

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1067
ANSWERED ON 31.07.2024**

Allocation for education

1067 Shri Sanjeev Arora:

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to increase its allocation in Education from current 4.6 percent to 6 percent of its GDP as recommended by the Kothari Commission and National Policy of Education (1986);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government is also planning to address the issue of return of girl child to school by implementing targeted gender-inclusive schemes, such as conditional cash transfers to families contingent on girls' school attendance, mentorship programmes, and lifeskills training?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)**

(a) & (b): National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) unequivocally endorses and envisions a substantial increase in public investment in education by both the Central government and all State Governments. The Policy also calls for the rejuvenation, active promotion, and support for private philanthropic activity in the education sector. The Centre and the States will work together to increase the public investment in Education sector to reach 6% of GDP at the earliest. Since education is a concurrent subject, it needs careful planning, joint monitoring, and collaborative implementation between the Centre and States. Timely infusion of requisite resources - human, infrastructural, and financial - at the Central and State levels is crucial for the satisfactory execution of the Policy.

As far as Ministry of Education is concerned, there has been increase in budget allocation from Rs. 99,311.52 crore (2020-21) to Rs. 1,21,117.77 crore (2024-25), which is around 21.95 % increase.

(c): National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) aims to ensure that no child loses opportunity to learn and excel because of the circumstances of birth or background. It has taken into account the concerns of the Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) which includes female and transgender individuals, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs, minorities and other categories. This policy aims at bridging the social category gaps in access, participation, and learning outcomes in school education.

Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education is implementing the scheme of Samagra Shiksha for universalization of quality education throughout the country in coordination with the States and UTs. Bridging gender and social gaps at all levels of school

education is one of the major objectives of the Samagra Shiksha. Under Samagra Shiksha, various facilities are being provided for promoting girls' education. These include opening of schools in the neighbourhood as defined by the State, free uniform and text-books to girls up to Class VIII, provision of gender segregated toilets in all schools, provision of self-defence training to girls from classes VI to XII, stipend to CWSN girls from class I to Class XII, among others, special state specific projects for equity such as life skills, awareness programmes, incinerators, sanitary pad vending machines etc., and vocationalization of secondary education.

In addition, to reduce gender gaps at all levels of school education and ensure access and quality education to girls, under Samagra Shiksha, there is a provision of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) which are residential schools for girls from class VI to XII from age 10-18 years belonging to disadvantaged groups such as SC, ST, OBC, Minority and Below Poverty Line (BPL).
