

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3697**  
ANSWERED ON-25/03/2026

**Education budget and expenditure**

3697 # **Dr. Sandeep Kumar Pathak:**

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

(a) total budgetary provision and actual expenditure for the education sector in the years 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 and the percentage thereof in GDP;

(b) whether any action plan has been developed to increase expenditure on education to 6 per cent of GDP under the NEP, 2020, and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of teaching posts vacant as compared to the total sanctioned posts in Government schools in the country and the current status of student-teacher ratio; and

(d) the concrete steps taken by Government to fill vacant faculty posts in higher education institutions, including Central Universities, IITs and IIMs?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b): As per latest reports on “Analysis of Budgeted Expenditure on Education”, the details of Expenditure on Education (Centre and States/UTs) and Expenditure as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from 2018-19 to 2021-22 is given as under:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Expenditure on Education (Rs. in crore)</b>	<b>Expenditure as a percentage of GDP</b>
<b>2018-19(Actual)</b>	7,36,581	3.90
<b>2019-20(Actual)</b>	8,12,214	4.04
<b>2020-21(Actual)</b>	8,27,673	4.17
<b>2021-22(RE)</b>	9,86,899	4.18

Education being in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, increasing expenditure in education is the responsibility of the Central and States Governments. As per National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the targeted public expenditure on Education by Centre and States/UTs is 6% of GDP. The Government of India has consistently increased the budget allocation of the Ministry of Education from Rs.93,224.31 crore in F.Y. 2021-22 to Rs. 1,39,289.48 crore in 2026-27(an increase of 49.4% in 5 years).

(c): As per Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE Plus), 2024-25, total number of Teachers and Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) in Government Schools by level of Education in India is given as under:

<b>Items</b>	<b>Primary (1 to 5)</b>	<b>Upper Primary (6-8)</b>	<b>Secondary (9-10)</b>	<b>Higher Secondary (11-12)</b>
<b>Number of Teachers</b>	17,63,157	15,85,109	5,31,129	12,70,376
<b>Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR)</b>	20	17	15	23

(d): The Central Higher Education Institutions (CHEIs) under Ministry of Education including Central Universities, IITs, IIMs and NITs are statutory autonomous organizations established under respective Central Acts of Parliament and governed by provisions of the Acts/Statutes/Ordinances/Regulations made thereunder. As autonomous institutions, faculty recruitment is done within the institutions itself, in accordance with their Acts and Regulations. The recruitment powers vests with the respective Board of Governors/Executive Committee/Board of Management and no active role of the Ministry is involved therein.

Occurring of vacancies and filling thereof is a continuous process. The vacancies arise due to promotion, retirement, resignation, death, opening of new institutions, schemes or projects, and additional requirements on account of enhanced students' strength and expansion of capacity in existing institutions.

In August, 2021, all CHEIs under Ministry of Education were requested to undertake special drive to fill backlog vacancies in their institutions in Mission Mode. The CHEIs undertook special recruitment drives to fill the vacancies including of Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs). In September 2022, Ministry of Education had also exhorted all the CHEIs to fill up the vacancies in Mission Mode. In October 2025, all the CHEIs have again been requested to fill up all the backlog vacancies in Mission Mode within a period of one year. From September 2022, all CHEIs including Central Universities (CUs), IITs, IIMs and NITs have undertaken Mission Mode recruitment drive to fill the vacancies. Up to 24.01.2026 (i.e. the date of last Rozgar Mela), a total number of 30,720 posts have been filled up by all CHEIs, including 17,878 faculty positions, in Mission Mode. Out of these 30,720 posts, during the said period, CUs, IITs, IIMs and NITs collectively have filled up 28,666 posts including 16,931 faculty positions.

Moreover, in Centrally financed Higher Education Institutions, measures have been taken to attract quality faculties which includes year-round open advertisements, recruitment through search-cum-selection procedures, special recruitment drive, mission mode recruitment and invitation to alumni/scientists/faculty, etc. The faculty recruitment processes are carried out by the CHEIs by inviting applications in a transparent manner, as part of a multi-step and robust screening process. The Acts and Statutes of various institutions specify the composition of selection committees, authorities responsible for recruitment of various levels of faculty, provision of independent subject experts and Visitor's nominees etc. so as to ensure transparency and academic rigour in recruitments. University Grants Commission (UGC) has launched a common portal 'CU-CHAYAN' for faculty recruitment, making provision for listing of vacancies/ advertisements/ jobs across all Central Universities, thus making the entire recruitment process more transparent and accessible.

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