

IMRB-SRI Report on education for children

***173. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANABHARTIA:**

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

(a) whether as per a nation-wide survey that was carried out by IMRB-SRI of school going children aged 6 to 13 years, almost 6.94 per cent of children in this age group are out of school and out of this massive 68.26 per cent are those who never went to school and about 31.71 per cent are those who dropped out after one or more years of school;

(b) if so, what are the other main points mentioned in the survey report;

(c) whether Government have considered the survey report; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) An independent survey commissioned by the Government of India and conducted by SRI-IMRB in July-August 2005 estimated that 1.34 crore, which is 6.94% of total children in the 6-14 year age group, were out of school. The findings also estimated that 7.92% girls are 'out of school' compared with 6.18% boys in the 6-14 age group; and 7.80% children are 'out of school' in rural areas compared with 4.34% in urban areas.

(c) and (d) Government of India has shared the details of the report with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to take cognisance of the findings of the report while drawing up their Annual Work Plan & Budget for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for the year 2006-07. The annual Government of India budget allocation for SSA has been enhanced to Rs. 11000 crores in 2006-07 and within that a closer targeting of districts with the most 'out of school' children has been ensured.

Care of orphaned boys and girls

***174. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:** Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Care Homes and Orphanages keep children upto the age of 18 only;