

Committee set up for this purpose, this Ministry had prepared a draft Right to Education Bill 2005, to give effect to the Constitution (86th Amendment) Act, 2002, and circulated the same to all States/UTs and concerned Central Government Ministries for their comments. The draft legislation contains several equity-related sections, including provisions that would enable students from economically backward sections of society to receive elementary education with equity.

Children out of school in BIMARU States

2180. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of children out of school in all the BIMARU States;
- (b) whether the high percentage is due to failure of these States in implementation of SSA; and
- (c) whether these States should be provided 100 per cent Central assistance for SSA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per the independent survey commissioned by the Ministry of Human Resource Development and conducted by Social and Rural Research Institute (SRI—a unit of IMRB International) in July-October 2005, the major States with a high proportion of out of school children are — Bihar (17%), Jharkhand (10.88%), Assam (8.91%), Madhya Pradesh (8.67%), West Bengal (8.67%), Uttar Pradesh (8.15%) and Rajasthan (6.9%).

The proportion of out of school children has come down significantly in all these States from the status in 2001 at the time of inception of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). The percentage of out of school children in 2001 was 53% in Bihar, 43% in Jharkhand, 39% in Assam, 28% in Madhya Pradesh, 28% in West Bengal, 28% in Rajasthan and 36% in Uttar Pradesh. Several interventions under SSA have been instrumental in reducing the percentage of out of school children.

(c) The Centre — State fund sharing pattern for SSA for the Tenth Plan period is 75:25.