

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2406  
ANSWERED ON:05.02.2014  
DROPOUT RATE  
Punia Shri P.L.

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

(a) whether there is a decline in the dropout rate at school level;

(b) if so, the total number and the rate of school dropouts from primary, upper primary, secondary and senior secondary schools in various States of the country as on date, State/UT-wise and gender-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the school dropouts?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Dropout rate for the Classes I-V, Classes I-VIII, and Classes I-X during 2009-10 (Provisional) and 2010-11 (Provisional) is given below:

Classes	Dropout rate at All India Level					
	2009-10 (Provisional)			2010-11 (Provisional)		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
I-V	30.3	27.3	28.9	28.7	25.1	27.0
I-VIII	40.6	44.4	42.4	40.3	41.0	40.6
I-X	53.4	52.0	52.8	50.4	47.9	49.3

The State-wise and gender-wise details of dropout rates are at Annex 1, 2 & 3 respectively.

(c): The Government has been making consistent progress in meeting the goals of Universal Elementary Education through the 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 the enrolment and retention of children and to bridge the gender gap in elementary education. A multi-pronged approach has been adopted for reducing dropout rates. This includes inter-alia, the strengthening of school infrastructure and facilities, residential hostel buildings for children in habitations un-served by regular schools, provision for additional teachers, regular training of teachers, and the provision for text books and uniforms to children. The Mid Day Meal Scheme is also being implemented with a view to enhance the 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 barriers.