

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2661
ANSWERED ON - 17.03.2022

MUSLIM GIRLS IN SCHOOLS

2661. SHRIMATI MALA ROY:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the percentage of Muslim girls who are out of school;
- (b) the variation in the above said number between 2014 to 2022 and the reasons therefore; and
- (c) the steps/being taken by the Government to bring them back to school?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) to (c): As per UDISE+, the enrolment of minority students in schools has increased from 411 lakhs in 2015-16 to 455 lakhs in 2020-21. Also, for Higher education, as per AISHE reports, the enrolment of minority students has increased from 22.97 lakh in 2015-16 to 29.88 lakh in 2019-20

In addition, the dropout rate of minority students has decreased for classes 1 to 6, from 8.59% in 2015-16 to 0.8% in 2020-21 at primary level. Similarly, for classes 6 to 9, dropout rate has decreased from 10.53% in 2015-16 to 2.69% in 2020-21. Also, for classes 9 to 11 dropout rate has decreased from 20.71% in 2015-16 to 15.98% in 2020-21.

The dropout rate for minority girls for classes 1 to 6 has decreased from 8.03% in 2015-16 to 0.4% in 2020-21 and from 10.28% to 2.31% for classes 6 to 9. Similarly, for classes 9 to 11, the dropout rate for minority girls has decreased from 20.51% in 2015-16 to 15.9% in 2020-21.

The Ministry of Minority Affairs for educational empowerment of minority students including minority girls has w.e.f. 2014-15 sanctioned approx 5.01 crore scholarships with expenditure of Rs. 14643.59 crores. This includes 2.60 crore girl beneficiaries which is above 50% of total scholarships disbursed.

The Ministry of Education, Department of School Education and Literacy with effect from 2018-19 has launched an Integrated Centrally Sponsored Scheme for School Education-Samagra Shiksha . The scheme has now been aligned with the recommendations of NEP 2020 to ensure that all children have access to quality education with an equitable and inclusive classroom environment which should take care of their diverse background, multilingual needs, different academic abilities and make them active participants in the learning process.

Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to States and UTs for undertaking various activities to reduce number of Out of School Children (OoSC) including 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 Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalayas, free uniforms, free text books, transport allowance and undertaking enrolment & retention drives. Further, special training for age appropriate admission of out of school children and residential as well as non-residential training for older children, seasonal hostels / residential camps, special training centres at worksites, transport/ escort facility are also supported to bring out of school children to the formal schooling system. Further, under the student oriented component for the children with special needs, financial assistance is provided for identification and assessment of children with special needs, aids and appliances, braille kits and books, appropriate teaching learning material and stipend to girl students with disability etc.

Further, 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.

Under 'Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman' (PM POSHAN) one hot cooked meal in Government and Government aided schools is provided to students at the elementary level of education.

Also, Section 10 of the RTE Act states that it shall be the duty of every parent or guardian to admit or cause to be admitted his or her child or ward, as the case may be, for elementary education in the neighborhood school.

D/o School Education & Literacy also implements National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme under which 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.

The details of schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs for the educational empowerment of students/beneficiaries including girls belonging to six notified minority communities i.e. Christian, Sikh, Muslim, Buddhist, Jain, Zoroastrian (Parsi) are given below:

(i) **Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme-** The scholarship is provided to minority students studying in class I to X in Government/ recognized Private schools. To be eligible, students should not have annual parental/guardian's income more than Rs.1.00 lakh and he/she should have secured minimum 50% marks in previous class. Minimum 30% scholarships are earmarked for girls.

(ii) **Post-matric Scholarship Scheme-** The scholarship is provided to minority students studying in Class XI to Ph.D level in Government/ recognized Private schools/Colleges/Institutes. To be eligible, students should not have annual parental/guardian's income more than Rs.2.00 lakh and he/she should have secured minimum 50% marks in previous class. Minimum 30% scholarships are earmarked for girls.

(iii) **Merit-cum-Mean based Scholarship Scheme** - The scholarship is awarded for pursuing professional and technical courses at under-graduate and post-graduate levels, in institutions recognized by the appropriate authority. 85 institutes for professional and technical courses have been listed in the scheme; for which full course fee is reimbursed. To be eligible, students should not have annual parental/guardian's income more than Rs.2.50 lakh and he/she should

have secured minimum 50% marks in previous class. Minimum 30% scholarships are earmarked for girls.

(iv) **Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) Scheme-** The Fellowships are awarded to research students pursuing regular and full time M.Phil and Ph.D courses. The Scheme covers all Universities/Institutions recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) under section 2(f) and section 3 of the UGC Act and is implemented through UGC. To be eligible, students should not have annual parental/guardian's income more than Rs.6.00 lakh. Under the scheme, 30% fellowships are earmarked for girl students. Since 2014-15, in addition to renewals, 5882 fresh fellowships have been awarded involving an expenditure of Rs. 571.78 crore.

(v) **Padho Pardesh** - Scheme of Interest Subsidy on educational loans for overseas studies- Under the scheme, the interest subsidy is awarded to students on the interest payable for the period of moratorium for the Education Loans taken for overseas studies to pursue approved courses of studies abroad at Masters, M.Phil or Ph.D levels. The scheme is implemented through the Canara Bank. To be eligible, students should not have annual parental/guardian's income more than Rs.6.00 lakh. 35% scholarships are earmarked for girls. An amount of Rs. 108.27 has been released for payment of interest subsidy to 15743 beneficiaries since 2014-15.

(vi) **Begum Hazrat Mahal National Scholarship-** Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) under M/o Minority Affairs also implements Begum Hazrat Mahal National Scholarship scheme for exclusively for meritorious minority girls studying in classes IX to XII having family annual income less than Rs. 2.00 lakh. Since 2014-15, have been sanctioned to 9.86 lakh minority girls for which Rs. 630.46 crore has been sanctioned.

(vii) **Nai Manzil** - A scheme for formal school education & skilling of school dropouts. 98,311 beneficiaries have benefitted under this scheme for which an amount of 399.71 crore has been released with effect from 2016-17.

(viii) **Educational Loan Scheme of National Minorities Development Finance Corporation (NMDFC):** NMDFC a PSU under the Ministry implements Educational Loan Scheme with the objective to facilitate job oriented education for the eligible persons belonging to minorities. Loan is available for 'technical and professional courses' for which loan up to Rs. 20.00 lakh for domestic courses and upto Rs. 30.00 lakh for courses abroad is provided. During 2014-15 to 2020-21, loan to the tune of Rs. 252.45 Crore has been sanctioned to 19, 245 minority students.

(ix) **Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)**– PMJVK is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), with the objective of improving socio-economic condition and basic amenities in identified Minority Concentrated Areas (MCAs) mainly through infrastructure support.

Under PMJVK, the educational projects approved since 2014-15 to 2021-22 include 1550 School Buildings, 171 Residential Schools, 6 NVS schools, 38 Degree Colleges, 01 Medical College, 01 Unani Medical College, 01 Agriculture College, 679 Hostels, 23094 Additional Class Rooms, 239 Science Labs/ Libraries and Laboratories. In addition to the above, Playgrounds, Smart Class Rooms/Teaching Aids, Furniture, Toilets, drinking water facilities, etc. have also been approved.
