

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1335
ANSWERED ON-11/02/2026

Public spending on Education

1335 Shri Derek O' Brien:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) the union expenditure per student, separately for primary, secondary and tertiary education, expressed as a percentage of GDP per capita, for the last five years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Union expenditure per student is substantially lower than international benchmarks reported for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development member countries and comparable middle-income economies;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the year-wise Budget Estimates versus Actuals during last five years; and
- (e) whether Government will formulate a time-bound plan to increase the per-student spending at all the levels of education, if so, details therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a): As per latest available publication “Analysis of Budgeted Expenditure on Education”, 2022-23(Provisional) the sector-wise Central Government Expenditure on Education is as under: -

Sector	2018-19 (Actual)	2019-20 (Actual)	2020-21 (Actual)	2021-22 (RE)	2022-23 (BE)
Elementary & Primary Education	61,054	78,664	1,00,594	1,14,305	1,26,667
Secondary Education	21,399	19,416	18,102	28,370	37,192
Tertiary Education	99,628	1,04,900	95,106	1,30,428	1,28,559

(Rs.in crore)

(b) to (e): The year-wise details of Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure of the Ministry of Education from financial year 2019-20 to 2024-25 is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Financial Year	Revised Estimates / Final Grant	Actual Expenditure
2019-20	94,853.64	89,529.10
2020-21	85,089.07	84,026.71
2021-22	88,001.52	80,829.64
2022-23	99,881.13	97,885.00
2023-24	1,17,218.28	1,11,408.39
2024-25	1,14,186.32	1,10,477.28

Education being in the Concurrent List, increasing expenditure in Education is the responsibility of the Central and States Governments. Several initiatives have been taken by the Government of India including consistent increase in Budget Allocation of the Ministry of Education from Rs.93,224.31 Crore in F.Y. 2021-22 to Rs.1,28,650 Crore in F.Y.2025-26 and Rs. 1,39,289.48 Crore in 2026-27.

Allocations for various schemes have been aligned with the goals and objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. As a result of that, the allocation in current financial year for flagship schemes of Department of School Education and Literacy, viz PM Schools for Rising India (PMSHRI) and Samagra Shiksha, has been increased by 23.96% and 10% respectively over previous year and as regards to the Department of Higher Education, the allocation for National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS), Prime Minister Research Fellowship (PMRF) and National Mission in Education through ICT has been increased by 96.33%, 71.43% and 36.46% respectively during the current financial year over the last financial year.

Further, Government has approved expansion of academic and infrastructure capacity including creation of Research Park of five new IITs which have been established in the State/UT of Andhra Pradesh (IIT Tirupati), Kerala (IIT Palakkad), Chhattisgarh (IIT Bhilai), Jammu & Kashmir (IIT Jammu) and Karnataka (IIT Dharwad) with a total outlay of Rs. 11,828.79 crore, which would facilitate education for additional 6,500 students.

For realizing the vision of "Make AI in India and Make AI work for India", the Government had also approved establishment of three Centres of Excellence (CoE) in Artificial Intelligence (AI) with a total financial outlay of Rs. 990.00 Cr over the period of FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28. Ministry of Education approved three academic institutions for establishment of three Centres of Excellence (CoE) – CoE of AI in Health at IISc Bengaluru, CoE of AI in Agriculture at IIT Ropar and CoE of AI in Sustainable Cities at IIT Kanpur. Further, a new

Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Education announced in Budget 2025-26 for a total outlay of Rs. 500.0 Cr, is being led by IIT Madras.

Union Budget 2026-27 has announced setting up of 5 University Townships in the vicinity of major industrial and logistic corridors and 1 girls' hostel in every district through Viability Gap Funding /capital support to encourage enrolment of girls in STEM institutes/ courses.
