

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1321
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th July, 2022**

Innovation Fund

1321. SHRI M. SELVARAJ:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes an Innovation Fund for Secondary Education and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number and details of States which have the most number of educationally backward blocks in the country; and
- (c) the number of educationally backward blocks benefitted from the said funds so far?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)**

(a): Innovation is central to improving the quality of education. In the Budget for the year 2017-18, an Innovation Fund for Secondary Education was created under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), to encourage local innovation for ensuring universal access, gender parity and quality improvement, including ICT-enabled learning transformation with a special focus on educationally backward districts of the country. During 2017-18, an outlay of Rs. 6974.96 lakh was approved for the Innovation fund.

The integrated scheme of Samagra Shiksha launched in 2018-19 after subsuming Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan seeks to capture innovations in the education sector from each State /UT which significantly contribute to the improvement of learning outcomes or overall

condition and quality of education. The overarching objective is to give schools a new or creative alternative to the existing instructional and administrative practices. Such initiatives would also help students in improving learning outcomes and in their holistic development, financial support is provided for national innovative activities like Shaala Siddhi, Youth and Eco club, Teacher Resource Package, Holistic Report card, Orientation of teachers on Safety and Security and also State-specific innovation projects like BALA, setting up of Virtual Labs, Tinkering Labs etc.

(b) and (c): The details of States/UTs having the educationally backward blocks across the country are in Annexure-I. Financial support for innovation projects is based on State-specific proposals with distinct objectives and implementation plans which will have a positive impact on the learning outcomes of students. Funds are approved to respective States/UTs under the quality and innovation component of Samagra Shiksha, by the Project Approval Board (PAB) up to a maximum of 5 per cent of the total outlay. The funds are not allotted block-wise under the scheme and the States/UTs have flexibility to utilise the funds.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1321 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2022 ASKED BY HON'BLE MP SHRI M. SELVARAJ REGARDING INNOVATION FUND

State-wise Percentage of EBB Blocks

S. No.	State Name	No of Blocks	No EBB Blocks	% of EBB Blocks
1	Bihar	537	530	98.70
2	Jharkhand	264	202	76.52
3	Uttar Pradesh	954	679	71.17
4	Telangana	594	396	66.67
5	Madhya Pradesh	319	201	63.01
6	Assam	147	81	55.10
7	Odisha	316	173	54.75
8	Rajasthan	359	186	51.81
9	Jammu & Kashmir	188	97	51.60
10	Andhra Pradesh	670	341	50.90
11	Chhattisgarh	146	74	50.68
12	Arunachal Pradesh	101	40	39.60
13	Karnataka	204	74	36.27
14	Gujarat	254	85	33.46
15	Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3	1	33.33
16	Haryana	119	36	30.25
17	Nagaland	46	11	23.91
18	Uttarakhand	95	19	20.00
19	Meghalaya	48	9	18.75
20	West Bengal	469	87	18.55
21	Manipur	35	5	14.29
22	Tripura	72	9	12.50
23	Tamilnadu	413	44	10.65
24	Maharashtra	408	43	10.54
25	Punjab	228	21	9.21
26	Himachal Pradesh	134	5	3.73
27	Mizoram	36	1	2.78
28	Kerala	166	1	0.6
