

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1287
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.09.2020**

Students Forced into Employment Due to COVID-19

1287. SHRI V.K. SREEKANDAN:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many children are at risk of not returning to school next year due to the economic fallout of COVID-19 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also true that the economic impact of COVID-19 could push more children into employment and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to prevent children drop out of school on account of the above reason; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

(a) to (d) Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha, financial assistance is provided to the States and UTs for various activities to reduce number of dropouts, which include opening/strengthening of new schools upto senior secondary level, construction of school buildings & additional classrooms, setting up, up-gradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, setting up of residential schools/hostels, free uniforms, free text books, transport allowance and undertaking enrolment drives, residential as well as non residential trainings, Seasonal Hostels/ residential camps, etc. Financial assistance is also provided for Inclusive Education of children with special needs. Also, Mid-Day-Meal is provided to students at the elementary level of education.
