

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO- 29
ANSWERED ON –02/02/2026

SCHOOL DROPOUT RATES IN DESERT AND BORDER DISTRICTS

*29. Shri Ummeda Ram Beniwal:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has analysed school dropout rates in desert areas and border districts of Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the data for Barmer and Jaisalmer districts in Rajasthan, district-wise during the last five years;
- (c) the major factors contributing to dropouts; and
- (d) the details of steps taken by the Government under Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan to address the issue?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 29 ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026 ASKED BY SHRI UMMEDA RAM BENIWAL, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING "SCHOOL DROPOUT RATES IN DESERT AND BORDER DISTRICTS"

(a) to (c): Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of respective State and UT Government. Government of Rajasthan has analysed school dropout rates in desert and border district of Rajasthan under the Praveshotsav Karyakram. Major factors contributing to children being out of school include poverty, poor health and engagement in domestic work.

The details of dropout rate by level of education in the district of Barmer and Jaisalmer is as per below table:

Year	Barmer			Jaisalmer		
	Primary	Upper Primary	Secondary	Primary	Upper Primary	Secondary
2020-21	1.3	4.6	9.8	4.3	5.3	8.7
2021-22	1.9	5.3	11.7	4.5	7.5	12.5
2022-23	2.5	8.1	16.7	5.1	10.5	21.5
2023-24	4.7	7.7	12.9	10.9	15.2	20.7
2024-25	3.4	6.4	9.7	5.9	8.8	13.3

(d) The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing Samagra Shiksha, an integrated scheme for school education since 2018-19 covering the entire gamut from pre-school to class XII. The scheme has also been aligned with the recommendations of NEP 2020 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.

One of the focus areas of the scheme is to reduce the dropout rate and the number of Out of School Children (OoSC). This Department has developed an online module for compiling the data of Out of School Children (OoSC) identified by each State/UT and their mapping with Special Training Centres (STC) on the **PRABANDH Portal**. The concerned State/UT validates the child wise information of the identified OoSC and STC uploaded by the concerned Block Resource Centre of the State for monitoring the progress of mainstreaming of OoSC.

The scheme includes the provision of opening and strengthening of new schools up to senior secondary level; construction of school buildings and additional classrooms; setting up, up-gradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas; setting up of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalayas; Hostels under PM-JANMAN and DAJGUA for PVTGs / ST children, free uniforms, free text books, transport allowance and undertaking enrolment & retention drives. In addition, support is provided through special training for age-appropriate admission of Out of School Children and for the training of residential as well as non-residential older children. The provision of seasonal hostels or residential camps, special training centers at worksites, transport/ escort facility are also available for bringing Out of School Children to the formal schooling structure. **Bridge Course Modules have been developed by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)** for bridging the learning gaps of Out of School Children studying in Special Training Centers (STC) under the provision of RTE Act, 2009.

Further, **under the student-oriented component for the children with special needs of the scheme**, financial assistance is provided for identification and assessment of children with special needs, aids and appliances, braille kits and books, appropriate teaching learning material and stipend to girl students with disability etc.
