

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 1924
ANSWERED ON - 03/08/2022**

Enrolment of SC/ST girls under NSIGSE

1924 Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao Mahadik:

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

- (a) whether Government is implementing National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (NSIGSE) and if so, the details thereof and the aims and objective behind the move;
- (b) whether NSIGSE has been able to reduce the dropouts and promote the enrolment of girl child belonging to SC/ST communities in secondary schools and if so, the details thereof and the achievements made so far; and
- (c) whether Government has taken steps to provide quality education to girl child through the use of technology and if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective steps taken in this regard?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)**

(a) & (b): The National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (NSIGSE) scheme has been discontinued w.e.f. the year 2018-19 due to inherent issues in the design and implementation of the scheme. The NSIGSE scheme was evaluated in the year 2020-21 by Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), Delhi. IEG suggested that the other State sponsored schemes of similar nature are being majorly preferred by the beneficiaries. Thus, there is limited reason and scope for the revival of this scheme.

However, this Ministry remains strongly committed to the education of girl child, specially those belonging to SC and ST and other disadvantaged groups. Education of girl child is a critical component in various interventions of the Department of School Education and Literacy. Several measures for education of girls are being implemented through the flagship scheme of Samagra Shiksha being operated by this Department. Some of them are as follows:-

- Up-gradation of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) from Class 6-8 to Class 6-12, which mainly cater to SC, ST and BPL girl students.
- Self-defence training for girls from upper primary to senior secondary stage.
- Enhanced commitment to 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao'.
- Enhanced Transport facility for access to school.

- Allocation for uniforms under RTE Act enhanced from Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 per child per annum.
- Allocation for textbooks under the RTE Act, enhanced from Rs. 150 to Rs. 250 per child per annum for Primary School and from Rs.250 to Rs. 400 per child per annum at upper primary level.
- Allocation for Children with Special Needs (CwSN) increased from Rs. 3000 per child per annum to Rs. 3500 per child per annum. Stipend of Rs. 200 per month for Girls with Special Needs from Classes 1 to 12.

(c): To reduce gender gaps at all levels of school education, under Samagra Shiksha, there is a provision of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) in the Educationally Backward Blocks where rural female literacy rate is below the national average. KGBVs are residential schools from class VI to XII for girls belonging to disadvantaged groups such as SC, ST, OBC, Minority and Below Poverty Line (BPL). As on 30.06.2022, a total of 4986 KGBVs are functional with the enrolment of 6.69 lakh girls. The task of up-gradation of the KGBVs was started in the year 2018-19 and till the year 2022-23, a total of 2010 KGBVs have been approved for up-gradation to Type-III (class 6-12).

A comprehensive initiative called PMeVidya has been started which aims to unify all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education. The initiative includes all forms of digital modes to provide wide access - DIKSHA (online), SWAYAM (online), SWAYAM PRABHA (TV), other TV Channels including use of Doordarshan and AIR Networks. Further, PRAGYATA guidelines were issued to States/UTs to facilitate continued education through various modes. The guidelines inter-alia include situations where internet connectivity is not available or available with very less bandwidth, these resources are shared through various platforms like television, radio etc that do not depend on internet. An Alternate Academic Calendar has been prepared for learning solutions for grade 1 to 12 for both children with and without device. Besides these, community radio, worksheets & textbooks supplied to residence of learners, home visits by teachers, community classes, toll free numbers, SMS based requests for audio content, localised radio content for edutainment etc. have been used. The steps taken by all the States and UTs are shown in the India Report Digital Education, June 2020, which is available at the following link: https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf
