

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon branch lines	1308.9	10.00	1023.41	1	78.18
4.	Rangiya-Murkongselek alongwith linked fingers (National Project)	1717.29	380.00	1107.75	425.00	64.5
<b>Doubling</b>						
1.	Lumding-Hojai Patch Doubling	246.07	1.00	0	2.00	0

(b) No, Sir. Projects are progressing as per availability of resources.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Output under RTE Act

\*374.SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether surveys have shown that enrolment of students has increased in the last three years under the Right to Education (RTE) Act;

(b) whether it is mostly an input-oriented Act and not quality education Act;

(c) whether Government would specify about the output under the RTE Act; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTF) Act, 2009, which came into force from 1st April, 2010 mandates free and compulsory elementary education for all children in the age group of 6-14 years. As

per the District Information System for Education (DISE), enrolment of children in elementary classes has increased from 18.79 crore in 2009-10 to 19.91 crore in 2011-12, which is near universalisation at the primary level. The annual drop-out rate has come down from 6.76% in 2009-10 to 6.50% in 2010-11. In order to retain children and enable them to complete the elementary education cycle, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides free text books, in-service teacher training, additional teachers to improve PTRs and specific learning enhancement programmes for early grades and upper primary classes.

(b) to (d) The schedule to the RTE Act lays down the norms and standards which are to be achieved by each school within three years of the commencement of the Act. The RTE Act also specifies quality parameters by laying down the framework for the curriculum, evaluation procedure and child centred pedagogy and that all children in the age group of 6-14 years should complete 8 years of elementary education. The RTE Act also lays down the duties of teachers with regard to teaching learning processes in schools.

#### **Cotton yield from Bt. cotton seeds**

\*375.SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cotton yield from boll worm-resistant Bt. Cotton seeds has been falling since 2006 after it was introduced in 2002;

(b) if so, the details of the acreage, production and yield since 2002; and

(c) the reasons for the falling yield and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. The yield per unit area has increased from 421 kg per hectare in 2006-07 to 491 kg per hectare in 2011-12.

(b) The area, production and yield of cotton in the country are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) However, the reasons for yield fluctuations noticed during the period (2008-10) are unfavorable weather conditions, including delayed onset of monsoon and erratic distribution. Integrated water management strategies, remunerative cotton-based cropping systems besides location-specific cotton crop management practices are advocated in order to realize profitable cotton yields even under adverse climatic conditions.