

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3576  
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2015  
BRIDGING URBAN- RURAL GAP IN EDUCATION SECTOR  
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**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the education level in urban areas is far ahead than in rural areas and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any comparative study in this regard and if so, the key findings thereof;
- (c) the total funds allocated and utilised in the education sector in urban and rural areas during the last one year; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to bridge the gap between urban and rural areas in the field of education?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): As per the National Achievement Survey conducted by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) in 2014 on performance of the students of classes III, V and VIII with respect to various subjects in rural and urban areas. The main findings of National Achievement Survey report of NCERT are as under:

- i) The urban students are doing significantly better in language at class III compared with rural areas in 7 States viz. J&K, Haryana, Jharkhand, Tripura, Mizoram, West Bengal and Daman & Diu. In 2 States only viz. Maharashtra and Dadra & Nagar Haveli, rural students are doing significantly better than urban and in the remaining 25 States / UTs, no significant difference in language between rural and urban students.
- ii) There is no significant difference between the achievement levels of rural and urban students in mathematics, language and environmental studies in class V.
- iii) The significant difference was detected between the achievement level of rural and urban students in language in class VIII. There was no significant difference in the performance of rural and urban students in their achievement levels in class VIII in mathematics in 24 States / UTs. The performance of rural students was significantly higher than urban students in science in class VIII.

(c): The funds allocated and utilized under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) during 2013-14 and 2014-15 are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	SSA BE/Releases Release	RMSA Expenditure#/ Release	BE/Releases	Expenditure/ Release
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2013-14	24709.20	39947.52	3983.00	3045.85
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# Including Central share and State share.  
Separate data for rural & urban is not centrally maintained.

(d): The Central Government is implementing several schemes in collaboration with State Governments to ensure educational development in the education sector. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

(SSA) is being implemented in accordance with the norms and standards of the RTE Act to enhance enrolment and retention of children. The Mid Day Meal Scheme is also being implemented with a view to enhance enrolment and retention of children in schools. Further, the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) has been launched for universal access to secondary education, aims at removing gender and socio-economic disparities in access to education.