**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

**DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION No. 350**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2019**

**GROSS ENROLMENT RATIO**

**\*350. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:**

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

(a) the details of the current Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER);

(b) whether it has changed during the last three years and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government to ensure an increase in the GER?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

**(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL ‘NISHANK’)**

1. to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 350 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2019 ASKED BY SHRI SANJAY SINGH, HON’BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING GROSS ENROLMENT RATIO.**

1. to (c) : The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in the country in the years 2016-17 to 2018-19 is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Elementary**  **(I-VIII)** | **Secondary**  **(IX-X)** | **Higher Secondary (XI-XII)** | **Higher Education** |
| 2016-17 | 93.55 | 79.35 | 55.40 | 25.2 |
| 2017-18 | 92.98 | 79.28 | 56.46 | 25.8 |
| 2018-19 | 92.19 | 78.66 | 56.41 | 26.3 |

The figures for 2018-19 are provisional.

The Government has taken following steps to increase GER :

1. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (RTE) came into effect from 1st April, 2010. The Act makes elementary education a fundamental right of all children in the age group of 6-14 years. The Section 6 of the Act provides that every child of the six to fourteen years shall have the right to free and compulsory education in a neighbourhood school till completion of elementary education. The RTE Act places a compulsion on the appropriate government to ensure that no child from weaker sections or disadvantaged groups is discriminated against in any manner or prevented from pursuing and completing elementary education.
2. Centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha has been launched from the year 2018-19, which subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE). Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to States and UTs for undertaking various activities to increase enrolment including opening/upgradation of new schools upto senior secondary level, strengthening of existing school infrastructure, setting up and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV), setting up of residential schools/hostels, free uniforms, free text books and undertaking enrolment & retention drives. Further, special training for age appropriate admission of out of school children and residential as well as non-residential training of older children, seasonal hostels/residential camps, special training centres at worksites, transport/escort facilities are also supported to bring out of school children to the formal schooling system. Also, mid-day meal is provided to students at the elementary level of education.
3. Strategic funding and reforms in the State Higher Education sector are being undertaken through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA).
4. Moreover, Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) has been established under the Companies Act, 2013 to leverage funds from market to finance improvement in infrastructure in top institutions of education.
5. With the devolution of more funds to the States as recommended by the 14th Finance Commission, States are in position to prioritize allocation of funds to education sector.
6. Also in order to increase enrolment in higher educational institutions, various measures have been taken by the Government which includes issuing of new UGC regulation for Open and Distance Learning that allows entry of reputed institutions to offer education on the distance mode, Using of ICT technology-SWAYAM portal to reach out of people and allow them to secure good quality education and Opening of more centrally funded institutions.

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