

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-931
ANSWERED ON-29/07/2024

GER IN HIGHER EDUCATION

931 SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:
THIRU D M KATHIR ANAND:
SHRI RAMASAHAYAM RAGHURAM REDDY:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the current Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for higher education at the national level, State-wise;
- (b) the gender-wise distribution of enrolment in higher educational institutions;
- (c) the details of the availability of scholarships and financial assistance programmes to promote higher education accessibility;
- (d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase GER and improve access to higher education, particularly in underserved regions;
- (e) whether the Government has taken appropriate steps for improving the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in the country and released adequate funds for the same;
- (f) if so, the details of the GER achieved, State-wise having the Population of 4 crores and above; and
- (g) whether the Government has sanctioned any funds to incentivise States like Tamil Nadu that achieved higher rates of GER and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) As per the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2021-22, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of Higher Education at the national level for 2021-22, is 28.4. The details of the State/UT-wise GER, is available at https://www.education.gov.in/parl_ques .

(b) As per AISHE 2021-22, the total Student Enrolment in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) is 4.33 Crore, out of which Female Student Enrolment is 2.07 Crore and Male Student

Enrolment is 2.26 Crore. The Female GER is 28.5 in 2021-22 higher than the male GER of 28.3 in 2021-22. Female GER continues to be more than male GER for fifth consecutive year since 2017-18.

(c) Government is implementing various Scholarships and Fellowships for providing financial assistance to students, including SC/ST/OBC and Minorities, details of which are available in the following websites:

Sl. No.	Ministry/Department	Website links
1.	Department of Higher Education	https://www.education.gov.in/pm-usp-scholarships-education-loan
2.	University Grants Commission	https://frg.ugc.ac.in
3.	All India Council for Technical Education	https://www.aicte-india.org/bureaus/rifd/Scholarship-Schemes
4.	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment	https://socialjustice.gov.in/scheme-cat
5.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	https://tribal.nic.in/ScholarshiP.aspx
6.	Ministry of Minority Affairs	https://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in/show_content.php?lang=1&level=2&ls_id=669&lid=825

(d) & (e) Education is in Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of the Higher Education Institutions are in the domain of the respective States. The States and Centre endeavour to uplift the educational status of the students of the country, especially the disadvantaged communities. Government has taken various measures to increase the GER in Higher Education, which inter-alia include: -

- i. Opening of more HEIs:- The number of Universities/University level Institutions registered under AISHE have increased to 1168 in 2021-22 from 760 in 2014-15 and number of Colleges have increased to 45473 in 2021-22 from 38498 in 2014-15.
- ii. Implementing various Scholarship and Fellowship schemes for providing financial assistance to students, including for SC/ST/OBC and Minority students and underserved regions.
- iii. Allowing well performing HEIs (based on NAAC and NIRF ranking) by University Grants Commission (UGC) to offer full Open Distance Learning/Online Programmes based on quality parameters.
- iv. Providing much-needed flexibility and appropriate Exit as well Re-entry options in the Higher Education system, to facilitate students to choose their learning trajectory.
- v. Providing anytime, anywhere learning opportunities for all learners through Study Webs for Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM) platform, which provides high quality structured online courses in multiple disciplines.
- vi. Conducting JEE, NEET (UG) and Common University Entrance Test (CUET) Exams in 13 languages, to facilitate students and making available Text Books in Indian Languages to facilitate students, particularly from vernacular/rural background.

In this regard, the Central Government has increased Budget allocation of Ministry of Education (MoE) from Rs. 93,224.31 Crore for the year 2021-22, to Rs. 1,04,277.72 Crore for the year 2022-23 to Rs. 1,12,899.47 Crore for the year 2023-24 and Rs. 1,21,117.87 Crores in the year 2024-25 for various activities of the Ministry.

The initiatives of the Government have resulted in increase of GER to 28.4 in 2021-22 from 23.7 in 2014-15.

(f) The State-wise details of GER are given in part (a).

(g) The National Education policy offers opportunities for States with higher GER, to leverage the provisions such as Graded Autonomy for their institutions, aligning courses for Skill enhancement and greater employability of their students, accreditation of their Institutions for ODL, providing Multiple Entry and Exit options for students to choose their own learning trajectory, enhance online education capabilities, etc, to provide for more access and inclusivity for students of their States.

In Higher Education, funds are provided to States/UTs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rastriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)/Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA)/. Under the scheme, State/UT Governments submit their proposals as per the identified needs of higher education sector in their respective States/UTs based on norms set under the scheme. Approval of proposals is done by the Project Approval Board, in which States/UTs participate as members of the Board. While for Tamilnadu under RUSA a total of 100 projects for a total amount of Rs. 874.963 crore was approved, with central share Rs. 528.443 crore, the Government of Tamilnadu has not signed the MoU for PM-USHA so far.
