

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years. The RTE Act has come into force from 1st April, 2010 in all States/UTs (except Jammu and Kashmir) and is implemented by all the States/UTs.

(b) The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has informed that it has received 1098 and 1768 complaints during the period April, 2010 to March 2011 and April, 2011 to March, 2012 respectively on violation of RTE Act.

(c) Since the enactment of the RTE Act, several steps have been taken by the Central and State Governments for implementing the RTE Act, including the following:

- (i) The Central RTE Rules were notified on 9th April, 2010, which are applicable to five UTs without legislature;
- (ii) 27 State Governments have notified the State RTE Rules;
- (iii) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Framework for Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act;
- (iv) The Centre-State funding pattern for implementation of the combined RTE-SSA programme has been revised;
- (v) Teacher qualification norms have been notified, and Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) has been conducted by the Central Government and several State Governments;
- (vi) Most of the States have issued notifications banning corporal punishment and mental harassment, prohibiting screening for admission and capitation fees, banning Board examination till completion of elementary education, and appointment of academic authority.

**Decline in reading and mathematical skills of children**

2567. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an alarming decline in the reading and mathematical skills of children in the 6-14 year age group;

(b) whether it is also a fact that attendance has come down to 70.9 per cent despite a high rural enrolment percentage of 96.7 per cent;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that in rural areas 97 per cent children are studying in privately owned schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI. D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), an autonomous organization under this Ministry, conducts periodical National Learners' Achievement Surveys for classes III, V and VIII. Till now, two rounds of such Achievement Surveys have been completed by NCERT. These surveys have revealed improvements in the overall learning levels in Language and Mathematics. A comparative table of the progress in respect of the two rounds is given below:

Subject	Class III		Class V		Class VIII	
	Round-I	Round-II	Round-I	Round-II	Round-I	Round-II
Mathematics	58.25%	61.89%	46.51%	48.46%	39.17%	42.71%
Language	63.12%	67.84%	58.57%	60.31%	53.86%	56.57%

The findings of the third round of Achievement Survey conducted by NCERT recently for class V also indicate improvement in the learning level of children in Language in 24 States and in Mathematics in 14 States.

(b) and (c) As per a survey on dropouts conducted in 2008-09 in all States except NE States, the average attendance was found to be 73.3% in primary school and 78.5% in upper primary schools.

(d) As per DISE 2010-11, the percentage of children studying in privately owned school in rural areas is 16.48 only.

#### **Lessons on integrity and honesty in Schools**

2568. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether Central Board of Secondary Education has been asked by Central Vigilance Commission to increase lessons on integrity and honesty;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure inclusion of civil defence and lessons on integrity and honesty in school curriculum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has asked Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to