

come under the administrative control of the State Governments. It is for the respective State Governments to take steps to improve the level of education in schools including private schools and to keep a vigil watch on practice of donation in private schools. The Government has taken several steps to curb the commercialization of education. Section 13 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 clearly prohibits the collection of any capitation fee. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), time to time also issues instructions to its affiliated schools to prevent commercialization of education and enhancement of quality of its affiliated schools.

Kendriya Vidyalaya in Bihar

†237. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:

SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided many years ago to establish Kendriya Vidyalayas in each district of the country;
- (b) the number of districts in the country that do not have Kendriya Vidyalayas till now and the number of districts in Bihar where the schools have been established;
- (c) the reasons therefor if the schools are not established till now; and
- (d) by when the Kendriya Vidyalayas would be established in all the districts of the country and the details of the timeframe thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) There is no decision for establishment of Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) in each district of the country.

(b) At present, 160 districts in the country do not have a Kendriya Vidyalaya. 47 Kendriya Vidyalayas have been established in 31 districts of Bihar State.

(c) Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened primarily to cater to the educational needs of the wards of transferable Central Government Employees including Defence/personnel on receipt of the proposal in the prescribed proforma from a Ministry/Department of Government of India/State Governments/Union Territory Administration/Organization of employees belonging to the eligible categories thereby committing the availability of requisite resources for setting up a new Kendriya Vidyalaya as well as on the availability of necessary sanction of the Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) In view of the above, no time-frame can be given for establishment of KVs in all the districts of the country.

Steps against exclusion of children from education

238. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to recently released data of Census 2011, 8.4 crore children do not go to school at all, if so, the steps taken by Government to bring these children into the formal educational system; and

(b) the reasons, if any, for such a large scale exclusion of children from education, almost 20 per cent of the age group covered under Right to Education Act, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) Census 2011 has reported that 8.4 crore children do not go to school in the age group of 5 - 17 years. Under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 the mandated age group for free and compulsory elementary education in a neighbourhood school is 6-14 years. The age group of 5-17 years quoted in the Census data, thus, includes one year of pre-schooling age (5 years) and 3 years of above elementary age which is of secondary and senior secondary level of schooling.

According to Census 2011, the number of children who do not attend schools (including never attended and attended before) in the age group of 6-13 years are 3.81 crore. Census 2011 has shown a marked decline in the number of out of school children in this age group from 5.8 crore in 2001 to 3.8 crore in 2011, a 35% decline over a period of ten years.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides assistance to State Governments and UTs to ensure quality elementary education for all children. Universal enrolment is the first goal of SSA, and hence all efforts are being made to bring all children in schools. SSA has provided 2.04 lakh primary and 1.59 lakh upper primary schools for ensuring universal provisioning of schooling facilities. Preference for opening of school is given to tribal areas, and areas with high concentration of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and minority population. In addition, 3609 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, which are residential schools for girls at upper primary level, have also been sanctioned to the States for improving access to marginalised girls particularly out of school, either drop out or never enrolled. The number of total