

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1088
ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

Decline in Enrollment of SC, ST, OBC and Girls Students

†1088. Shri Abhay Kumar Sinha:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the time by which the Government fulfil the dream of Equal Education to All;
- (b) whether the number of admissions in schools have declined by nearly 37 lakhs in the year 2023-24 and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether such decline was highest among SC, ST, OBC and girls students and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any action has been taken by the Government to overcome the decline in school admission, shortage of teachers and to improve infrastructure facilities in schools; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a): The NEP, 2020 is premised in ensuring access and inclusivity for all and aims to achieve 100% Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) pre-primary to Secondary level by 2030. Central Government assist States and UTs through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha, which is also aligned with 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.

(b): The Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education has developed the Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) system to record data on indicators of school education provided by all the States and Union Territories. W.e.f 2022-23, UDISE+ captures individual student wise data and created student's registry. As per UDISE+, total enrolments (Pre-Primary to Higher Secondary) for the year 2022-23 and 2023-24 is 25,17,91,722 and 24,80,45,828 respectively.

(c) : As per UDISE+, total enrolments (Primary to Higher Secondary) of Schedule Castes, Schedule Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Girls for the year 2022-23 and 2023-24 is as under.

Enrolments (Primary to Higher Secondary)	2022-23	2023-24
Schedule Castes	4,44,25,208	4,28,01,577
Schedule Tribes	2,39,56,131	2,34,41,706
Other Backward Classes	11,04,03,611	10,65,50,283
Girls	11,62,09,112	11,32,48,084

(d) and (e): Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and most of the schools are under the jurisdiction of concerned States and UTs. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha financial assistance is provided to the States and UTs for various activities to improve enrolment in Govt. schools, which include opening/strengthening of new schools up to senior secondary level, strengthening school infrastructure, setting up, up gradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV) upto class 12, setting up of residential schools/hostel named Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalayas, transport allowance, undertaking enrolment drives, seasonal hostels/residential camps, provision of vocational education and ICT facilities in schools, etc, financial assistance is also provided for aids and appliances for children with special needs.

Recruitment of teachers in schools is a continuous process as vacancies keep arising due to factors like retirement, resignation and additional requirements on account of enhanced students' strength/new schools and the onus of recruitment of teachers through a comprehensive technology based planning and forecasting exercise lies on the respective State Government/Union Territory administration.

The Department of School Education and Literacy, from time to time, through review meetings and advisories, requests the State Governments and UT administrations to fill up these vacancies and their rational deployment.

Further, the Central Government through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha, provides financial assistance to the States and UTs to maintain appropriate Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) for various levels of schooling, as per norms prescribed in the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, as amended from time to time.