

**Regarding effective implementation of Samagra Shiksha Scheme to tackle problems of school dropouts.-laid**

**SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR (ARAMBAGH):** I am raising a very serious concern i.e. children dropping out of school which needs to be addressed. The Ministry of Education has reported that 9.30 lakh elementary-level children are not enrolled in schools in India, with more boys than girls being out of school. A total of 9,30,531 elementary school-aged children are out of school in India, including 5.02 lakh boys and 4.27 lakh girls. Uttar Pradesh has the highest number of out-of-school children at 3.96 lakh, followed by Bihar at 1.34 lakh and Gujarat at 1.06 lakh. This huge number of dropouts indicated the gaps in implementation of the Samagra Shiksha Scheme thereby endangering the future of children in our country. This makes children vulnerable to labour and trafficking. I request the Hon?ble Minister of Education to take effective steps for better implementation of this scheme by identifying school dropouts and mainstream them in formal education.