

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. – 117
ANSWERED ON - 29/07/2026**

School infrastructure in tribal and aspirational districts of Jharkhand

117 # Smt. Mahua Maji:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any assessment of the quality of school education, availability of teachers and that of the status of school infrastructure in the tribal and aspirational districts of Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the district-wise major findings thereof in respect of Jharkhand and the assistance provided by the Central Government for addressing teacher vacancies and strengthening digital education and school infrastructure; and
- (c) whether Government is considering any special programme or additional financial assistance to improve access to secondary and higher secondary education in the tribal-majority areas of Jharkhand, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)**

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (A) TO (C) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 117 FOR REPLY ON 29.07.2026 REGARDING “SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE IN TRIBAL AND ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS OF JHARKHAND” ASKED BY HON’BLE MP SMT. MAHUA MAJI

(a) to (c): The subject ‘Education’ is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the administrative jurisdiction of concerned States/UTs. However, Central Government provides financial assistance to States/UTs including Jharkhand under the Centrally Sponsored scheme- Samagra Shiksha based on Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) proposal prepared by them and gaps determined from Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) database. These plans are then appraised and approved by the Project Approval Board (PAB) in the Department of School Education and Literacy in consultation with the State/UT as per the programmatic and financial norms of the scheme, physical and financial progress of works sanctioned earlier and availability of budgetary resources.

In pursuance of the recommendation of the NEP 2020, the National Assessment Centre, called PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development), was established by the Ministry of Education under the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). PARAKH's primary objective is to establish norms, standards, and guidelines for student assessment and evaluation across all the schools in the country, including in Jharkhand.

The Ministry of Education, undertakes large-scale assessments to measure learning outcomes in schools across the country, including in Jharkhand from time to time. In this regard, the PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan 2024 (formerly National Achievement Survey) was conducted by the National Assessment Centre-PARAKH, NCERT to measure the baseline performance under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in development of competencies among students at the end of the Foundational, Preparatory and Middle Stages (Grades 3, 6 and 9 respectively) of schooling. National, State and District level reports for PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan 2024 are available at <https://dashboard.parakh.ncert.gov.in/en>, a dedicated dashboard designed to disseminate the findings of the assessment. The findings enable States and UTs to identify learning gaps and undertake targeted interventions for improving the quality of school education.

Further, improvement of school infrastructure, availability of teachers and their deployment is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme, financial assistance is provided to States and UTs for interventions relating to improvement in quality of education, teacher education and training, ICT and Digital Initiatives, school infrastructure, to maintain the prescribed Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) and other need-based interventions approved under the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) of

the State Government. The Ministry monitors key indicators through the Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) and review meetings from time to time.

To support the State Government in enhancing the quality of school education, availability of teachers and school infrastructure in the tribal and aspirational districts, financial assistance under Samagra Shiksha has been approved for various interventions as follows:

- i. From FY 2024-25 to 2026-27, an amount of ₹29327.7 lakh was sanctioned under Samagra Shiksha to bridge infrastructure gaps including for additional classrooms, repair works, toilets, physics labs, chemistry labs, biology labs, science labs, lab equipment and other civil works.
- ii. From FY 2024-25 to 2026-27, an amount of Rs. 1698.8 lakh was sanctioned for 411 ICT Labs and an amount of Rs. 5006.40 lakh was sanctioned for 2086 Smart Classrooms under the Samagra Shiksha scheme.
- iii. Under the Samagra Shiksha PAB 2026-27, financial assistance of ₹36,286.82 lakh has been approved towards financial support for teachers.

As informed by the Government of Jharkhand, the State has undertaken the following initiatives for addressing the quality of school education, availability of teachers and school infrastructure in the state including tribal and aspirational districts:

- i. The State is conducting "Mera Vidyalaya Nipun – Mai Bhi Nipun", a large-scale assessment to measure learning levels of students under the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) programme.
- ii. Bi-annual Teachers' Need Assessment (TNA) has been initiated from FY 2025-26. Three rounds have been completed with participation of about 1.10 lakh teachers, registering 99.49% participation, which has enabled identification of teaching-learning gaps and their redressal through 50 hours of mandatory Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for teachers.
- iii. A School Certification Programme has been introduced under which schools are certified in Gold, Silver and Bronze categories. During FY 2025-26, 1,456 schools were assessed, of which 82 schools received Gold, 903 Silver and 83 Bronze certification, facilitating continuous improvement in school quality.

The Government of India is implementing several targeted initiatives for the educational development of tribal communities. Under PM JANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan), educational infrastructure and essential services are being strengthened in villages inhabited by Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). 39 hostels have been approved to the State of Jharkhand, with an estimated non-recurring cost of ₹ 107.25 crore. In addition, under the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), convergent interventions are being undertaken for holistic development of tribal villages, including education-related infrastructure and services. Under the scheme, 5 hostels with a total capacity of 500

have been approved to the State of Jharkhand, with an estimated non-recurring cost of ₹ 13.75 crore.

Further, Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs), implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, provide quality residential education to Scheduled Tribe students in remote and tribal areas with the objective of improving access to quality secondary and senior secondary education. A total of 91 EMRSs are sanctioned in Jharkhand, out of which 51 are functional.

As informed by the Government of Jharkhand, the State has also initiated the following measures for improving access to secondary and senior secondary education in tribal-majority areas:

- i. a new recruitment policy for secondary and senior secondary teachers has been notified and the recruitment process has been initiated through the Jharkhand Staff Selection Commission;
- ii. a policy for phased upgradation of schools to Senior Secondary level is under implementation with the objective of providing access to senior secondary education in every Panchayat;
- iii. a provision of ₹500.00 crore has been made during 2026-27 for addressing school infrastructure gaps;
- iv. the State Cabinet has approved an AI-based e-Connect Programme with an outlay of ₹176.00 crore for implementation in 1,000 secondary and senior secondary schools over a period of five years.
