

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3647**  
ANSWERED ON- 11/08/2025

**Dropout rate of Students in HEI**

3647. Shri Sachithanantham R:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of dropouts rate of marginalized students from IITs, IIMs and Central Universities and other Higher Educational Institutions;
- (b) the total number of OBC, SC and ST students dropped out from Higher Educational Institute during 2024-2025;
- (c) whether the Higher Educational Institutions are having Equal Opportunity Cells and SC/ST Cells, Institute-wise; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (d): In the Higher Education sector, students have multiple options and they choose and migrate from one course or programme to another, as such there is no concept of Drop Out in Higher education. However, to increase Access in Higher Education, the Government has taken various steps like Financial Assistance and Scholarships like Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Protsahan (PM-USP) Scheme, fee waiver/reduction of disadvantaged groups, promote study loans like PM-Vidyalakshmi scheme, establishment of more institutes, student support system like Establishment of Counselling Cells, strengthening of Grievance Redressal Mechanism, providing Remedial Coaching, initiatives under online and digital learning (ODL) like SWAYAM, National Digital Library (NDL) and e-PG Pathshala. Further, in light of NEP 2020, a slew of initiatives for academic reforms have been undertaken like Multiple Entry and Exit Options, Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) etc.

To address the issue of equity and inclusion in the education, Government has taken multipronged approach and initiatives. UGC (Promotion of Equity in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012 have been notified, which is applicable to all the HEIs under its purview. It provides for HEIs to take measures to safeguard the interests of the students without any prejudice to their caste, creed, religion, language, ethnicity, gender and disability. The regulation provides for establishment of Equal Opportunity Cell and appointment of Anti-Discrimination Officer in each University. It also stipulates setting up of Counselling Centres with professionally trained counsellors to provide services to students, research scholars and faculty including non-teaching staff.

In order to proactively address any issues of SC / ST students, Institutes have set up mechanisms such as SC / ST students' cells, Equal Opportunity Cell, Student Grievance Cell, Student Grievance Committee, Student Social Club, Liaison officers, Liaison Committee etc. Further, University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued instructions from time to time for promoting equity and fraternity amongst students.

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