

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

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION No. 313  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2022**

**Out-of-School Children**

\*313. SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:  
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched a portal to compile data of out-of-school children in the age group of 6-14 years and those belonging to socially and economically disadvantaged group;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has planned to provide financial assistance for out-of-school children in the age group of 16-18 years to continue their education through open/distance learning mode;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has any plan to ensure continuation of education of orphaned children in the coming years; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard?

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

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 313 FOR ANSWER ON 08.08.2022 ASKED BY HON'BLE MPs SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR AND SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR REGARDING OUT-OF-SCHOOL CHILDREN**

(a) to (f): Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of the schools come under the purview of the respective State and UT Government.

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.

This Department has 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 concerned State/UT validates 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.

Under Samagra Shiksha, for the first time in 2021-22, financial assistance upto ₹ 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 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 to eligible children and free text books at elementary level, 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.

The PM CARES for children scheme inter alia provides support to children who have lost their parent(s) to COVID pandemic, through convergent approach, gap funding for ensuring education, health, monthly stipend from the age of 18 years, and lump sum amount of Rs. 10 lakh on attaining 23 years of age. Under PM CARES, admission shall be provided in any nearest school as a day scholar i.e. Government/ Government aided School/ Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs)/ Private Schools.

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.

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.

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