

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1941
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2012
DROPOUT AT SECONDARY LEVEL
Singh Shri Jagada Nand

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

- (a) whether a large number of students dropout of school before reaching secondary school level;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details of the school dropout students during the last two years;
- (c) whether the drop in enrolment in the secondary school level is mainly due to inadequate number of schools;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to address the issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (Dr. SHASHI THAROOR)

- (a): The dropout rate for the Classes I-V, Classes I-VIII and Classes I-X during 2010-11 (Provisional) in the country are 27.0, 40.6 and 49.3 respectively.
- (b): State-wise details of dropout rates during 2009-10 (Provisional) and 2010-11 (Provisional) are at Annexure.
- (c) to (e): The number of students enrolled in Classes IX-X in the country during 2009-10(Provisional) and 2010-11 (Provisional) is given below.

Year	2009-10 (Provisional)	2010-11 (Provisional)
Enrolment	30598519	31779027

The Government has been making consistent progress in meeting the goals of Universal Elementary Education through implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Programme. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act 2009, which became operational with effect from 1st April, 2010, provides that every child in the 6 to 14 age-group shall have a right to free and compulsory education till completion of elementary education. The SSA Framework of Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act 2009 and the SSA programme is being implemented in accordance with the norms and standards of the RTE Act to enhance enrolment and retention of children.

A multi-pronged approach has been adopted for reducing dropout rates. This includes inter-alia strengthening of school infrastructure and facilities, residential hostel buildings for children in habitations not covered by regular schools, provisioning for additional teachers, regular training of teachers, provision for text books and uniforms to children. The Mid Day Meal Scheme is also being implemented with a view to enhance enrolment and retention of children in school. Further, the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan which has been launched for universal access to secondary education, aims at removing gender and socio-economic disparities in access to education. There is a provision for upgradation of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas to secondary schools to enable girls to continue their education under RMSA. Enrolment drive, special coaching/remedial teaching and sensitization programmes are some of the other measures undertaken under RMSA to reduce the dropout rate.