

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2748
ANSWERED ON-12/08/2026

Declining expenditure on education

2748 Shri Javed Ali Khan:

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

- (a) whether expenditure on education has declined from 4.6 per cent of the Central budget in 2013-14 to 2.5 per cent in 2025-26;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;
- (c) the reasons for such sharp decline in expenditure on education by Central Government;
- (d) the details of Central allocation and expenditure on education till date during 2026-27; and
- (e) how Government would achieve expenditure on education as recommended by NEP- 2020, i.e. 6 percent of GDP?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): Education being in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, increasing expenditure on education is the responsibility of Central and States/UTs governments. National Education policy (NEP), 2020 envisages to increase the public expenditure on education to achieve 6 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

As per latest report on “Analysis of Budgeted Expenditure on Education, 2022-23”, public expenditure on education (Central and States/UTs) as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is 4.06%.

The details of actual expenditure of Ministry of Education for the last five years are given as under:

		(Rs. in crore)
Financial Year	Actual Expenditure	
2021-22	80,829.64	
2022-23	97,885.00	
2023-24	1,11,408.39	
2024-25	1,10,477.28	
2025-26	1,17,844.28	

As per National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the targeted public expenditure on Education by Centre and States/UTs is 6% of GDP. This Policy unequivocally endorses and envisions a substantial increase in public investment in education by both the Central government and all State Governments.

As per NEP, 2020, implementation of the Policy requires multiple initiatives and actions, which will have to be taken by multiple bodies in a synchronized and systematic manner. Therefore, the implementation of this Policy will be led by various bodies including Ministry of Education, State Governments, education-related Ministries, State Departments of Education, Regulatory bodies etc.
