GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1195 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.12.2021

Annual Status of Education Report (ASER)

1195. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR (ALIAS) VIJAY VASANTH: SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2021 school education in rural areas is on recovery path and there is a substantial increase in enrolment in Government schools across Boards and financial stress pushed kids out of private schools during pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to address this issue and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has directed the States to give thrust on enrolment of children in the Government schools in the coming years and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

- (a) & (b): Achievement survey released in the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) is conducted by a non-governmental organization.
- (c) to (e): Under centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha, financial assistance is provided to the States/UTs for various activities to increase enrolment, which include opening/strengthening of new schools upto senior secondary level, constructions of schools buildings & additional classrooms, setting up, up-gradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, setting up of residential schools/hostels, free uniforms, free text books, transport allowance and undertaking enrolment drives, residential as well as non-residential trainings, seasonal hostels/residential camps etc. Financial assistance is provided for inclusive education of children with special needs, vocational education and ICT in schools. Also Mid-Day-Meal is provided to students at the elementary level of education.

In order to prevent drop outs, lower enrolments and loss of learning, the Ministry of Education has issued guidelines for identification, smooth admission process and continued education of migrant children on 13th July, 2020, inter-alia, requesting the States to identify and enroll all such children without any procedural formalities.

Further, to ensure that children have access to education with quality and equity and to minimize the impact of the pandemic on school education in the country, Ministry of Education has shared guidelines dated 7th January, 2021 with all States which, among others, include identification of Out of School Children (OoSC) from age 6-18 years, enrolment drives and awareness generation, student support while schools are closed, continued Education for Children with Special Needs (CWSN), student support on school reopening and Teacher capacity building.

This Department has also developed an online module for compiling the data of Out of School Children (OoSC) identified by each State/UT and their mapping with Special Training Centres (STC) on the PRABANDH Portal (http://samagrashiksha.in). The concerned State/UT validates the child wise information of the identified OoSC and STC uploaded by the concerned Block Resource Centre of the State for monitoring the progress of mainstreaming of OoSC.

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