

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 3226
ANSWERED ON-29-03-2023**

National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship

3226 Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:

Will the Minister of **EDUCATION** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of students who applied and received National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship in last five years, year-wise, State-wise, category-wise;
- (b) funds allocated and utilised under National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship in last five years, year wise, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any study to check the dropout rate of students, especially girls, after 8th standard in schools, if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) steps taken by Government to decrease the dropout rate of girls in schools, details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Central Sector Scheme 'National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme' (NMMSS) is being implemented with the objective to award scholarships to meritorious students of economically weaker sections to arrest their drop out at class VIII and encourage them to continue their education at secondary stage. One lakh fresh scholarships are awarded to selected students of class IX every year and their continuation / renewal in classes X to XII for study in State Government, Government-aided and Local body schools under the scheme. The amount of scholarship is Rs. 12000/- per annum. Students with parental income not exceeding Rs. 3.50 lakhs per annum are eligible to avail the scholarships under the scheme. The number of students who received/ proposal submitted by State/UT Governments and funds sanctioned under NMMSS by Ministry of Education, Government of India in the last five years, year wise, State wise and category wise are at Annexure.-I.

(c) & (d): The Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education has developed the Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) system to record data on indicators of school education provided by all the States and Union Territories. As

per UDISE+, Dropout rate gender-wise for the year 2021-22 for Upper Primary and Secondary level is given below:-

Location	Upper Primary Drop Out Rate			Secondary Drop Out Rate		
	Girls	Boys	Overall	Girls	Boys	Overall
All India	3.31	2.74	3.02	12.25	12.96	12.61

Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of the schools fall under the domain of the respective States/UT Government - the appropriate Government under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing an integrated centrally sponsored scheme for School education- Samagra Shiksha. The scheme provides support for the implementation of the RTE Act and has now been aligned with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. It aims to ensure that all children have access to quality education with an equitable and inclusive classroom environment which should take care of their diverse background, multilingual needs, different academic abilities and make them active participants in the learning process.

Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to States and UTs for undertaking various activities for reducing dropout of children including girls, including opening/strengthening of new schools upto senior secondary level, construction of school buildings & additional classrooms, setting up, up-gradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, setting up of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalayas, free uniforms, free text books, transport allowance 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 for older children, seasonal hostels / residential camps, special training centres at worksites, transport/ escort facility are also supported to bring out of school children to the formal schooling system. Further, under the student oriented component for the children with special needs, financial assistance is provided for identification and assessment of children with special needs, aids and appliances, braille kits and books, appropriate teaching learning material and stipend to girl students with disability etc.

Since 2021-22, financial assistance upto Rs.2000 per annum is being provided for supporting Out of School Children including migrant children of age group of 16-19 years, belonging to socio economically disadvantaged groups, for completing their education through NIOS/SIOS, for accessing course materials and certification.

Also, Section 10 of the RTE Act states that it shall be the duty of every parent or guardian to admit or cause to be admitted his or her child or ward, as the case may be, for elementary education in the neighborhood school.

Under 'Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman' (PM POSHAN) one hot cooked meal in Government and Government aided schools is provided to students at the elementary level of education, including Balvatika.

Under Samagra Shiksha, various interventions have been targeted for reducing drop-out of girls, which include opening of schools in the neighborhood to make access easier for girls, free uniform and text-books to girls up to class VIII, additional teachers and residential quarters

for teachers in remote/hilly areas, appointment of additional teachers including women teachers, stipend to CWSN girls from class I to class XII, separate toilets for girls, teachers sensitization programmes to promote girls participation, gender-sensitive teaching-learning materials including text books etc.

Further, under Samagra Shiksha, special state specific projects for varied interventions under equity are emphasized for enhancing access, retention and quality for girls by promoting enrolment drives, retention and motivation camps, gender sensitization modules etc. Such projects include life skills, awareness programmes, incinerators, sanitary pad vending machines etc.

In addition, to reduce gender gaps at all levels of school education, 5646 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) which are residential schools from class VI to XII for girls belonging to disadvantaged groups such as SC, ST, OBC, Minority and Below Poverty Line (BPL), are sanctioned in Educationally Backward Blocks, in which 676941 girls are enrolled.

Moreover, in Kendriya Vidyalayas, girls have been exempted from paying tuition fees from class I to XII and education is free for girls in classes from VI to XII who happen to be the only child of their parents.

Annexure referred to in Part (a) & (b) of the reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3226 asked by Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas, Hon'ble Member of Parliament to be answered on 29.03.2023 regarding "National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship"

S. No	States/UTs Name	F/Y 2017-18					F/Y 2018-19					F/Y 2019-20				
		No. of Scholarships (Fresh+ renewals)				Fund sanctioned (Rs. In Lakh)	No. of Scholarships (Fresh+ renewals)				Fund sanctioned (Rs. In Lakh)	No. of Scholarships (Fresh+ renewals)				Fund sanctioned (Rs. In Lakh)
		GEN	SC	ST	TOTAL		GEN	SC	ST	TOTAL		GEN	SC	ST	TOTAL	
1	Andman & Nicobar Islands	135	1	2	138	8.28	195	0	2	197	23.64	211	*	1	212	25.44
2	Andhra Pradesh	6378	2323	784	9485	580.50	7806	1981	438	10225	1227.00	5447	1529	474	7450	894.00
3	Telangana	6702	2535	1704	10941	688.08	7355	2554	532	10441	1252.92	4409	1410	638	6457	774.84
4	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	12	14	1.68	*	*	*	*	*	36	*	54	90	10.80
5	Assam	1252	*	102	1354	81.24	25	8	464	497	59.64	1277	32	44	1353	162.18
6	Bihar	23017	6070	453	29540	1772.40	10729	3051	261	14041	1564.08	9839	2760	228	12827	1486.20
7	Chandigarh	145	33	*	178	10.68	380	47	*	427	51.24	143	34	*	177	21.24
8	Chattisgarh	*	*	7	7	0.84	295	138	209	642	77.04	297	170	155	622	74.64
9	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	69	14	34	117	7.92	76	15	23	114	13.68	22	1	19	42	5.04
10	Daman & Diu	15	*	10	25	2.04	68	6	7	81	9.72	28	*	4	32	3.84
11	Delhi	6168	3308	80	9556	573.36	2906	1336	47	4289	514.62	825	241	10	1076	129.12
12	Goa	624	30	82	736	44.34	244	10	43	297	35.64	234	6	49	289	34.68
13	Gujarat	29881	4275	5314	39470	2485.18	10754	2138	1665	14557	1746.68	5645	1466	2555	9666	1159.92
14	Haryana	9392	3332	*	12724	763.44	2339	1311	*	3650	438.00	5897	2497	*	8394	995.28
15	Himachal Pradesh	2601	1720	401	4722	291.72	2323	1712	177	4212	505.26	1587	1138	314	3039	364.68
16	Jammu & Kashmir	681	236	113	1030	61.80	410	118	76	604	72.48	829	282	81	1192	143.04
17	Jharkhand	1274	334	617	2225	133.50	952	73	441	1466	133.32	785	187	421	1393	166.80

18	Karnataka	227 47	53 53	13 27	2942 7	1786. 44	170 43	40 80	54 1	2166 4	2599. 56	182 61	49 12	14 24	2459 7	2951. 64
19	Kerala	164 64	33 55	16 11	2143 0	1330. 68	133 06	31 73	81	1656 0	1987. 20	179 80	44 42	11 86	2360 8	2832. 96
20	Lakshdweep	*	*	*	*	-	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
21	Madhya Pradesh	118 26	10 43 6	94 01	3166 3	1944. 54	454 8	24 91	27 75	9814	1123. 48	218 76	13 21 2	11 59 3	4668 1	5116. 99
22	Maharashtra	458 86	95 07	10 96 2	6635 5	4113. 07	620 08	10 78 0	17 00	7448 8	7574. 81	232 87	42 66	24 82	3003 5	3604. 20
23	Manipur	188	14 0	81	409	33.12	4	19	22	45	5.40	272	23	92	387	46.44
24	Meghalaya	65	6	68 4	755	78.18	9	57	51	117	14.04	124	50	73 1	905	108.6 0
25	Mizoram	2	2	11 6	120	13.26	7	86	29 4	387	46.44	11	3	63 9	653	78.36
26	Nagaland	27	9	38 5	421	31.74	22	9	32 9	360	43.20	*	*	*	*	*
27	Orissa	130 22	39 98	25 51	1957 1	1222. 11	660 2	21 61	77 7	9540	1144. 80	796 0	25 43	21 10	1261 3	1513. 56
28	Puducherry	150	41	*	191	11.46	562	13 8	*	700	84.00	248	75	*	323	38.76
29	Punjab	262 5	25 32	1	5158	309.5 4	280 5	36 77	*	6482	777.8 4	180 5	19 97	*	3802	430.6 8
30	Rajasthan	465 1	32 59	18 96	9806	644.7 0	762 0	53 10	61 8	1354 8	1624. 02	547 0	25 63	10 58	9091	1057. 98
31	Sikkim	177	16	13 7	330	32.04	28	17	23	68	8.16	120	15	94	229	27.48
32	Tamil Nadu	436 49	90 71	55 8	5327 8	3199. 32	114 85	35 06	72	1506 3	1807. 56	361 14	78 80	41 8	4441 2	5329. 44
33	Tripura	314	88	54	456	47.04	105	44	22	171	20.52	92	73	3	168	20.16
34	Uttar Pradesh	109 79	30 60	10 2	1414 1	849.5 4	516 8	15 83	16	6767	812.0 4	277 2	88 6	18	3676	441.0 0
35	Uttarakhand	329 6	13 58	19 9	4853	291.4 8	235 6	93 2	13 4	3422	402.5 4	806	28 0	45	1131	133.0 2
36	West Bengal	359 57	11 95 6	14 16	4932 9	2970. 90	282 95	67 53	34 6	3539 4	3936. 42	175 79	54 65	55 5	2359 9	2830. 92
Total		300 360	88 39 9	41 19 6	4299 55	2641 6.16	208 830	59 31 4	12 18 6	2803 30	3173 6.99	192 288	60 43 8	27 49 5	2802 21	3301 3.93

* Proposal not received from States/UT Government.

21	Madhya Pradesh	6687	4380	3444	14511	1595.71	7725	4668	3128	15521	1862.52
22	Maharashtra	44315	8438	6399	59152	7090.20	28342	5455	2627	36424	4370.88
23	Manipur	104	8	18	130	15.60	87	9	9	105	12.60
24	Meghalya	59	*	245	304	36.48	31	*	54	85	10.20
25	Mizoram	9	*	268	277	33.24	2	0	217	219	26.28
26	Nagaland	68	*	591	659	79.08	*	*	*	*	*
27	Orissa	8856	2888	2234	13978	1677.36	5205	1783	1725	8713	1045.56
28	Puducherry	316	82	*	398	47.76	292	78	*	370	44.40
29	Punjab	2317	2691	2	5010	596.70	2069	2483	4	4556	546.72
30	Rajasthan	6478	2780	1940	11198	1329.72	5798	2747	1419	9964	1195.68
31	Sikkim	55	21	22	98	11.76	47	8	37	92	11.04
32	Tamil Nadu	20681	6047	204	26932	3231.84	16827	5176	212	22215	2665.80
33	Tripura	273	179	12	464	55.62	250	189	19	458	54.96
34	Uttar Pradesh	3755	1361	25	5141	616.86	4166	1575	31	5772	692.64
35	Uttrakhand	2495	961	181	3637	436.44	974	380	32	1386	166.32
36	West Bengal	16238	6436	460	23134	2776.08	13782	6208	447	20437	2452.44
Total		186634	58307	22562	267503	31908.97	142218	48116	16460	206794	24815.28

* Proposal not received from States/UT Government.