

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2493

ANSWERED ON:11.03.2015

DROPOUT RATE

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

- (a) whether the rate of dropout prior to completion of high school is on rise, especially in the rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the school dropout rate of girls at secondary school level is higher as compared to the primary schools in the country including Bihar;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor along with the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the details of the enrolment and pass percentage of students in primary and secondary schools during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b) The drop-out rate in the country for class Ist to Xth was 52.7%, 49.2% and 50.31% in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively in the country, which is coming down.

(c) & (d) The programmes for universal elementary education since several decades have created more access for enrolment and retention of girls upto class Vth. Therefore, the average drop-out rate of girls at primary/elementary level has improved. Government of India began assisting the States in implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) since 2009 with the aim to universalize access to secondary education and improve its quality while ensuring equity. The Scheme provides for opening of new secondary schools within 5 kms., provision of girls' hostels, toilet facilities for girls, female teachers quarters, guidance and counselling facilities, self defence training and other programs for empowerment of girls, etc. to address the issue of drop-out of girls at secondary level. The implementation of RMSA is impacting access and retention of girls by way of decreasing drop-out rate among them.

(e) Statements indicating enrolment of students in elementary classes in the year 2011-12 to 2013-14 and enrolment of students in secondary classes for these years alongwith pass percentage of students in classes IXth – Xth during 2011-12 and 2012-13 are at Annexure-I and II respectively.