

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 176
ANSWERED ON 3rd February, 2025**

School Drop-outs Aged 6 to 14 years

176. Shri K Radhakrishnan:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any assessment of the drop-out of children between 6 and 14 years of age from school during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the current budget includes any specific plan for bringing out-of-school children back to school, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of the schools come under the domain of the State/UT Governments. Under the Samagra Shiksha scheme, the annual plans are prepared by the States and UTs based on their requirements and priority and this is reflected in their respective Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) Proposals. During the appraisal of AWP&B proposals, all States and UTs are requested to conduct household survey annually for the purpose of identification of Out of School Children (OoSC). This includes dropout children and never enrolled. The identified OoSC are brought back to school and assessed for their learning gaps.

This Department has also developed an online module for compiling the data of Out of School Children (OoSC) identified by each State/UT and their mapping with Special Training Centres (STC) on the PRABANDH Portal. The concerned State/UT validates the child wise information of the identified OoSC and STC uploaded by the concerned Block Resource Centre of the State for monitoring the progress of mainstreaming of OoSC. The drop out rate of children at elementary level for the last three years is as under:

Year	Primary (1 to 5)	Upper Primary (6 to 8)
2021-22	1.5	3
2022-23	7.8	8.1
2023-24	1.9	5.2

Source: UDISE+

(c): Under the Samagra Shiksha scheme, financial assistance is provided to States and UTs for undertaking various activities for reducing the number of out of school children. For out of school children at 16 to 19 years of age, support is provided to SC, ST, disabled children, upto ₹ 2000 per child per grade to complete their secondary/senior secondary levels through NIOS/SIOS.

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 as follows to bring out of school children to the formal schooling:

- Up to ₹ 6,000/- per child per annum for non-residential courses.
- Up to ₹ 20,000/- per child per annum for residential courses.

The data in respect of out of school' children (OoSC) for the last three years is as under:

(Figures in lakh)

2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.	Phy.	Fin.
770374	42346.92	732291	32001.315	857900	44716.284

Source: Prabandh Portal
