

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO-182**  
ANSWERED ON 20/12/2023

Drop out rate in schools

182 # Dr. Sonal Mansingh:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the drop out rate in country's school education is alarmingly high;
- (b) whether a number of suggestions have been given in the National Education Policy 2020 to reduce the drop out rate; and
- (c) if so, the steps that are being taken by Government in view of the above suggestions?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION**  
**(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

- (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 182 ANSWERED ON 20.12.2023 ASKED BY HONB'LE MP DR. SONAL MANSINGH REGARDING 'DROP OUT RATE IN SCHOOLS'**

(a): 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+, the dropout rate at Primary, Upper Primary and Secondary level have decreased substantially during 2018-19 to 2021-22. The details are as under:

Level of Education	Dropout Rate	
	2018-19	2021-22
Primary	4.45	1.45
Upper Primary	4.68	3.02
Secondary	17.90	12.61

(b): National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 vide para 3 recommended measures to curtail dropout at all levels of school education and ensuring universal access to education at all levels. The specific recommendations of NEP 2020 to curtail dropout are as under:

1. Provide effective and sufficient infrastructure at schools so that all students have access to safe and engaging school education at all levels from pre-primary school to Grade 12.
2. Provide regular trained teachers at each stage, special care shall be taken to ensure that no school remains deficient on infrastructure support.
3. Re-established credibility of Government schools by upgrading and enlarging the schools that already exist, building additional quality schools in areas where they do not exist, and providing safe and practical conveyances and/or hostels, especially for the girl children, so that all children have the opportunity to attend a quality school and learn at the appropriate level.
4. Put in place innovative education centres in cooperation with civil society to ensure that children of migrant labourers, and other children who are dropping out of school due to various circumstances are brought back into mainstream education.
5. To achieve universal participation in school by carefully tracking students, as well as their learning levels, in order to ensure that they (a) are enrolled in and attending school, and (b) have suitable opportunities to catch up and re-enter school in case they have fallen behind or dropped out.
6. For providing equitable and quality education from the Foundational Stage through Grade 12 to all children up to the age of 18, suitable facilitating systems shall be put in place.
7. Counsellors or well-trained social workers connected to schools/school complexes and teachers will continuously work with students and their parents and will travel through and engage with communities to ensure that all school-age children are attending and learning in school.

(c): Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of respective State and UT Governments. Central Government assist States and UTs through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha, which is also aligned with NEP 2020 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. Financial assistance is also provided to the States and UTs for various activities to reduce dropout in Govt. schools, which include opening/strengthening of new schools up to senior secondary level, strengthening school infrastructure, setting up, up gradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV) upto class 12, setting up of residential schools/hostel named Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalayas, transport allowance, undertaking enrolment drives, seasonal hostels/residential camps, provision of vocational education and ICT facilities in schools, providing free text books and free uniform, transport/escort facility, etc, financial assistance is also provided for aids and appliances for children with special needs. Also, NEP 2020 has recommended integration of vocational education into mainstream education in all educational institutions. Under the vocational education component of Samagra Shiksha scheme, National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) compliant vocational courses are offered to the students from class 9th to 12th in eligible schools. At the Secondary level, i.e. Class 9 and 10, vocational modules are offered to the students as an additional subject. At the Senior Secondary level, i.e. Class 11 and 12, vocational courses are offered as a compulsory (elective) subject. States/UTs can now opt from 88 Job Roles in 22 Sectors as per the Skill Gap Analysis of the State/UT. As part of NEP-2020 implementation - National Credit Framework (NCrF), multiple entry/exit etc. have been introduced. Under Samagra Shiksha proposed Central Releases for the last 4 years are given below.

<b>Samagra Shiksha (Proposed Central Releases)</b>			<b>(Rs in lakhs)</b>
2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
3740075.94	3577281.45	3467173.25	4449394.26

Further, a new centrally sponsored scheme project PM SHRI (PM Schools for Rising India) scheme launched on 07th Sep 2022. Rs. 630 Crores have been released to States/UTs/KVS/NVS as 1st instalment of Central share on 29.7.2023 by Hon'ble Prime Minister.

Also, Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme has been revamped and extended to cover students of Balvatika in addition to students of Classes I-VIII in Government and Government-Aided Schools, the Budget allocated under the PM Poshan Scheme for the year 2022-23 is Rs.12,800.00 crore.

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