

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1132**

ANSWERED ON 29<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2024

**Lack of Schools and Colleges in Bihar**

1132.SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of villages of Bihar lack primary, middle and higher secondary schools and colleges and the average distance to these villages from nearby schools;
- (b) the percentage of blocks lack ITI, polytechnic or other technical institutes in Bihar and the average distance to these technical colleges from Block Headquarters in these respective blocks;
- (c) the criteria of having schools in villages under the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009;
- (d) the number of villages in Katihar district in Bihar having no schools according to the provisions of the RTE Act;
- (e) the number of village schools in Katihar district who do not meet the Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) standards as per the RTE Act; and
- (f) the details of the compliance with the RTE Act, 2009 standards in schools in villages of Katihar district?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a): The percentage of villages having schools in Bihar are as under:

Percentage of Villages			
Primary Schools	Upper Primary Schools	Secondary Schools	Higher Secondary Schools
67.7	56.9	8.5	17.5

Source:- UDISE+2021-22

(b): As per data received from Directorate General of Training, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, there are a total of 534 blocks in Bihar State. Out of which, 160 of them having no ITI. At present, Bihar State has 1,377 ITIs affiliated with NCVET, including 150 Government ITIs and 1,227 Private ITIs.

(c): As per section 6 of RTE Act, 2009 the appropriate Government and the local authority shall establish, within such area or limits of neighbourhood, as may be prescribed, a school, where it is not so established, within a period of three years from the commencement of this Act. The Act also mandates adequate infrastructure facilities including classrooms, toilets, drinking water, and playgrounds, as well as the availability of trained teachers to maintain the Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) as specified. According to the Bihar State Free and Compulsory Education of Children Rules, 2011 a primary school has to be established within a limit of one km. of all habitations, where number of children between the ages of 6-14 years are at least 40 and an elementary school has to be established within a limit of three km. of any habitation.

(d): As per, the Bihar State Free and Compulsory Education of Children Rules, 2011, the habitation is the unit for providing the facility of primary and upper primary schools. As per information received from the State Government of Bihar, in Katihar, all the habitations have been provided with the facility of primary and upper primary schools.

(e) & (f): Education is in the Concurrent list of Constitution and most of the schools come under jurisdiction of concerned States and UTs. State and UT Governments are the appropriate Governments under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, and have the responsibility and mandate to maintain Pupil-Teacher ratio in schools in accordance with the norms laid down in the Schedule to the RTE Act, 2009.

As per Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, the Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) norms for primary and upper primary level are 30:1 and 35:1 respectively. As per information received from the State Government of Bihar, in Katihar district, the PTR for rural area is 29:1. Further, the Central Government through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha provides assistance to the States and UTs for deployment of additional teachers to maintain appropriate pupil teacher ratio (PTR) as per the prescribed norms for various levels of schools.

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