

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2666**

ANSWERED ON 17/03/2025

**Withholding of Funds of Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan for Tamil Nadu**

2666. Shri S Venkatesan:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has withheld the funds of Rs. 2154 crore under Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) which is due to Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the reasons for linking the release of above fund with the implementation of NEP in the State;
- (c) whether imposition of Hindi as part of NEP is violation the language policy acknowledging language diversity evolved in the background of Anti Hindi Agitation in Tamil Nadu;
- (d) whether the above imposition is the violation of Federal principles while Education is in the concurrent list; and
- (e) if so, the details and the reasons thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a)&(b):The Union Government is committed to ensuring that every child, in every corner of the country has access to the transformative benefits of the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020). Samagra Shiksha is an integrated scheme that envisages education as a continuum from pre-school to class XII. The Scheme has been aligned with the provisions of NEP 2020 and new interventions such as Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), Support for NIPUN Bharat, Quality and Innovation at all levels, Equity and Inclusion, Skill Education, ICT and Digital Initiatives etc. have been incorporated in the Scheme.

Since inception, tens of lakhs of students from the State of Tamil Nadu are benefitting from the provisions of this Scheme. Regarding the release of funds to the state of Tamil Nadu under Samagra Shiksha, all four sanctioned instalments for the year 2023-24 amounting to Rs.1876.15 crore were released. Further, an amount of Rs.4305.66 crore has been approved for the state of Tamil Nadu by the Project Approval Board (PAB) for the financial year 2024-25.

(c) to (e): The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 emphasizes that wherever possible, the medium of instruction until at least Grade 5, but preferably till Grade 8 and beyond, will be the home language/mother tongue/local language/regional language. Therefore, NEP 2020 fully supports the idea of teaching Tamil in the schools of Tamil Nadu.

Further, respecting the federal principles, NEP 2020 affirms that the three-language formula will continue to be implemented while keeping in mind the Constitutional provisions, aspirations of the people, regions, and the Union, and the need to promote multilingualism as well as promote national unity. However, there will be a greater flexibility in the three-language formula, and no language will be imposed on any State. The three languages learned by children will be the choices of States, regions, and of course the students themselves, so long as at least two of the three languages are native to India. In particular, students who wish to change one or more of the three languages they are studying may do so in Grade 6 or 7, as long as they are able to demonstrate basic proficiency in three languages (including one language of India at the literature level) by the end of secondary school.

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