

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5942

TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, THE 30TH MARCH, 2026
CHAITRA 09, 1948 (SAKA)

BUDGETARY ALLOCATION FOR EDUCATION AND HEALTH

5942. SHRI SASIKANTH SENTHIL

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- whether the Government has reduced the effective allocation for education and health, as a percentage of total expenditure in the recent Union Budget, if so, the reasons therefor;
- the percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) allocated to education and health for the FY 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26;
- whether fiscal consolidation targets have constrained welfare spending, if so, the details thereof; and
- the manner in which the Government intend to balance fiscal deficit reduction with employment and human capital development?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

- : Allocation for Health (including Ayush) and Education as a percentage of total expenditure in the recent Union Budget has increased to 4.7 % (₹2.50 lakh crore) in BE 2026-27 from 4.5% (₹2.22 lakh crore) in RE 2025-26.
- : Total expenditure on Health and Education as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the FY 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 is as under:

FY	Amount (₹ lakh crore)	% of GDP
2025-26 (RE)	2.22	0.64
2024-25	2.05	0.64
2023-24	2.09	0.72

Note: GDP is as per new series with base year 2022-23

- & (d): Government's approach for reducing fiscal deficit focuses on maintaining potential growth trends while meeting the developmental needs of our growing economy. The strategy aims at revenue augmentation, better targeting of welfare expenditure, enhancing growth-inducing capital expenditure etc; for employment and human capital development.
