

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3178  
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2015  
DROP OUT RATE OF ST STUDENTS  
Wanaga Shri Chintaman Navsha

**Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) Whether the Government has proposed to make any provision to contain the drop out rate of SC/ST school children at Secondary and Higher Secondary level;
- (b) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) Whether the Government has any proposal to open schools like NavodayaVidyalayas especially for tribal students in various parts of the country; and
- (d) If so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA)

(a) to (b): Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is providing Pre-Matric and Post Matric Scholarships to ST students who are studying in Classes IX to XII. Besides this, other facilities like Hostels for ST Boys & Girls, Residential Schools & Upgradation of Merit for the students studying in Classes IX to XII are provided to encourage the ST students to complete their studies.

The following measures have been taken by the Ministry during last one year to address the issue of Dropout:

1. Development of Bilingual Primers containing text both in regional and tribal language but in local official script through Tribal Research Institutes and SarvaSikshaAbhiyan.
2. Content of the primers in the Tribal Cultural context.
3. School vacation to be in synchronization with major tribal festivals.
4. Construction of Girls toilets: to check girl drop out; physical safety; sanitation issues
5. Vocational training integrated with residential schools – to make education more useful for livelihood, and perceived as relevant and valuable.
6. Residential schools (200-300 students capacity) in block headquarters for quality education and physical safety including in LWE affected areas.
7. Promotion of Kitchen, garden and Sports.
8. Traditional Food (minor millet) in school meals.
9. School management to engage teachers to overcome shortage.
10. 100% screening of children for Sickle Cell Anaemia/Trait.
11. 100% physical enrolment of children.
12. Habit of hygiene and sanitation, use of recyclable material amongst school children, reduction in generation of garbage.
13. Engagement of trained lady health workers as Warden/Asstt. Wardens in girls' hostels.

(c) & (d): The Ministry of Tribal Affairs funds Ekalavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) modeled on JawaharNavodayaVidyalaya. Number of schools sanctioned and working so far is placed as Annexure.