

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2025
ANSWERED ON 13th March, 2023

Students Who lost their lives/Parents during Corona Pandemic in Maharashtra

†2025. SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH
ALIAS PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of students whose parents lost their lives during the Corona pandemic in Maharashtra;
- (b) the number of students who died during the Corona pandemic in the State;
- (c) the number of students who lost their father/ mother/both the parents during the Corona pandemic in the State;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to provide free education to these students under the Right to Education (RTI) Act;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the number of students who lost their mother/ father/both parents in Osmanabad Constituency and also the number of students received help by the Central Government for their education?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (f) Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of respective State and UT Governments. However, during the challenging circumstances of Covid pandemic, the Ministry of Education made efforts to continue the education of the students through multiple alternative ways, while ensuring safety and wellbeing of the students.

Samagra Shiksha has been aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in order to ensure inclusive and equitable, quality and holistic school education. The Samagra Shiksha scheme for school education provides financial assistance for implementation of The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, which provides every child of the age of 6-14 years, the right to free and compulsory education in a neighbourhood school till the completion of his or her elementary education.

The Department of School Education and Literacy vide letter dated 4th May, 2021 had shared a comprehensive Covid Action plan with States/UTs and other stakeholders for mitigating the loss of learning. This Department had also developed an online module for compiling the data of Out of School Children (OOSC) identified by each State/UT and their mapping with Special Training Centres (STC) on the PRABANDH Portal (<http://samagrashiksha.in>). The portal requires the concerned State/UT to validate the child wise information of the identified OOSC and STC uploaded by the concerned Block Resource Centre of the State for monitoring the progress of mainstreaming of OOSC. Also, Bridge Course Modules were developed for bridging the learning gaps of Out of School Children studying in Special Training Centres (STC) under the provision of RTE Act, 2009. The number of Out of School enrolled in schools in Maharashtra:

Year	Direct Enrolment	Mainstreamed	Total
2020-21	12669	59285	71954
2021-22	10415	39896	50311

Furthermore, Hon'ble Prime Minister launched PM CARES for children scheme on 29th May 2021 which aims to support children who have lost both the parents or legal guardian or adoptive parents or surviving parent to COVID-19 pandemic. The detailed guidelines are available in the public domain at <https://pmcaresforchildren.in/public/web-design/images/guidelines.pdf>. State/UTs have been directed that all the benefits and entitlements of Samagra Shiksha as per existing norms may be provided to children registered for 'PM CARES for children scheme' and admitted in schools covered under Samagra Shiksha.

The details for State of Maharashtra is enclosed as Annexure-I.

ANNEXURE-I**ANNEXURE-I REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2025 FOR ANSWER ON 13.03.2023 ASKED BY SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH ALIAS PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR REGARDING STUDENTS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES/PARENTS DURING CORONA PANDEMIC IN MAHARASHTRA**

The number of Students who lost their parents during corona pandemic in the State of Maharashtra is as follows (till August 2021)

Details	Aurangabad	Kolhapur	Latur	Amravati	Mumbai	Nagpur	Pune	Nashik	Total
The Number of Students who lost their parents	1427	6833	453	2454	2822	4447	5776	1469	25681
Out of above Number of Boys	714	3475	221	1241	1405	2224	2960	785	13025
Out of above Number of Girls	713	3358	232	1213	1417	2223	2816	684	12656

The number of students who lost their father /mother /both the parents in Osmanabad constituency is 501.

* As per Government Notification dated 25th January 2023, Covid affected child (Whose parents either both or single died due to covid infection caused in between 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2022) is included in the rule of the Maharashtra Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Manner of admission of Minimum 25% children in Class-I or Pre-school at the entry level for the children belonging to disadvantaged group and weaker section) Rule, 2013.