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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1768 ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025

Decline in School Enrolment

1768. Dr. D Ravi Kumar:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Government to address the drop of 1.55 crore students from Government and private schools in years 2018-2022 and 2023-24;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent decline in enrolment of students in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra;

(c) the assistances provided by the Government to these States to increase Enrolment;

(d) the initiatives taken by the Government to find out the root cause of decline in enrollment of students such a socio-economic factor, migration and school infrastructure and to address the same; and

(e) whether there is any link between the implementation of the National Education Policy and the decline in school enrolment during the above period?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (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. As per UDISE+, enrolment of the students for the year 2018-19 and 2023-24 is 26,02,94,216 and 24,80,45,828 respectively.

Further, education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of respective State and UT Governments. Central Government assist States and UTs through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha. Financial assistance is also provided to the States and UTs including Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra for various activities to reduce dropout and increase enrolment in Government. 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.

(c): Under Samagra Shiksha financial assistances provided to States/UTs. For the year 2024-25 central release till now under Samagra Shiksha is Rs. 2072922.71 lakh.

(d) and (e): The major reasons for drop-out of school children are to supplement household income, to attend domestic chores, not interested in studies, unable to cope up with studies, child suffering with some disability, poor health, education not considered necessary by the parents, preparation of competitive examination, marriage etc. Further, Central Government assist States and UTs through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha. to reduce dropout.

Also, based on the recommendations of National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020), w.e.f 2022-23 UDISE+ has been revitalized, to capture individual student wise data and created student's registry. There has been a complete change in the manner of collection of data from 2022-23 onwards from gross enrolment data to individual student data. It makes comparison of data from previous years statistically different/inchoate.