

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:37
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2002
INCREASING DROP OUT RATE AT PRIMARY SECONDARY LEVEL
RAMSHETH THAKUR;SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have found out the causes of increasing drop out rate in primary/secondary level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the estimated drop out at various level in the country and Maharashtra in particular; and
- (d) the details of incentives being provided by the Union Government to state Governments to encourage the children towards education in their States?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) & (b): As per the National Family Health Survey-II conducted in 1998-99, the main reasons for students dropping out after enrolling are: children not interested in studies, the private cost of education being too high and the need for them to work- both in their own farms/business/households or outside for remuneration. These reasons account for almost 75% of the cases of dropouts.

(c) The estimated gross drop out rates at various levels in the country as a whole and in Maharashtra state during 1999- 2000 are as follows:

	Primary stage (I to V) (I to X)	Middle stage (I to VIII) stage	Secondary stage
All India	40.25	54.53	68.28
Maharashtra	20.29	29.59	57.10

(d) Food grains are provided to State/UTs through FCI for Mid Day Meal Scheme for children of primary classes studying in all Government, Govt.-aided and local body schools.

Also, under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), funds are provided to States/UTs for the following activities to encourage the children towards education:

- (i) One teacher for every 40 children for primary and upper primary, with at least two teachers in primary and one teacher for every class in upper primary school.
- (ii) Opening of new school/alternative schooling facilities as per norms.
- (iii) Free textbooks to all girls/SC/ST children within an upper ceiling of Rs. 150/- per child.

(iv) For construction of additional classrooms as per norms and repair & maintenance of the school building.

(v) For schools grant for replacement of non-functional school equipments, teachers grant, teachers training, aid to disabled children, training of community leaders etc.