolescent Programme	197691	2316.27
• <u>Sanitary pad Vending & incinerator machines</u>	14957	4415.48
• Drug /Substance abuse camp	1	40.00

(Source: PMS)

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Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme

The National Policy on Education-1986 envisaged setting up of residential schools, to be called Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas that would bring out the best of rural talent.

It was felt that children with special talent or aptitude should be provided opportunities to progress at a faster pace by making good quality education available to them irrespective of their capacity to pay for it. Such education would enable students from rural areas to compete with their urban counterparts on an equal footing.



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The Navodaya Vidyalaya System which began as a unique experiment, is today unparalleled in the annals of school education in India and elsewhere. Its significance lies in the selection of talented rural children as the target group and the attempt to provide them quality education comparable to the best in a residential school system.

