

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2530  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2006  
EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM  
Ramadass Prof. M

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

- (a) whether the World Bank has pointed out a defective picture of educational system, especially of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government agrees with the view that giving of greater importance to accountability, autonomy and local initiative is required to improve the educational system;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to improve the existing educational system?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (e) An independent review of implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is conducted every six months through a Joint Review Mission comprising the representatives of Development Partners (World Bank, European Commission(EC) and the Department for International Development (DFID) of United Kingdom) and representatives of Government of India. The last review was conducted during January 2006. Salient findings are indicated below:

# Overall, more children in schools: The number of out-of- school children in India has fallen from 25 million in 2002-03 to 13.5 million in 2005-06.

# More girls, children from disadvantaged communities and disabled children in schools: Share of girls in total enrolment rose from 44 percent in 2002 to 47 percent in 2005. Share of children from Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities increased from 18.92% and 10.3% respectively in 2002-03 to 20.6% and 19.4% respectively in 2004-05. Share of disabled children in primary schools rose from 0.6 to 1.37 percent during the same period.

# More children moving to upper primary grades: Transition rates primary to upper primary levels rose from 75 percent in 2002 to 87 percent in 2005.

The trend towards greater decentralization and community participation is evident.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has been focusing on greater empowerment of the community and community organisations for monitoring and supervision of the functioning of schools. The programme is implementing several measures to improve the quality of education and has put in place system for regular monitoring of students learning levels.