

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2421  
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2012  
UNICEF REPORT ON EDUCATION  
Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of a UNICEF study that claims that more than 60 per cent of girls dropped out before completing their five years of primary education in States like Bihar, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the major findings of the study; and
- (c) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): UNICEF has stated that there is no published report of UNICEF which says that more than 60% girls are dropping; out without completing primary education in Bihar, Rajasthan, Mizoram and Uttar Pradesh. As per the Statistics of School Education, 2009-10 (provisional), the dropout rate for girls in classes I - V at the National level is 27.25 and in the States of Bihar, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh is as shown below; -

States	Dropout Rate
Bihar	40.97
Mizoram	47.46
Rajasthan	52.11
Uttar Pradesh	41.70

(c): Bridging the gender and social category gaps is one of the goals of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Important steps taken to increase girls' participation in elementary education and reduce the dropout rate include provision for free textbooks and uniforms, setting up of residential schools for girls under the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) component of SSA in Educationally Backwards Blocks (EBBs), implementation of National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) in the EBBs with focus on retention of girls, provision of girls' toilets in schools, etc. States are also encouraged to introduce gender sensitive teaching learning material and conduct gender sensitization modules in their teacher training programmes conducted by them.