

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2753
ANSWERED ON 07/08/2024

SCHOOL DROP-OUT STUDENTS

2753 DR. T SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise details of minority student drop-outs from schools, including those in Tamil Nadu along with the reasons for these drop-outs, State-wise;
- (b) the details of steps taken/being taken by the Government to mitigate the drop-out rates; and
- (c) whether the schemes like the Mid-day Meal have effectively reduced the drop-out rates among minority children, especially in Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) Dropout Rate by level of Education, State-wise for all notified 6 Minorities (including Muslims) students for the year 2021-22 is attached at **Annexure-I**.

(b) The Department of School Education and Literacy with effect from 2018-19 is implementing 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 for reducing dropout rate, 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, financial assistance upto ₹ 2000 per annum is being provided for 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.

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. Also, Section 10 of the RTE Act states that it is 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 neighbourhood school.

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, including Balvatika.

(c) The Provision of one hot cooked meal under the PM POSHAN Scheme encourages children to attend School regularly and also contributes towards reduction in drop out rate. This was also observed by the 3rd party evaluation carried out by the NITI Aayog in 2019-20 and evaluation carried out by the National Institute of Nutrition in 2017-18. As per the evaluation study of NIN 86% teachers also opined that Mid-day Meal helped in reducing the school dropout rates.

Annexure referred in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question no. 2753 for answer on 07.08.2024 asked by DR. T Sumathy Alias Thamizhachi Thangapandian, regarding “School drop-out Students”.

Dropout Rate by level of Education for all notified 6 Minorities (including Muslims) - 2021-22

India/State/UT	Dropout Rate (Minority)		
	Primary	Upper Primary	Secondary
India	10.5	13	24.4
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3.8	1.7	7.8
Andhra Pradesh	15.2	25	39
Arunachal Pradesh	34.8	36.4	38.1
Assam	11.8	19	34
Bihar	0.6	10	26.8
Chandigarh	26.6	24.1	17.8
Chhattisgarh	47.2	49.7	54.2
Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli	27.8	32.7	35.4
Delhi	0	0	12.4
Goa	27.4	25.9	35.4
Gujarat	25.5	31.1	44
Haryana	0.6	11.2	21.8
Himachal Pradesh	38.6	40.8	49.1
Jammu & Kashmir	5.7	4.2	7.1
Jharkhand	17.1	20.9	27.8
Karnataka	3.6	6.6	27.5
Kerala	1	1.8	12.5
Ladakh	9.6	3.4	5.5
Lakshadweep	0.5	2.5	0
Madhya Pradesh	16.8	23.7	30.2
Maharashtra	19.6	21.8	33
Manipur	28.6	23.3	24.1
Meghalaya	22.7	24.1	35.1
Mizoram	14	9.5	20.7
Nagaland	13.5	11.7	26.4
Odisha	27.3	27.8	43.9
Puducherry	28	29.3	32.5
Punjab	10.5	14.6	12.9
Rajasthan	17.6	21.3	29.2
Sikkim	43.3	37.2	48.4
Tamil Nadu	0.1	0	5.8
Telangana	3	7.3	11.1
Tripura	26.5	28.7	37.8
Uttarakhand	17.1	24.7	31.6
Uttar Pradesh	9.9	12.9	21.7
West Bengal	6.6	0	26.1

*Data Source: UDISE+ 2021-22