

Telangana State Budget 2022-23

Recommendations for Education Budget

Students Islamic Organisation of India, Telangana State

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India is defined as a 'Welfare State' in the constitution, and considering this ideal, it is incumbent on the Government to fulfil its responsibility and deliver its services to make our country a welfare state. Any negligence in this regard amounts to breach of the people's and society's trust.

The expenditure of the State on education is the ultimate indicator of the development plans for the state and future prospects. The investment in Education, doesn't necessarily give immediate results, however, this investment guarantees the future of the society. This happens by making conscious citizens who are motivated to contribute to the society through education. Thus the number of citizens contributing to the society is directly proportional to the budget expenditure in making them, i.e., education budget.

Even after more than half-a-decade of the formation of Telangana, the people of our State are still waiting to see the "Bangaru Telangana" we strove for. Unfortunately, rather than gathering pace in the efforts to achieve the vision, there seems to be misplaced priorities which has hindered our progress. The budget allocation at the time of formation of Telangana in 2014-15 was 10.89% of the overall budget. Since then, the percentage wise allocation for education has dropped to nearly half, i.e., about 5.97% of the overall budget of 2021-22. In the last financial year 2021-22, Telangana allocated just 6.8% of its total expenditure for education, which is significantly lower than the average allocation (15.8%) for education by all states.

The people of Telangana do not need the gold-coating, but the complete and real "Bangaru Telangana", which can only be achieved by increasing the overall budget allocation on education. Some major areas of concern in which the education budget should be spent are mentioned in the following pages as the recommendations of SIO Telangana for the education budget of the financial year 2022-23.

We urge the representatives of the Telangana people in the Legislative Assembly of Telangana to sincerely consider these recommendations.

Sincerely,



Dr. Talha Faiyazuddin,
State President,
SIO Telangana.

1. Social-Economic and Educational Development of Muslims

Several Committees and Commissions have repeatedly highlighted the socio-economic-educational backwardness of Muslims. The Sachar Committee and the Sudhir Commission, which were appointed by the Union Government and State Government respectively, have recommended special packages, which still needs to adopted. Some of those recommendations were:

- Creating local community study centres for students so that they can spend a few hours to concentrate on their studies. This is an area in which the Government, NGOs and the corporate sector can co- operate.
- High quality Government schools should be set up in all areas of Muslim concentration.
- Exclusive schools for girls should be set up, particularly for the 9-12 standards. This would facilitate higher participation of Muslim girls in school education. In co-education schools more women teachers need to be appointed.
- Availability of primary education in one's mother tongue is constitutionally provided for. There is an urgent need to undertake appropriate mapping of Urdu speaking population and provide primary education in Urdu in areas where Urdu speaking population is concentrated. Once again utilisation of JNNURM funds for these purposes should be explored.

SIO Telangana demands that a 'Muslim Sub-Plan' be announced for the development and welfare of the Muslims of Telangana. Commissioning a separate Sub-Plan would prevent diversion of funds allocated for the beneficiary and the targeted nature of the schemes would help in uplifting the socio-economic-educational condition of the Muslim community.

SIO Telangana demands that these plans should be immediately implemented all over the state through the formation of “District-Level Muslim Development Boards” across all districts. The district-wise population of Muslim youth emphasizes the need of “District-Level Muslim Development Boards” to ensure the execution of all schemes.

City	Population	Muslims Population %	City	Population	Muslims Population %
Adilabad	117,388	37.59 %	Nalgonda	135,163	19.25 %
Hyderabad	7200000	43 %	Nizamabad	310,467	38.01 %
Karimnagar	260,899	20.71 %	Ramagundam	229,644	9.68 %
Khammam	184,252	15.98 %	Suryapet	106,805	10.47 %
Mahbubnagar	157,902	33.72 %	Warangal	811,844	26 %

Source: Cities having population 1 lakh and above, Census 2011

2. Increase the amount of Scholarship dispersed by Minority Welfare Department & Increase in the annual income limit for availing scholarship

With the soaring inflation and the price escalation of all commodities, it is pertinent that the per head scholarship being granted to the students by the Minority Welfare Department be increased. Also, apart from inflation, the COVID-19 pandemic has dealt a severe blow to the finances of middle-class sections of the society. In March this year, a widely reported analysis by ‘Pew Research Centre’ said that the pandemic had knocked about 32 million Indians out of the middle class in 2020. With numerous losses of livelihoods due to the pandemic, it must be the aim of the Government to widen the beneficiary net and include as many households as possible in the social welfare schemes.

SIO Telangana demands that the per head scholarship amount be increased and the annual income limit for availing the scholarships be raised. We also demand the effective reaching of scholarship, as about 15 lakh students were affected due to non-release of fee reimbursement amount for the last two years, according to a statement by National BC Welfare Association.

3. Establishing Muslim Boys/Girls Hostels at every District Headquarters

An important factor in the educational development trajectory is the provision of infrastructure and accessibility. Establishing hostels and residential institutions acts as a major support to the poorer and weaker sections of the society.

Table 10.1 Background characteristics of emigrants in Telangana and India, NSSO, 2007–08 (%)

Religion	Telangana		All India	
	%	N	%	N
Hindu	85.5	240	52.1	2,653
Muslim	14.3	114	28.8	1,330
Others	0.2	4	19.1	1,184
Total	100	358	100	5,167
<i>Reason for migration</i>				
Employment	71.1	281	80.4	4,195
Marriage	17.3	22	9.9	321
Migration of parent /earning member of family	4.8	43	5.8	438
Studies	6.8	12	2.9	146
Others	0	0	1.0	56
Total	100	358	100	5,156
<i>Sex</i>				
Male	77.0	291	81.7	4,227
Female	23.0	67	18.3	940
Total	100	358	100	5,167

Source Unit-level data from NSS 64th round; N = Sample Size

The report based on NSSO Survey as shown in the table clearly depicts the need of Residential Education at Districts through Hostels for Boys and as well as Girls, for Muslim minorities in particular

SIO Telangana demands that Muslim hostels for boys and girls be established at every district headquarter to enable the students belonging to the interiors of the districts to study hassle free and in a secure environment.

4. Increasing & Development of BC Welfare Hostels at every District Headquarters

Along with a remarkable achievement of Telangana for establishing BC Welfare hostels, there is still a significant difference between the number of hostels available and the number required. The already available hostels, are in a situation of peril, crying for proper facilities and maintenance.

SIO Telangana demands the Government to hasten the development works of BC welfare hostels through increase in number of hostels at district level with adequate infrastructure and developments.

5. Establishing Polytechnic & Vocational Institutions at every District Headquarter

Technical and Vocational education is one of the best means to reduce unemployment and enrich the youth with professional skills. Imparting technical and vocational education provides a person with required skills to work in a professional world and even to begin their entrepreneurial venture.

Only 10 out of 33 districts of Telangana have polytechnic institutions. SIO Telangana demands that a Polytechnic and Vocational Institute with relevant courses, be established at every district headquarter.

6. Establishment of Universities at every District Headquarters

Role of Universities in developing the educational scenario of the society needs no mention. Universities provide accessibility and opportunities to the people living in its surroundings. Also, there are indirect impacts like increase in educational upliftment, advancements, employment, flourishing of economic activity, recognition in the education map etc.

According to the Sudhir Commission report, across all Socio-religious Categories, the percentage of post-graduate students is hardly 5%, and most of them are concentrated only in a few universities. Out of 33 districts, only 10 districts have State Universities in Telangana. Establishing of Universities in every district-headquarter can help overcome the scarcity of post-graduate people.

SIO Telangana demands that a State University be established at every district headquarter in a phased manner, with sufficient fund allocations for its academic, infrastructural and maintenance requirements, to cater to the needs of the surrounding places.

7. Increase in Fund allocation for Research & Development in State Universities' Departments

Research and Development is the basic function of a university. The amount of research conducted, and the developments created express the calibre of the society. R&D not only requires an individual or a group's dedication but also requires adequate support from state institutions. Only when the R&D policies and the state policies are in resonance, the process of R&D would be fruitful.

Between 2011-12 and 2017-18, the number of universities/institutions increased from 752 to 1,016 and doctoral degrees awarded yearly from 10,011 to 24,474. The increase in the number of universities/institutions and the number of doctoral students is not commensurate with the meagre increase in funding leading to deterioration in the standards of R&D work at the doctoral level.

SIO Telangana demands that the Government should allocate funds for conducting R&D in state universities and make the R&D a priority.

8. Urgent recruitment of faculty to permanent posts in schools & colleges

One of the major problems in state institutions, schools and colleges, is the lack of sufficient faculty members. Many institutions function with a single faculty member. This is not just an administrative failure but a mockery of the poor. It is the need of the hour to alleviate this grave problem.

SIO Telangana demands that urgent recruitment of faculty be conducted and separate budgetary allocation be made in this regard, so that these recruitments can be made as permanent posts.

9. Allocation of funds for providing e-Learning tools at every Government School

Digital and e-learning tools are found to greatly increase the subject grasping ability of the students along with increasing their interest in the subject. Usage of digital & e-learning tools have been dramatically increased during and post pandemic across the world. According to Google, the searches on 'online learning' and 'online courses' saw spontaneous surge across the country, starting March second week. It saw massive 237% increase in search volume.

SIO Telangana demands that adequate funds should be granted to every Government school for providing e-learning and digital learning tools.

10. Establishing skill development centres and placement cells at every District Headquarters

Along with technical education, developing skills and incubating talents is also a major source of solving the problem of unemployment. Providing necessary skills and nourishing the talents of students would definitely bring a positive revolution in the society, which would ultimately help in the development of the state and the country.

SIO Telangana demands that a “Skill Development Centres and Placement Cells” be established at every district headquarter where youth could obtain necessary skills and hone their talents to achieve their dreams.

11. Entrepreneurship development centres at every Government UG & PG College

The goal of education is to encourage students to come up with creative and innovative ideas to solve problems faced by humanity as a whole and improve the world. Young minds should be instilled with the notion of entrepreneurship at the UG and PG levels, so that they are encouraged to pursue the path of entrepreneurship.

Promotion of the entrepreneurial spirit among students and youth, as well as facilitation of institutional support like incubation centres, chambers of commerce, self-help groups etc., is need of the hour.

SIO Telangana demands that Government should set up Entrepreneurship Development Centres at every Government. UG and PG College.

12. Setting up of Incubation centres, Support mechanism, Funding for Start-ups & Entrepreneurs by launching various schemes

To solve the problem of unemployment and to provide avenues for growth, innovation and development necessary support should be provided for Start-ups and Entrepreneurs. The support would give dividends in coming years in the form of skilled human resource and an advancement in development trajectory.

Schemes like Dalit Bandhu should be encouraged in dimensions of education and enterprise development for socially backward classes of Telangana. Not just Dalits but other backward classes and minorities

specifically require investments for new start-ups which is suggested by committees and commissions. According to Sachar Committee's recommendation: "Provide financial and other support to initiatives built around occupations where Muslims are concentrated and that have growth potential. These initiatives can take the form of interventions where existing skills of the workers are combined with knowledge of modern management practices, new technology, and emerging market needs."

SIO Telangana demands that Government should establish incubation centres, develop support mechanism and allocate funding for start-ups and entrepreneurs.

13. Preservation of Linguistics and Cultures of Telangana

After the formation of Telangana state, little has been done to preserve the local languages and cultures of Telangana. It is the diversity of languages and the cultures which are prevalent in the state, which make it more recognised and advanced.

Preservation of languages can be done only by ensuring the availability of education in those languages even till higher education. It is a scientifically accepted fact that, this will enhance creativity and innovation, and ultimately cause progress of the society.

SIO Telangana demands that the Government should allocate funds to develop textbooks in the various languages of Telangana, establish educational centres, to preserve the languages and cultures of Telangana.

14. Speed up the project of establishment of Medical Colleges

The announcement of establishing 8 medical colleges in various places of Telangana is a welcome step. This would help hundreds of medical aspirants to pursue and achieve their dreams.

Reports show a huge jump every year in the number of medical aspirants applying for NEET exams; from 48,996 candidates in 2019, 54,872 in 2020 to 56079 in 2021, whereas the total MBBS Seats available are far less comparatively; 1,740 Government MBBS Seats and Private seats being 3,450 Only.

The crisis of medical facilities was evident during the COVID-19 waves; having only 10 beds for a population of 1 lakh, making us the third lowest in the country. Establishing of medical colleges is a dire need to overcome the low number of doctors as well as to increase the provision of medical facilities.

SIO Telangana demands that adequate budgetary allocation be made to the medical colleges to fulfil the infrastructural and other requirements. Approvals of all sorts must be given so that the proposed colleges become fully functional within the specified date.