

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1721
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
HIGHER EDUCATION FOR GIRLS
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether girls are far behind in the country in higher education in spite of their better performance in class 10th and 12th;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken by the Government for encouraging girls in higher education?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) & (b): The participation of girls at all stages of education is increasing. As per the information available in the Abstracts of Selected Education Statistics (2007-08) of Ministry of Human Resource Development, the percentage of girls enrolment to total enrolment by stages for 1950-51 & 2007-08 are as under:

S.No.	Stages	1950-51	2007-08 (Provisional)
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1.	Primary (I-V)	28.1	47.5
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2.	Upper Primary (VI-VIII)	16.1	45.9
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3.	Sec./Sr. Sec./ Intermediate (IX-XII)	13.3	43.3
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4.	Hr. Education (Degree & Above)	10.0	38.3#
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Abstract of Selected Educational Statistics – 2006-2007.

(c): While most of the schemes of the Ministry encouraging girls in higher education, are general in nature aimed at benefiting all the sections of the society including the girls, women and other disadvantaged sections of the society, however some schemes have special or exclusive focus on girls/women education.

University Grants Commission (UGC) implements various schemes for encouraging girls in higher education as such Indira Gandhi Scholarships for single girl child for pursuing higher and technical education, Construction of Women's Hostels, Women's Study Centres in universities for gender studies and policies in respect of empowerment of women and their role in society, Day Care Centres for children of University employees/faculty and married students, Schemes for creating exclusive infrastructure facilities like common room, toilets etc. for women, Capacity Building for women managers in Higher Education and Part-time Research Fellowships for women etc. All India Counsel of Technical Education (AICTE) has a scheme to encourage tuition fee waiver for girl students by incentivising the technical institutions by way of sanctioning them additional intake capacity upto 10% if they provide tuition fees waiver to atleast 10% of students belonging to girls, economically weaker sections and physically challenged categories in the ratio of 2:3:1. Norms have also been relaxed by AICTE for establishment of new Technical Institutions exclusively for women. Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has been making conscious efforts to reach out to the women learners especially in remote and rural areas by setting up a New School, School of Gender and Development Studies aimed at achieving gender parity and equity through these programmes. Besides this, IGNOU has 36 Women Specific Study Centres in the Universities.