

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1793
ANSWERED ON- 10.03.2025

CHALLENGES FACED BY EDUCATIONAL HUBS

†1793. Shri Arun Govil:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether major educational hubs like Meerut and Hapur are facing a number of challenges in the educational system;
- (b) whether the students and their parents are constantly concerned about Government assistance, lack of teachers, infrastructure of schools and examination system there;
- (c) the concrete steps being taken by the Government to provide infrastructure such as computer labs, science labs, libraries and to ensure availability of teachers and toilets for the convenience of girl students in major educational hubs in the country like Meerut and Hapur; and
- (d) the strategies of the Government to make the examination system more transparent and credible in order to ensure quality education to students and to make their educational future secure?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d): The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing an integrated centrally sponsored scheme for School education- Samagra Shiksha which treats school education holistically, without segmentation from pre-primary to class XII and is in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal for Education (SDG-4). The scheme provides support for the implementation of the RTE Act.

The Scheme has been aligned with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and aims to ensure that all children have access to quality education with an equitable and inclusive classroom environment which should take care of their diverse background, multilingual needs, different academic abilities and make them active participants in the learning process.

Under Samagra Shiksha, financial assistance is provided to States and UTs for providing various facilities to the children which include free uniform to eligible children at elementary level, teaching learning materials, transport/escort facility up to secondary level, special training for age appropriate admission of out of school children and residential as well as non-residential training for older children, seasonal hostels / residential camps, special training centres, age-appropriate residential and non-residential training, support to Out of School Children (16 to 19 years) for completion of education through NIOS/SIOS, Holistic Progress Card, bilingual teaching material and books, support to Children with Special Needs (CWSN).

Also, under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to the States and UTs for Universalization of School Education including opening/strengthening of new schools upto

senior secondary level, construction of school buildings & additional classrooms, development/strengthening of school infrastructure in northern border areas under Vibrant Village Programme, setting up, up-gradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, construction of hostels for PVTGs under PM-JANMAN, setting up of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalayas, construction of hostels under Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan for unsaturated ST population, reimbursement under RTE Act, various qualitative components, strengthening of teacher education and strengthening of DIETs/BRCs/CRCs, provision of ICT and digital interventions.

Under Samagra Shiksha, annual plans are prepared by the respective States and UTs based on their requirements and priority and this is reflected in their respective Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) Proposals. These plans are then appraised and approved/estimated by the Project Approval Board (PAB) in the Department of School Education & Literacy in consultation with the States and UTs as per the programmatic and financial norms of the scheme, and physical and financial progress of the State for the interventions approved earlier.

Education is a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of the schools in the country come under the administrative domain of the respective States/UT governments.

As per the information received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, State government from its own resources has launched Project Alankar for strengthening of infrastructure in Govt. Secondary Schools including those in Meerut and Hapur. Drinking water facilities, Separate Toilets for Girls, Additional Classrooms, Physics, Chemistry and Bio Labs, Libraries etc. are being constructed on the basis of the requirement. Under Samagra Shiksha, Computer Lab and other infrastructure are being strengthened.

Examination system of Uttar Pradesh Madhyamik Shiksha Parishad has been made transparent and credible. Online monitoring of examination centres through control command centres has ensured cheating free examination since last 7 years.

In addition, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has been progressively introducing competency-focused questions in Classes 10 and 12 Board Examinations since 2020 to test students' understanding, conceptual clarity and analytical ability, rather than their ability to memorize and reproduce information.
