

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4163
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2021**

Expenditure on Education

†4163. SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- a) whether India is spending less on education in comparison to SAARC countries Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal;
- b) the percentage of GDP that is spent on education;
- c) the details of the increase therein along with the dates and quantum thereof; and
- d) the manner in which the reduced spending in the education would materialise the vision of improvement in the education?

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

(a)&(b): India's public spending on education as a percentage of GDP was 4.43% during the year 2017-18 which was higher than that of all SAARC Countries except Bhutan and Nepal, however, on absolute terms, India's public expenditure on education is much more than those of all the SAARC Countries.

(c): The details of increase in public expenditure on Education and the expenditure as percentage of GDP during five years is as follows:

(Rs.in crores)					
Year	2013-14 (Actual)	2014-15 (Actual)	2015-16 (Actual)	2016-17 (RE)	2017-18 (BE)
Expenditure on Education (In crores)	430878.82	506849.14	577792.52	664264.52	756945.00
Expenditure as % of GDP	3.84	4.07	4.20	4.32	4.43

(d): The National Education Policy, 2020 unequivocally endorsed and envisioned a substantial increase in public investment in education by both the Central government and all State Governments. As proposed in the NEP 2020, the Centre and the States will work together to increase the public investment in Education sector to reach 6% of GDP at the earliest.
