

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2611
ANSWERED ON- 18/12/2024

Bringing girls back to School

2611. Ms. Sushmita Dev:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that an estimated 22.7 lakh girls dropped out at the secondary school, if so, the steps Government aim to take to increase the identification rate of Out of School Adolescent Girls (OoS AG);
- (b) whether out of total identified 1.44 lakh OoS AG, around 30 per cent have been left out without enrolling back in education system, if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure enrolment; and
- (c) whether Government is considering initiating any non-formal education program to transition them into mainstream education, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): The enrolment and dropout rate of girls at national level is as under:

Enrolment of girls in Class VIII	Enrolment of Girls in Class IX	Enrolment of Girls in Class X	Drop Out Rate secondary
10670308	9490065	8966648	12.25

Source: UDISE 2021-22

Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of the schools come under the domain of the State/UT Governments. State & UT Governments conduct door-to-door survey to identify the Out of School Children, which includes dropout children and never enrolled. The Department of School Education & Literacy has developed the Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) system to record/capture data on indicators of school education provided by all the States and UTs.

Further, Government has also taken initiatives such as Vidya Samiksha Kendra (VSK) and implementation of APAAR ID to monitor the drop out and other education indicators.

VSK has been developed with strategies designed to enhance the effectiveness of monitoring of educational initiatives and their eventual outcomes. A key features of VSK is tracking of dropout students, monitoring of students migrating from one school to the other, progress of learning outcomes and real-time monitoring of various interventions, aimed at improving access, students' academic performance and enhancing teachers' accountability in schools. Automated Permanent

Academic Account Registry (APAAR) IDs are being created to enable tracking of all students, along with the learning outcomes in a holistic manner.

These initiatives are designed to bring about transformational and paradigm shift in monitoring and reducing drop-out rates of students including Out of School Adolescent Girls (OoSAG).

(b) & (c): As per the information uploaded/provided by the States and UTs on the Prabandh portal (2023-24), 195836 Children including 72957 girls at secondary level were identified as Out of School children and 20564 children have been provided financial assistance under Samagra Shiksha for completing their studies through NIOS/SIOS.

The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing and integrated centrally sponsored scheme for School education- Samagra Shiksha with objective 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 abilityes and make them active participants in the learning process.

Under the Samagra Shiksha scheme, financial assistance is provided to States and UTs for undertaking various activities for educing dropout rate such as:-

- i) opening/strengthening of new schools upto senior secondary level;
- ii) construction of school buildings & additional classrooms;
- iii) setting up, upgradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas;
- iv) setting up of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalayas;
- v) construction of hostels under PM JANMAN and DA-JGUA scheme;
- vi) free uniforms, free text books and transport allowance as per entitlement;
- vii) undertaking enrolment & retention drives to encourage parents to support girls' education;
- viii) provision of stipend for CSWN girls – Rs. 200 per month for 10 months and
- ix) provisions of incinerators and sanitary pad vending machines have been made at appropriate locations.

Further, special training for age-appropriate admission of out of school children and residential as well as non-residential training for older children, seasonal hostels/residential camps, special training centres at worksites, transport/ escort facility are also supported to bring out of school children to the formal schooling system. The norms for special training is ₹ 6000/- per child per annum for non-residential training and ₹ 20,000/- per child per annum for residential training.

Since 2021-22, financial assistance up to ₹ 2000 per annum is being provided for supporting Out of School children including migrant children of age group of 16-19 years, belonging to socio economically disadvantaged groups, for completing their education through NIOS/SIOS, for accessing course materials and certification.

This Department has also developed an online module for compiling the data of Out of School Children (OoSC) identified by each State/UT and their mapping with Special Training Centres (STC) on the PRABANDH Portal (<http://samagrashiksha.in>). The concerned State/UT validates the child wise information of the identified OoSC and STC uploaded by the concerned Block Resource Centre of the State for monitoring the progress of mainstreaming of OoSC.
