

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-112
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025

Closure or Merger of Schools

112. Smt. Rachna Banerjee:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Government schools closed or merged during the last 10 years in the country, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has identified the reasons for closure of these schools;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to reopen these schools;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the number of private schools opened during the last ten years in the country, State-wise?

ANSWER

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

(a): 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. As per UDISE+, State/UT-wise number of Government schools from the year 2014-15 to 2023-24 are at annexure-I.

(b) to (d): Education is in the Concurrent list of the Constitution and the opening, closing and rationalisation of schools are within the purview of respective State Government and UT Administration. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides children's access to elementary schools within the defined area or limits of neighbourhood. In pursuance to Section 6 of the RTE Act, all States have notified area or limits of their neighbourhood norms. Further, Section 8 of the RTE Act, 2009 also mandates that the appropriate government shall provide free and compulsory elementary education to every child and will ensure availability of neighbourhood schools.

Also, central Government assist States and UTs through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha. Financial assistance is also provided to the States and UTs for various activities to reduce dropout 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, providing free text books and free uniform, transport/escort facility, etc, financial assistance is also provided for aids and appliances for children with special needs.

(e): As per UDISE+, State/UT-wise number of Private schools registered from the year 2014-15 to 2023-24 are at annexure-II.

Annexure - I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 112 ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025 ASKED BY HONB'LE MP SMT. RACHNA BANERJEE REGARDING 'CLOSURE OR MERGER OF SCHOOLS'

State/UT-wise number of Government schools from the year 2014-15 to 2023-24

India/State/UT	Number of Government Schools in the year									
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
India	1107101	1104796	1101371	1094543	1083747	1032570	1032049	1022386	1016010	1017660
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	344	344	344	339	339	342	342	342	342	340
Andhra Pradesh	46666	44907	44700	44896	45013	45115	45145	45137	45167	45000
Arunachal Pradesh	3408	3492	3459	3447	3179	3056	3061	2985	2922	2847
Assam	52927	53020	53042	50965	47223	47157	46749	45490	44925	45008
Bihar	74291	74689	74908	73528	72630	72610	75555	75558	75550	78120
Chandigarh	113	115	116	121	121	121	121	123	119	119
Chhattisgarh	50061	47181	47216	48848	48671	48547	48619	48743	48728	48803
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	299	299	301	300	300	300	407	388	387	360
Daman & Diu	114	119	119	115	112	109				
Delhi	2844	2828	2791	2787	2784	2767	2751	2762	2673	2693
Goa	906	894	873	846	833	827	821	814	806	789
Gujarat	34817	34891	35122	35152	35202	35040	34967	34699	34651	34597
Haryana	14630	14640	14483	14450	14516	14484	14563	14562	14443	14374
Himachal Pradesh	15355	15386	15489	15465	15433	15398	15391	15380	15447	15217
Jammu & Kashmir	23874	23834	23855	23904	24080	23165	23167	23173	18785	18785
Jharkhand	41322	41159	40014	39703	35954	35931	35888	35840	35764	35795
Karnataka	50486	50424	49883	50066	50184	49834	49791	49679	49520	49306
Kerala	5104	4792	5073	4783	5011	5014	5020	5010	4811	4809
Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	913	915	838	841	841
Lakshadweep	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	38	37	37
Madhya Pradesh	121849	121976	122880	122653	122056	99411	99152	92695	92741	92439
Maharashtra	67717	67629	67154	66750	66033	65886	65734	65639	65431	65157
Manipur	2372	3332	3323	3037	3073	2876	2878	2889	2922	2934
Meghalaya	7763	7775	7793	7805	7802	7799	7795	7783	7778	7779
Mizoram	2592	2591	2595	2582	2564	2552	2558	2563	2567	2587
Nagaland	2279	2101	2097	2080	2007	2011	1975	1960	1954	1952
Odisha	58697	58740	58052	56313	55483	53260	50256	49072	48767	48671
Puducherry	436	430	424	424	423	422	422	422	422	420
Punjab	20772	20529	20568	19515	19404	19377	19330	19259	19245	19242
Rajasthan	70210	70961	68039	66943	67607	67660	68813	68948	69538	70233
Sikkim	868	870	874	853	854	851	851	864	864	864
Tamil Nadu	37911	38209	38307	37634	37728	37579	37589	37636	37658	37672
Telangana	29268	29127	29427	29845	29822	30001	30015	30023	29997	30022
Tripura	4326	4322	4320	4314	4309	4275	4265	4262	4245	4238
Uttar Pradesh	162228	162645	162927	163114	163142	137638	137068	137024	137003	137102
Uttarakhand	17753	17752	17753	17629	16934	16741	16651	16484	16381	16201
West Bengal	82454	82748	83005	83292	82876	83456	83379	83302	82579	82307

Source: UDISE, UDISE+

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 112 ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025 ASKED BY HONB'LE MP SMT. RACHNA BANERJEE REGARDING 'CLOSURE OR MERGER OF SCHOOLS'

State/UT-wise number of Private schools from the year 2014-15 to 2023-24

India/State/UT	Number of Private Schools in the year									
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
India	288164	295059	303725	322201	326228	337499	340753	335844	323430	331108
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	68	68	69	76	72	73	73	72	70	70
Andhra Pradesh	14269	14846	14005	15787	15862	16173	15792	15058	15127	15232
Arunachal Pradesh	447	465	495	499	503	493	496	503	503	529
Assam	3554	4421	4745	5593	6084	6074	6045	5852	5677	5725
Bihar	3284	3944	4381	5647	6249	7630	7923	8097	8053	9167
Chandigarh	73	73	73	74	74	74	75	76	77	77
Chhattisgarh	5701	5946	6372	6667	6842	7008	7131	7063	6931	7153
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	32	32	33	35	35	42	63	63	63	63
Daman & Diu	22	22	22	24	23	23				
Delhi	2641	2669	2682	2682	2666	2652	2641	2610	2570	2565
Goa	140	150	152	146	139	138	138	139	140	141
Gujarat	11555	11745	12502	13253	13641	13898	13834	13559	13387	13490
Haryana	6415	6612	7138	7571	7913	8195	8235	8261	8315	8415
Himachal Pradesh	2614	2652	2718	2829	2778	2786	2753	2646	2613	2607
Jammu & Kashmir	5173	5256	5374	5425	5552	5585	5649	5526	5407	5452
Jharkhand	1431	1700	1417	1393	1400	1522	1542	1559	1583	1634
Karnataka	17331	17678	18760	19645	20604	20069	19915	19650	19531	19542
Kerala	2999	3449	3260	3533	3156	3282	3241	3164	3095	3082
Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	112	112	112	111	114
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	25962	26073	27190	28103	29182	31201	31512	30345	28047	28910
Maharashtra	16012	16845	18091	19166	19400	19654	19632	19268	18723	18642
Manipur	894	927	927	954	1003	1015	1027	1010	996	1010
Meghalaya	2274	2354	2318	2476	2220	2198	2179	2120	2121	2152
Mizoram	971	1001	1009	1035	1025	1046	1050	1034	1023	1064
Nagaland	723	725	734	759	745	746	743	757	762	772
Odisha	3350	4043	4138	3959	4957	6375	6393	6104	6062	6042
Puducherry	263	268	280	276	283	286	286	281	274	282
Punjab	7395	6825	7038	8521	8495	8623	8893	7978	7886	7704
Rajasthan	34066	35071	35041	35936	35776	36056	36023	34826	34497	34729
Sikkim	403	406	439	426	417	407	393	376	368	374
Tamil Nadu	10782	10796	10862	11863	12439	12382	12402	12396	11969	12481
Telangana	15069	12129	12573	12031	11621	11688	12023	12193	11707	12126
Tripura	252	287	298	335	343	352	360	363	367	395
Uttar Pradesh	77330	80748	83116	88571	87433	93750	96741	97808	92348	96635
Uttarakhand	5353	5331	5281	5542	5519	5467	5396	5225	5140	5252
West Bengal	9316	9502	10192	11369	11777	10424	10042	9750	7887	7480

Source: UDISE, UDISE+