

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No - 196
ANSWERED ON - 22/07/2024

CHILDREN APART FROM EDUCATION

†196. SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the students from lower castes particularly the dalits are continually ostracized from education system;
- (b) if so, the details and the number of such cases taken into cognizance by the Government, State-wise especially in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) the reasons for low literacy rate and low enrollment rate of dalits in the field of Primary Education;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any study in this regard; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

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

(a) to (e): Government of India in partnership with the States and UT Governments have taken a range of initiatives to ensure that all children are enrolled in schools and complete their school education. Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education is implementing the scheme of Samagra Shiksha, effective from 2018-19, for universalization of quality education throughout the country in coordination with the States and UTs. It is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education. Samagra Shiksha supports States and Union Territories in implementation of the RTE Act, 2009.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides every child of the age of 6-14 years, the right to free and compulsory education in a neighborhood school till the completion of his or her elementary education. Section 8(c) of the RTE Act, 2009 provides that the appropriate government would ensure that the child belonging to weaker section and the child belonging to disadvantaged group are not discriminated against and prevented from pursuing and completing elementary education on any grounds.

As per the data available on Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) / UDISE+, Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of Scheduled Castes Students for 2019-20 to 2021-22 shows an increase in the enrolment of Scheduled Castes Students at all levels of school education. A comparable overview between GER of overall students and Scheduled Castes students are given below:-

Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)				
Category	Level	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Overall (All Social categories Students)	Primary	102.70	103.3	103.39
	Upper-Primary	89.70	92.2	94.67
	Secondary	77.90	79.8	79.56
	Higher Secondary	51.40	53.8	57.56
Scheduled Caste	Primary	113.1	113.7	113.1
	Upper-Primary	97.1	100	103.79
	Secondary	83.0	84.8	84.91
	Higher Secondary	52.9	56.1	61.49

There is a provision of financial assistance for the out of school children in the age group of 16-19 years, inter-alia belonging to SC & ST, to continue education through Open/Distance Learning mode. Recurring grant upto Rs. 2000/- per child per grade per annum is provided to such children for completing their secondary/senior secondary education through the Open School System (NIOS/SIOS).
