

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1465**  
ANSWERED ON- 02/08/2023

**DISTRICTS WITH HIGH DROPOUT RATES OF SC/ST COMMUNITIES AND GIRLS**

1465 **Smt. Sulata Deo:**

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has conducted a survey identifying districts with higher dropout rates of SC/ST communities and girls in comparison to the National average in line with the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government will take steps to address this problem highlighted by the recommendations made by aforesaid Standing Committee; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d): Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of the schools come under the domain of the State/UT Governments. State & UT Governments conduct door-to-door survey to identify the Out of School Children, which includes dropout children and never enrolled.

The Department of School Education & Literacy has developed the Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) system to record/capture data on indicators of school education provided by all the States and UTs. The overall dropout rate of SC/ST Communities and girls is as under:

Level	National Average			Girls		
	All	SCs	STs	All	SC Girls	ST Girls
<b>Primary</b>	1.5	1.5	2.8	1.4	1.4	2.6
<b>Upper Primary</b>	3.0	3.6	6.0	3.3	3.8	5.7
<b>Secondary</b>	12.6	12.6	16.6	12.3	12.0	15.3

Source: UDISE+ 2021-22

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.

Samagra Shiksha provides financial assistance to the States and UTs for carrying out various interventions to reduce drop out rate, including up-gradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, setting up of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalayas, free uniforms to eligible children and free text books at elementary level, 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. The norms for special training is ₹ 6000/- per child per annum for non-residential training and ₹ 20,000/- per child per annum for residential training.

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.

Since 2021-22, financial assistance upto ₹ 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, 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.

Further, 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 neighbourhood school.

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