

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

**LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2266  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2021

**Students Deprived of School Education**

†2266. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of students deprived of school education especially from the poor and middle class in the country during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps so that students are not deprived of school education; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof ?

**ANSWER**  
**MINISTER OF EDUCATION**  
**(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) to (c): As per the 75th round household survey by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) in 2017-18, the number of out of school children in the age group of 6 to 17 years is 3.22 crore. The Government of India launched Samagra Shiksha-an Integrated Scheme for school education, w.e.f 2018-19, as an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII, which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education, across the country. The scheme provides support to States and UTs for strengthening of infrastructure in schools, universal access, bringing gender equality, support for aids and appliances to Children with Special Needs, quality of education, financial support for teachers' salary, digital initiatives, entitlements under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 including uniforms and textbooks, pre-school education, vocational education, sports and physical education, setting up and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalays and residential schools/hostels named Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalayas.

Further, Under Samagra Shiksha, for the first time in 2021-22, financial assistance upto Rs. 2000 per annum has been envisioned for supporting Out of School Children of age group of 16-19 years, belonging to socio economically disadvantaged

groups, for completing their education through NIOS/SIOS, for accessing course materials and certification.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, mandates the appropriate Government to provide free and compulsory elementary education to every child of the age 6 to 14 years in a neighbourhood school. Section 12(1)(c) of RTE Act, 2009 provides for admission of children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups in the neighbourhood schools in Class I to the extent of at least 25 percent of the strength of that class. Also, Mid-Day-Meal is provided to students at the elementary level of education.

Also, under National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme scholarship is awarded 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.

\*\*\*\*