

Government and other key stakeholders to raise awareness for the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, and its implementation across the country. UNICEF initiatives include development of advocacy and communication material such as TV spots, posters, and radio jingles. In addition, it has launched "Awaaz Do" a digital campaign for RTE advocacy, wherein 2,20,000 people signed up on the website (www.awaazdo.in).

During the current financial year media activities under SSA have focused on creating awareness for the RTE. All print advertisements on SSA carried the RTE message. Several TV spots and radio jingles on RTE have been telecast/broadcast. The Department also designed a tableau on the theme of children's right to education for the Republic Day Parade 2011. In addition, efforts to create awareness on RTE are undertaken through kalajathas in several States.

The Central Government has taken several steps for implementation of the RTE Act including (a) notifying the Central Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2010; (b) notifying the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) as the academic authority under section 23(1) of the RTE Act and the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) as the academic authority under section 29(1) of the Act, (c) constitution of a National Advisory Council (NAC) under section 33(1) of the Act; (e) harmonization of norms of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) with the provisions of RTE Act; (d) laying down the minimum qualification for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in schools; (e) consultation at various forums with the State Governments and other stakeholders regarding implementation of the Act (f) revising the fund sharing pattern between the Centre and State Governments for implementing the SSA programme as per the RTE norms.

Indira Gandhi Scholar ship Scheme-single girl child

1037. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of scholarships provided by Government during last year for single girl child for pursuing higher and technical education under Indira Gandhi Scholarship Scheme for single girl child is very meagre;

(b) whether very few States and beneficiaries have been covered under this programme and whether Government would consider to expand the scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the details of steps taken by Government to increase the purview of benefits to all States and all areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the selection under the scheme is made on the basis of the recommendations of an Expert Committee irrespective of any criteria of disability, income, caste, religion, State etc. for pursuing non-professional Post-Graduate degree courses. Though the slots available under the scheme are 1200 per year, the UGC is sanctioning scholarship to all eligible candidates whose applications are received by UGC. 1538 applications were received by UGC for the year 2009-10, which were complete in all respects. All applications were considered and scholarships were sanctioned. The details are given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise selected awardees for the year 2009-10 towards the scheme of PG Indira Gandhi Scholarship for single girl child

| S.No. | Name of States | No. of Candidates |
|-------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 102 |
| 2 | Assam | 32 |
| 3 | Bihar | 19 |
| 4 | Chhattisgarh | 10 |
| 5 | Delhi | 44 |
| 6 | Goa | 1 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 20 |
| 8 | Haryana | 7 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 2 |
| 10 | J&K | 1 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 6 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|----------------|------|
| 12 | Karnataka | 89 |
| 13 | Kerala | 287 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 10 |
| 15 | Maharashtra | 25 |
| 16 | Manipur | 2 |
| 17 | Orissa | 9 |
| 18 | Pondicherry | 8 |
| 19 | Punjab | 24 |
| 20 | Rajasthan | 10 |
| 21 | Tamil Nadu | 262 |
| 22 | Tripura | 14 |
| 23 | Uttar Pradesh | 50 |
| 24 | Uttarakhand | 8 |
| 25 | West Bengal | 496 |
| TOTAL | | 1538 |

Utilisation of funds granted under SSA

1038. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding financial assistance provided by the Central Government to various State Governments for SSA for teachers' salary, purchase of text-books, etc. during financial year 2007-08 and 2008-09; and

(b) the details regarding mechanism to monitor appropriate utilization of the funds for which they were granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The State-wise details of financial assistance for teachers' salary and text-books for the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 is given in the Statement (*See below*).