

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3361  
ANSWERED ON:12.02.2014  
DROP OUT RATE  
Abdulrahman Shri ;Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre

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

- (a) whether the Government has any data regarding number of children including SC/ST children who have left school before completing their middle class schooling;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to tackle the situation?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The dropout rate of SC/ST children for the Classes I-V and Classes I-VIII during 2008-09, 2009-10 (Provisional) and 2010-11 (Provisional) is given below:

| Category/Year    | I-V     | I-VIII  |         |         |         |         |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                  | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | 2010-11 |
| Scheduled Caste  | 26.6    | 29.3    | 26.7    | 47.3    | 51.3    | 43.3    |
| Scheduled Tribes | 35.6    | 34.5    | 35.6    | 59.2    | 57.8    | 55.0    |

The State-wise details of dropout rates are at Annex I&II.

(c): The Government has been making consistent progress in meeting the goals of Universal Elementary Education through implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). 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 the 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 is being implemented in accordance with the norms and standards of the RTE Act to enhance enrolment and retention of children. SSA facilitates context-specific interventions for SC/ST students. 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 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Scheme provides for setting up of residential upper primary schools for girls from SC, ST, OBC and Minority communities. 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 (RMSA) which has been launched for universal access to secondary education, aims at removing gender and socio-economic disparities in access to education. The National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (NSIGSE) was launched in May 2008 with the objective to establish an enabling environment to reduce the drop-outs and to promote the enrolment of girl child belonging mainly to SC/ST communities in secondary schools. Enrolment drive in areas having concentration of SC and ST, special coaching/remedial teaching and sensitization programmes are some of the other measures undertaken under RMSA to reduce dropout rate.