

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†3858  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2018**

**School Dropouts**

†3858. SHRI RAJU SHETTY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the percentage of dropout students belonging to Muslim and Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes is much higher than national average according to any recent survey;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the specific efforts being made by the Government to reduce/eliminate the percentage of dropping out students of these categories?

**A N S W E R  
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)**

- (a) & (b) As per Unified District Information System for Education (U-DISE) managed by NIEPA, average annual drop-out rate of students belonging to Muslim and Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes are given in the table below:

**Average Annual Drop-out Rate**

<b>Level</b>	<b>All Categories</b>	<b>Scheduled Caste</b>	<b>Scheduled Tribes</b>	<b>Muslim</b>
Primary	4.13	4.46	6.93	6.54
Upper-Primary	4.03	5.51	8.59	9.46
Secondary	17.06	19.36	24.68	24.12

Source: U-DISE 2015-16 Report.

Major reasons for drop-out as per the National Family Health Survey – IV conducted by International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), India (designated as the nodal agency by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW), Government of India), for children between age-group 6-17 years and as per the National Sample Survey (NSS) 71<sup>st</sup> round (January-June, 2014) Report on ‘Social Consumption: Education’ of Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation are

- Not interested in studies
- Costs too much / Financial constraints
- Engage in Economic Activities.
- Required for house hold work/ Engage in Domestic Activities
- School too far away
- Further education not considered necessary
- Did not get admission
- Marriage
- Repeated failures

- (c) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of SarvaShikshaAbhiyan (SSA) provides assistance to State Governments and UTs to ensure quality elementary education for all children. Preference for opening of school is given to tribal areas, and areas with high concentration of SC, ST and minority population.

The Centrally sponsored scheme of RashtriyaMadhyamikShikshaAbhiyan (RMSA) envisages universalizing access to secondary schools by providing a secondary school within a reasonable distance (5 kilometres) of every habitation, improving quality of education through making all secondary schools conform to prescribed norms and removal of socio-economic barriers. Under RMSA, financial assistance is provided to reduce dropout and to increase enrolment especially of students of SC, ST, Minority categories and girls at secondary stage.

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