

*383. The Questioner, (Shri Bhartsinh Prabhatsinh Parmar) was absent.

Grants to States for SSA

*383. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2554 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11 December, 2009 and state:

(a) the amount Government has spent towards grants to States under the sharing pattern of SSA in the years of which figures are available during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the ratio of (a) to GDP in terms of percentage?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) In response to Unstarred Question No. 2554 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th December 2009, Government had provided information on the fund sharing pattern for implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, as comprising 65:35 sharing ratio between the Centre and States in 2007-08 and 2008-09, 60:40 ratio in 2009-10, 55:45 ratio in 2010-11 and 50:50 ratio in 2011-12 and thereafter. In respect of the States in the North Eastern Region (NER), the reply had indicated that the sharing pattern between the Centre and the States is in the 90:10 ratio. Government had also indicated at that time that there was no proposal to revise the fund sharing pattern between the Centre and State Governments. Since then, however, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has become operative and a proposal to revise the fund sharing pattern between the Centre and the States to implement the combined RTE-SSA programme is under consideration of the Government.

Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP & B), submitted by each State/UT, is considered and approved by the Project Approval Board (PAB) every year, taking into account the fund sharing pattern between Central and State Governments applicable for that year. The Central funds are released after verification of the release of State share applicable for the year and the unspent balances of the total funds released in the previous year. The total year-

wise Central grants released to States/ Union Territories for implementation of SSA in the 11th Plan and their percentage in relation to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at factor cost at current prices are:

Year	Central Releases (Rs. in crore)	GDP# (Rs. in crore)	% age value between Central releases and GDP
2007-08	11426.26	4540987	0.2516
2008-09	12604.81	5228650@	0.2411
2009-10	12781.07	5791268*	0.2207

@ quick estimates

* advance estimates

#Source: National Accounts Statistics, 2010

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Sir, in view of the fact that 19.8 per cent of the total resources of the Eleventh Five Year Plan have been allocated to the education sector as a whole which is unprecedented in the history of India after independence the hon. Prime Minister described the Eleventh Five Year Plan as the Education Plan. Sir, through you, I want to ask from the hon. Minister that as reported in one section of the Press, this is the fourth year of the Eleventh Five Year Plan and the speed of spending the resources earmarked for HRD is not keeping pace. As a result, some of the resources are likely to be under-utilised. Is it true that the resources are likely to be under-utilised? If so, what is the plan of the HRD Ministry to speed up the expenditure?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Member to have asked this general question outside the main question that has been put. But, be that as it may, I am willing to answer it. Yes, Sir, there have been allocations which were given to us under the Eleventh Plan and yes, in terms of those allocations that were considered, the actual Budgetary allocations are much less. And, that's

due to several factors and not just one factor. One of the factors, for example, is, we announced establishment of 14 innovation universities. Plans for those innovation universities have not yet taken off for the simple reason that the concept of an innovation university is not yet clear. We have to come to Parliament. We have set up a task force. So, in the absence of a plan or roadmap ahead, we can't spend that money. Same is the case with the Central Universities. Now, we had set up about 16 Central Universities. But, again, as far as those Central Universities are concerned, the architectural plans for building those universities are not yet complete. They are left to the university councils. Possession has been taken in some cases; in some cases, not even boundary walls have been constructed. So, a lot of money, for example, Rs.84943 crore which was set apart for higher education sector has not been spent. But, as far as elementary education and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan are concerned, because these are on-going schemes, the allocations that have been made for them have been spent more or less, over 90 per cent. So, where there are new schemes, the allocations are yet to be spent. Therefore, for the allocations conceived in the Eleventh Plan, there is no Budgetary support because we are not ready on the ground. But, for the on-going schemes, in fact, the allocations have been spent wherever made.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Sir, the norms of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, which is straight-jacket one, are applicable to all States irrespective of specific conditions prevailing in a State. In Kerala, we have got the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya scheme. Kerala is not getting any assistance under this scheme because the enrolment of girl child is very high in Kerala. In the same way, there is the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan for secondary schools. In Kerala, the problem is not of enrolment but of improving and enhancing the quality of education. So, my question is: Will the hon. Minister be kind enough to take into consideration the specific conditions of States and change the norms accordingly?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, it's very difficult to have a Centrally-sponsored scheme to suit specific conditions of different States. It's very, very difficult to do that. In fact, we must congratulate Kerala because Kerala has done very well in certain areas, especially education of girl child. Now, if you

have done well and we all believe in inclusive development, then, we should actually be asking - the hon. Member should be asking - how much we are doing for the States which are not doing so well. As you know, once we have an inclusive agenda on which everybody has agreed, the question should not be that those States which are doing well should get more. The question should, in fact, be that please give more to the States which are not doing well because that is how we will take the nation forward.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि जो एसएसए के फंड्स हैं, जैसे मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि North-East Region में 90 और 10 परसेंट का ratio है, क्या हिमाचल प्रदेश भी इसमें आता है क्योंकि उसे स्पेशल स्टेट माना गया था? दूसरा, मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या एसएसए के फंड्स केवल हमारी सरकार के हैं या बाहर के देशों से भी इसमें फंड्स आते हैं?

श्री कपिल सिब्बल : सर, माननीय सदस्या ने दो सवाल पूछे हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please answer one.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सर, दोनों का ही जवाब देने दीजिए।

श्री कपिल सिब्बल : सर, जहां तक हिमाचल प्रदेश का सवाल है, यह केबिनेट का decision है, सरकार का decision है कि नॉर्थ ईस्ट में जो हमारा, यानी सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट का योगदान होगा, वह 90 प्रतिशत होगा और 10 प्रतिशत स्टेट का होगा। इसलिए ऐसी कोई नीति हिमाचल प्रदेश के बारे में हमने तय नहीं की है। जहां तक फॉरेन फंडिंग का सवाल है, सर्व शिक्षा अभियान में फॉरेन फंडिंग आती है, लेकिन वह लगभग 6 प्रतिशत है, बाकी हम अपना spend करते हैं। अगर हम 100 प्रतिशत spend करते हैं तो 6 प्रतिशत बाहर से आता है।

GPS in railways

*384. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trial of pilot project for setting up of Global Positioning System (GPS) for giving real time information to the railway passengers carried out jointly by the Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO) and the IIT, Kanpur has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds allocated for the said purpose and the details of expenditure so far incurred for the trial of the pilot project;