

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4592
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2019**

Setting up of Senior Secondary Schools

†4592. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH JAUNAPURIA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up a target to set up secondary schools every 3 to 5 kilometres across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken any survey or gathered any information in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has granted funds to the Government schools located in the rural areas to disburse scholarships; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

(a) & (b) Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education-Samagra Shiksha, subsuming three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE), with effect from 2018-19. The scheme aims to provide universal access to secondary school within a distance of 5 Km and Senior secondary schools within 7-10 Km of a habitation by providing support to States and UTs for establishment of new schools by up-gradation of upper primary school to secondary schools and up-gradation of Secondary Schools to Senior Secondary Schools.

(c) & (d) To ensure universal access to schools within a reasonable distance of any habitation and without any discrimination, the Geographic coordinates of all schools along with the school information available in UDISE are uploaded on the school GIS Web enabled platform. As reported by States and UTs in their Annual Work Plan - 2018-19, 88.24% of habitations were covered by Secondary schools within a distance of 5km.

(e) & (f) : Under the Centrally Sponsored 'National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme' of the Department of School Education & Literacy scholarships are given to meritorious

students of economically weaker sections to arrest their drop out at class VIII and encourage them to continue the study at secondary stage. One lakh scholarships of Rs. 12000/- per annum per student are awarded to selected students of class IX every year and their continuation/renewal in classes X to XII for study in a State Government, Government-aided and Local body school under the scheme. An amount of Rs. 317.37 crore has been sanctioned to 280330 scholarships during 2018-19.

Further, the Centrally Sponsored 'National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (NSIGSE)' of the Department aims to establish an enabling environment to reduce the drop-outs and to promote the enrolment of girl children, mainly belonging to SC/ST communities, in secondary schools. According to the scheme, a sum of Rs. 3,000/- is deposited in the name of eligible unmarried girls in a bank as fixed deposit on enrolment in class IX, who are entitled to withdraw it along with interest thereon on passing Class X and attaining 18 years of age. The Scheme covers (i) all girls belonging to SC/ST communities who pass class VIII and (ii) all girls who pass VIII examination from Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (irrespective of whether they belong to SC/ST) and enrol in class IX in a State Government, Government aided and Local Body school. An amount of Rs. 164.58 crore has been sanctioned to 548396 girls as incentive during 2018-19.
