

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2739

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011

DROP OUT RATE AMONG SC/ST/OBC

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

(a) the average drop out rate gender-wise of children in primary schools at the national level including the rate of SC/ST and OBC children during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government have analysed the reasons for the significant differences between the various average drop out rates in general and the drop out rates of SC/ST and OBC children; and

(c) if so, the measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a): The gender-wise drop out rate for primary level at National level including the drop out rate of SC, ST for three years from 2006-07 to 2008-09, for which data is available in Selected Educational Statistics (SES), is as follows:

Year Primary (I-V)

Overall SC ST

Boys Girls Boys Girls Boys Girls

2006-07	24.57	26.75	32.33	39.89	30.57	35.82
2007-08	25.70	24.41	34.37	24.52	31.04	31.68
2008-09	26.68	22.90	30.05	22.69	32.17	30.23

SES does not provide drop out rate in respect of OBC children separately.

(b) & (c): The incidence of the high drop out rate may be attributed to various factors like inadequate school infrastructure and facilities, adverse pupil-teacher ratio, children engaged in household or other kinds of works, seasonal migration, girl children engaged in sibling care etc. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is implemented in partnership with the States/UTs to universalize access and retention, bridge gender and social category gaps in elementary education and improve quality. A multi-pronged approach has been adopted for reducing drop out rates. This includes, inter alia, strengthening of school infrastructure and facilities, residential hostel buildings for children in habitations un-served by regular schools and also for children without adult protection, recruitment of additional teachers, provision of text-books and uniforms to children, regular training of teachers etc. In addition, interventions under SSA provide specific interventions for girls from SC, ST, OBC and Muslim Minority community in Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs), which aim at building community support. The Mid-day-Meal programme also contributes to reducing drop outs.