

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3902
ANSWERED ON - 16/03/2026

Tribal Education and Welfare Schemes in Hingoli

3902. Shri Aashtikar Patil Nagesh Bapurao:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that in the tribal-dominated areas of Hingoli Lok Sabha Constituency in Maharashtra, benefits of education-related welfare schemes such as scholarships, hostels, Ashram schools, digital education initiatives and infrastructure schemes are not reaching students in a timely and effective manner, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that tribal students are facing problems such as delay in scholarship disbursement, poor basic facilities in Ashram schools and hostels, shortage of teachers, lack of digital connectivity and inadequate learning resources in remote villages, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to address these issues and to improve access to quality education in tribal areas of Hingoli; and
- (d) whether any special monitoring mechanism, inspection teams or targeted educational action plan has been proposed for the said constituency, if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

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

(a) to (c): Education being a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, an overwhelming majority of the schools in the country come under the administrative control of States/UTs. The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing centrally sponsored schemes for School education- Samagra Shiksha. Samagra Shiksha considers school education holistically, without segmentation from pre-primary to class XII and is aligned with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. It aims 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.

Under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme, financial support is provided to the State/ UTs including Maharashtra for creation of infrastructure and basic facilities for the components like, construction of additional classrooms, toilets for Girls and Boys with running water facilities as well as CwSN toilets, boundary walls, Science Labs, Computers Labs, Library Room, Ramps, Major Repairs, Supply of Furniture etc. In this regard, the States and UTs prepare their Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) based on their requirements and priorities and submit to the Ministry of Education prior to the beginning of every financial year. The same is considered and appraised/approved by Project Approval Board (PAB) in consultation with the States and UTs as per the schematic/ programmatic and financial norms of the Scheme and physical and financial progress of the State for the interventions approved earlier. Thereafter, the Central releases its share in instalments to State/UTs and intervention-wise releases are not made. The State further releases the fund to the District, Block and Government Schools on the approvals for implementation of the interventions provided under Samagra Shiksha.

The Ministry of Education, under Samagra Shiksha, provides financial assistance to the states and UTs, including the State of Maharashtra, for opening and running of Residential Schools and Hostels (Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Avasiva Vidyalayas) in hilly terrain, small and sparsely populated areas for children who are in need of shelter and care, in addition to the provision of regular schools. The objective is to ensure universal enrolment and provide schooling facilities in areas which are sparsely populated (mostly tribal areas) where opening of schools may not be viable and for children in urban areas who are in need of care and protection. The residential facilities are also provided to child labour rescued, migrant children who belong to poor landless families, children without adult protection, separated from their families, internally displaced persons, and children from the areas of social and armed conflict and natural calamities. Preference is given to EBBs, LWE affected districts, SFDs and the Aspirational districts identified by NITI Aayog.

Under Samagra Shiksha, there is also a provision of KGBVs. KGBVs are residential schools for girls belonging to Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) such as Schedule Tribe, Schedule Caste, Other Backward Class and others in

Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs). The objective of the scheme is to ensure access to quality education for girls from SEDGs and reduce the gender gap at the elementary to senior secondary level (class VI-XII) by setting up residential schools with boarding facilities.

Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM- JANMAN) targets development of 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) residing in 18 states and UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Abhiyan envisages saturation of basic facilities, including Education, in these villages by adopting the whole of Government approach in convergence with line ministries. M/o Tribal Affairs (MoTA) is the nodal ministry for implementation of PM JANMAN. The Ministry of Education is one of the participating Ministries in the Abhiyan and PM-JANMAN is being implemented in convergence with Samagra Shiksha Scheme of this Department. The scheme targets construction of 500 hostels during the period from 2023-24 to 2025-26.

The Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JGUA) aims at saturation of more than 63,000 tribal majority villages and tribal villages in Aspirational Districts with specified interventions. Ministry of Education is one of the participating Ministries in the Abhiyan and that DAJGUA is being implemented in convergence with Samagra Shiksha Scheme of this Department. DAJGUA scheme has a run over period from 2024-25 to 2028-29, targeting construction 1000 hostels under Samagra Shiksha during the period.

The Central Sector “National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS)” is open to the students irrespective of categories/gender. However, reservation is provided under the scheme as per the State Government norms. Under NMMS scheme, funds are not released to States/UTs and scholarship amount is directly credited to the students’ bank accounts through DBT. Applications of the students received on National Scholarship Portal (NSP) from all States/UTs are considered for sanction of scholarship amount.

The Ministry of Education implements ICT and Digital initiatives under Samagra Shiksha to enhance digital learning in Government schools across the country, including rural areas of Maharashtra. The initiatives aim to enhance the quality of education by integrating technology into teaching and learning processes. Under the initiatives, funds are provided for setting up ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms according

to the requirements of the State submitted in the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B). The ICT scheme offers two options:

1. Option I: Schools without prior ICT facilities can choose ICT labs or smart classrooms. Schools with over 700 students may get an additional ICT lab. States/UTs can procure hardware, software, tablets, laptops, and training resources, supporting digital boards, virtual classrooms, and DTH channels.
2. Option II: Schools with existing ICT facilities can access smart classrooms or tablets under the scheme norms.

A comprehensive initiative called PM eVidya was initiated as part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan on 17th May, 2020, which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education across the country. States/UTs collaborate with NCERT to utilise, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of these initiatives as per their requirements. NCERT also provides regular guidance/ feedback to States/UTs on the quality of these initiatives. The key components of PM eVidya are also aligned towards enhancing digital literacy and include 200 DTH TV channels. These channels were launched on 9th March 2024 by Hon'ble Education Minister. As per the Union Budget announcement for Financial Year 2022-23, 12 DTH channels have been expanded to 200 PM eVidya DTH TV channels and 400 Radio channels to enable all States/UTs to provide supplementary education in various Indian languages for classes 1-12. The State of Maharashtra has been allotted five channels (MH PM eVIDYA 113 to MH PM eVIDYA 117) under the 'PM eVidya' initiative of the Ministry of Education. Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA) is the Nation's digital infrastructure for providing quality e-content for school education in States/UTs and QR coded Energised Textbooks (ETBs) for all grades (One Nation, One Digital platform). To promote crucial critical thinking skills and to give space for creativity, more than 614 Virtual Labs have been created and made available on the DIKSHA platform. Additionally, the Government of India, in the Budget 2025, has announced provision of broadband connectivity to all Government Secondary schools in rural areas, including 303 schools from Maharashtra in phase 1, under the 'BharatNet' project to enhance digital infrastructure in remote areas by BSNL in a phased manner.

State of Maharashtra has reported that as per UDISE 2025-26 out of the 1,789 Government schools in this constituency, all schools (100%) are equipped with

buildings and access to drinking water, ensuring a strong basic infrastructure foundation. In addition, 95% of schools have boys' toilets, 97% have girls' toilets, 92% are electrified, and 86% are secured with boundary walls, reflecting substantial progress in providing safe and supportive learning environments for students. As per the UDISE 2025-26 data – 549 schools have smart classrooms. Samagra Shiksha Scheme has operationalized one Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) in the district to support girls from disadvantaged backgrounds, with continuous monitoring of attendance, academic progress, and socio-emotional well-being. In Hingoli Lok Sabha Constituency there are 8 hostels sanctioned under PM-DAJGUA and 1 hostel sanctioned under PM-JANMAN Scheme. As per the Project Approval Board of Samagra Shiksha for the year 2025-26: Smart Classrooms in 68 Schools, ICT Labs in 60 Schools, Digital Library in 113 schools and Internet provision through BSNL in 75 secondary schools are approved.

Also, use of the District Planning Committee funds and CSR funds has been mandated for school infrastructure. Special monitoring mechanisms have also been instituted by the State which includes VSK-enabled real-time monitoring, Social Audit processes to strengthen community oversight and transparency in school functioning.

(d): 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 teacher vacancies and infrastructure gaps. Also, the Ministry of Education has issued guidelines and directives to all States and Union Territories to take urgent steps to ensure student safety and well-being. Further, this Department has launched a comprehensive online monitoring system called PRABANDH (Project Appraisal, Budgeting Achievements and Data Handling). The system enables Ministry of Education and States & UTs to monitor the releases, expenditure, intervention wise progress and other scheme related information.
