

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2120  
ANSWERED ON – 19/03/2025**

**Decline in the number of Marathi medium schools**

2120 **Dr. Medha Vishram Kulkarni:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the number of Marathi medium schools in Mumbai has declined despite efforts to promote the language, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any study to identify the reasons behind the declining number of Marathi medium schools, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures taken by Government to revive and strengthen Marathi medium education in urban areas, particularly in Mumbai; and
- (d) whether Government is considering financial or policy interventions to support existing Marathi medium schools and encourage the establishment of new schools and, if so, the timeline for implementation?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a): The details of Marathi Medium schools in Mumbai along with students are as per below table:

Year	Total no. of Schools	Boys	Girls	Total
2019-20	380	62614	62844	125458
2020-21	370	57044	57369	114413
2021-22	365	51758	52164	103922
2022-23	344	49891	50318	100209
2023-24	340	48662	49599	98261

(b) to (d): Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution, and, majority of the schools and implementation of infrastructural activities in schools/institutions comes under the domain of respective State and UT Governments.

The Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education had launched Samagra Shiksha – an Integrated Scheme for School Education by subsuming the erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE) from 2018-19. The Samagra Shiksha scheme has now been aligned with the recommendations of NEP 2020 Under Centrally Sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha the annual plans 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) Proposals. These plans are then appraised and approved by the Project Approval Board (PAB) in the Department of School Education & Literacy in consultation with the States and UTs as per the programmatic and financial norms of the scheme, and physical and financial progress of the State for the interventions approved earlier. It is upon the State to propose the fund as per its priority and needs.

The Government recognizes and accords due importance to the promotion of multilingual education in schools, keeping in view India's rich linguistic traditions. The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, inter-alia, provides that wherever possible, the medium of instruction until at least Grade 5, but preferably till Grade 8 and beyond, will be the home language/mother tongue/local language/regional language.

As per the recommendations of NEP 2020, states and UTs are suggested to take measures for the promotion of regional languages in schools. The use of mother tongue and multilingualism as strategy for pedagogic inputs is recommended for overall cognitive benefits.

Many interventions under Samagra Shiksha like free uniform, free mid-day meal, digital interventions like digital labs, robotics, science kits, Maths kits have been provided to these Marathi medium schools in Mumbai. Furthermore, students in MCGM area are provided 27 items free of cost, each year, like school bags, shoes, raincoat, water bottle, compass box, umbrellas etc.

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