

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3732
ANSWERED ON 16/03/2026

Withholding of Funds Under Samagra Shiksha

3732. Smt. Bag Mitali:

Will the Minister of **EDUCATION** be pleased to state:

- (a) the time by which the Union Government plans to disburse Rs. 19,045 crore it owes to the State of West Bengal under the Samagra Shiksha; and
- (b) the reasons for which the Government has stopped disbursing these funds?

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 are under the domain of respective State and UT Governments. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha is implemented in partnership with all the States and UTs. Financial assistance is provided to all States and UTs for various components for implementation of the interventions under Samagra Shiksha as per norms. Accordingly, the annual plans under Samagra Shiksha 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). These plans are then appraised and approved by Project Approval Board (PAB) in consultation with the States and UTs as per the programmatic and financial norms of the scheme. The funds are released based on the fulfillment of conditions prescribed by Ministry of Finance such as pace of expenditure, receipt of commensurate State share, audited accounts, statement cumulative State share, statement on outstanding advances, up-to date expenditure statement, furnishing of information as prescribed.

The scheme of Samagra Shiksha has been aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of PM-SHRI envisages to showcase the implementation of the National Education Policy 2020 and emerge as exemplar schools over a period of time, and also offer leadership to other schools in the neighbourhood.

States and UTs are required to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education, Government of India, for implementation of PM SHRI scheme. However, West Bengal has not signed the PM SHRI MoU. The issue of PM SHRI MoU has been followed up with requests and repeated reminders at the level of Secretary and Union Minister.

Since, West Bengal State is implementing Samagra Shiksha Scheme which has been aligned with NEP 2020, it would be appropriate that the State come forward to implement and showcase all the initiatives of NEP 2020 including under PM SHRI Scheme in order to develop government schools of the State as exemplar schools to facilitate best school education services. In fact, implementation of Samagra Shiksha Scheme is implementation of NEP 2020 and PM SHRI Schools are exemplar schools of NEP 2020.

In this context, Rs. 311.29 Crore were released to West Bengal in 2023-24. The central share approved by Project Approval Board (PAB) considering the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) submitted by West Bengal for 2024-25 & 2025-26 is as below:

Year	Total Central Share Approval (in crore)
2024-25	1745.80
2025-26	1965.66
