

(c) if so, the details with reasons thereof; and

(d) the action plan to fast-track the system to help its benefits reach the under privileged sections of society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR) (a) to (d) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandates the provision of free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of 6-14 years. As per the District Information System for Education (DISE), the enrolment of children at the elementary level has increased from 18.77 crore in 2008-09 to 19.90 crore in 2011-12. The figures for SC enrolment have increased from 3.70 crore in 2008-09 to 3.94 crore in 2011-12. The figures for ST enrolment have increased from 2.07 crore in 2008-09 to 2.17 crore in 2011-12.

The Central Government has focused on the backward areas in planning and budgeting for the RTE Act. In 2013-14, 12% of the outlay has been approved for 61 districts with concentration of SC population, 12% of the outlay for 109 districts with concentration of ST population and 18% of the outlay for 88 districts with concentration of muslim minority. Since the inception of the SSA and till date, 30,490 school buildings, 2,44,662 additional classrooms, 61,029 toilets, 19,620 drinking water and 90,860 teachers have been sanctioned in SC concentrated districts and 54,326 school buildings, 1,81,295 additional classrooms, 98,054 toilets, 22,445 drinking water and 25,887 teachers have been sanctioned in ST concentrated districts and 38,289 school buildings, 3,09,534 additional classrooms, 61,966 toilets and 13,097 drinking water have been sanctioned in Muslim minority concentration districts.

Prohibition of hawkers in the schools

1278. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether to control any kind of possible physical harassment to girl students in the country, it is proposed to prohibit hawkers within certain radius in the schools;

(b) whether Delhi Government has taken the initiative in the matter;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is proposed to repeat such instructions in other schools in the country to control this menace; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (e) Education being a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and most of the schools being run by the State Governments, it is the responsibility of the respective State Government to take appropriate action in this regard. This Ministry has no information on any initiative in this matter undertaken by the Delhi Government. However, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has taken the following measures to sensitize schools about the possible physical harassment of girl students;

- (i) Implementation of the provisions provided in the 'Protection of children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012'.
- (ii) The Board has also sensitized schools that 'No Act of Violence which includes physical or sexual abuse, bullying or ragging will go unnoticed or unpunished.
- (iii) The Board has implemented Life Skills education in all the schools affiliated to it to make children aware of possible sexual abuse.
- (iv) The Board has introduced Gender Sensitivity Cards for classes I-XII to sensitize students to gender issues.

All India survey on higher education

1279. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has initiated an all India survey of higher education to build a database and to assess the correct picture of higher education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of outcomes of the survey till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. To prepare a sound