

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3729
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005
GIRLS EDUCATION
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the girls education in various States is suffering because of a poor teacher-student ratio in the country particularly in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the drop out rates of girl students are high; and
- (d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to tackle the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI.M.A.A.FATMI)

(a) & (b) : Education is imparted on a common basis to girls and boys. It will be incorrect, therefore, to say that girls' education is suffering because of a poor teacher- student ratio. Teacher Student ratio data particularly for girls is not available. The overall Teacher-student ratio in Himachal Pradesh is 27 as against an all India average of 22 for Higher Education Institutions, 24 against an all India average of 35 for Higher Secondary Schools/Inter colleges, 24 as against an all India average of 30 for High Post Basic Schools, 15 as against an all India average of 34 for Middle/Sr.Basic Schools and 22 as against a n all India average of 42 for Primary/Jr.Basic Schools. (Selected Educational Statistics 2002-03).

(c): The national drop out rates of girls are higher than boys. This is due to various social and economic causes. The girls' drop out rate in Himachal Pradesh is 14.08. as against all over India of 33.72 for Classes I-V, 11.32 as against all over India of 53.45 of Class I-VIII, 31.23 as against all over India of 64.97 of Classes I-X.(As per Selected Educational Statistics 2002-03) The girls' drop out rate in Himachal Pradesh is much better in comparison with the National average . There are several other States like Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Punjab where the drop out rates of girls are much lower than those for boys.

(d): In many States, education for girls is free upto Higher Secondary level. A number of Schemes have been launched by the Government to promote the education of girls. These schemes include the Scheme of Strengthening of Boarding and Hostel Facilities for Girl Students of Secondary and Higher Schools, Mahila Samakhya, Shiksha Karmi Project, Lok Jumbish Project, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidhyalaya, National Programme for Education of Girls at the Elementary Level (NPEGEL), Community Polytechnics, Women's hostels and Infrastructure for women students, teachers and non-teaching staff in universities.