

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 671
ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023

EDUCATIONALLY BACKWARD DISTRICTS IDENTIFIED BY UGC

671. DR. C.M. RAMESH:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of districts in different States of the country identified as educationally backward by UGC, State-wise details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken by UGC and the Ministry to improve the educational standards in those districts, details thereof; and
- (c) the criteria adopted by the UGC to declare districts of any State as educationally backward, details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(Dr. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (c): An Expert Committee constituted by the University Grants Commission (UGC) had identified 374 Educationally Backward Districts (EBDs) where Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education was less than the national average of 12.4% based on 2001 census data. The State-wise details of the number of EBDs State-wise are annexed.

Education being in the Concurrent List, enhancing the quality of education is the responsibility of both the Central and State Governments. However, recognizing the need for central assistance, the Central Government has implemented various schemes for supporting State Governments. Under the erstwhile scheme of providing financial assistance to new Model Degree Colleges (MDCs) in EBDs, UGC had approved assistance to 64 MDCs in EBDs. This scheme has been subsumed under Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), a centrally sponsored scheme of Department of Higher Education with the aim to promote access, equity and quality, inter alia. RUSA provides central assistance to States for creation of Model Degree Colleges, Infrastructure grants to college and universities, etc. The Project Approval Board (PAB) of RUSA has approved an amount of Rs. 5,896.33 crores, under various components in the identified EBDs in the country.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PARTS (A) TO (C) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 671 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023 ASKED BY DR. C.M. RAMESH, HON'BLE MP REGARDING EDUCATIONALLY BACKWARD DISTRICTS IDENTIFIED BY UGC

State wise details of number of Educationally Backward Districts(EBDs) identified by UGC

Sl. No	State	No. of EBDs identified
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2
2.	Andhra Pradesh (erstwhile)	11
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	11
4.	Assam	12
5.	Bihar	25
6.	Chhattisgarh	15
7.	Dadar& Nagar Havelli	1
8.	Daman & Diu	2
9.	Gujarat	20
10.	Haryana	7
11.	Himachal Pradesh	4
12.	Jammu & Kashmir (erstwhile)	11
13.	Jharkhand	12
14.	Karnataka	20
15.	Kerala	4
16.	Lakshadweep	1
17.	Madhya Pradesh	39
18.	Maharashtra	7
19.	Meghalaya	5
20.	Mizoram	7
21.	Nagaland	1
22.	Odisha	18
23.	Puducherry	1
24.	Punjab	13
25.	Rajasthan	30
26.	Sikkim	4
27.	Tamil Nadu	27
28.	Tripura	4
29.	Uttar Pradesh	41
30.	Uttarakhand	2
31.	West Bengal	17
	Total	374
