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**LEARNING AND CAPABILITY**

# Government Secondary / Senior Secondary School

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**WHAT THIS INSTITUTION IS**

A government secondary or senior secondary school is a state-run school that teaches Classes 9 through 12, preparing students for Class 10 and Class 12 board examinations conducted by the state education board. A "high school" covers Classes 9-10; a "senior secondary" or "higher secondary" school covers Classes 11-12 with streams in Science, Commerce, and Arts/Humanities. Many schools are "composite," covering Classes 1-12 on a single campus, particularly in rural areas. These schools follow the syllabus prescribed by the state board and are the most common institutional presence in any district – the place where most young people encounter the education system. Under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, these schools sit in the Secondary Stage (Grades 9-12) of the 5+3+3+4 curricular structure, with multidisciplinary learning, vocational exposure, and competency-based assessment as stated reform goals.

**WHY THIS MATTERS TO YOU**

If you completed school through the government system, this is where your board results, scholarships, and vocational exposure were supposed to happen. If you are guiding someone still in school, this is the institution that shapes what comes next.

**GOVERNANCE**

LAW / POLICY	SCOPE
Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, 2018	Integrated scheme replacing Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), and Teacher Education; funds infrastructure, quality, teacher training, vocational education
Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009	Covers Classes 1-8 directly; secondary schools use RTE norms as benchmark
National Education Policy (NEP), 2020	Structural and curricular reform including 5+3+3+4 framework and vocational integration
State Board Affiliation Rules	State board sets curriculum, examinations, and certification

- **Centre:** Ministry of Education (DoSEL – Department of School Education and Literacy) → Samagra Shiksha funds via Public Financial Management System (PFMS)
- **State:** State School Education Department → State Board of Secondary Education
- **District:** District Education Officer (DEO) or District Inspector of Schools (DIOS)
- **Institution:** Principal / Headmaster
- **Institutional oversight:** every school constitutes a School Management Committee / School Management and Development Committee (School Management Committee (SMC)/School Management and Development Committee (SMDC)) under the RTE Act and the Samagra Shiksha Framework, including parents and guardians of students, women members, local-authority representatives, academicians and representatives of disadvantaged groups. The composition follows the State RTE Rules; the SMC label has its statutory anchor in the RTE Act for elementary classes (1-8) while secondary-stage practice uses the SMDC label inherited from RMSA. The body prepares and reviews the School Development Plan (SDP) and meets on a regular basis (RTE Rules require at least once a quarter for the elementary SMC). Composite schools typically run a unified SMC/SMDC.
- **Funding:** 60:40 Centre:State

**KEY POSITIONS**

POSITION	RESPONSIBILITY
Principal / Headmaster	Academics, administration, school grants, board exam coordination
Subject Teachers	Teach per state board syllabus across all streams
Vocational Instructor	Delivers National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF)-aligned trade courses and the mandatory Employability Skills module (Communication, Self-Management, Information & Communication Technology (ICT), Entrepreneurial, Green Skills) where vocational education is approved under Samagra Shiksha
Block / Cluster Resource Person (Block Resource Person (BRP) / Cluster Resource Person (CRP))	Provides academic support, on-site mentoring, and teacher training to schools in the block / cluster under Samagra Shiksha
School Management Committee / SMDC	Parent-community body reviewing facilities and school development plans
Institute Nodal Officer (INO)	Performs L1 verification for scholarship applications on the National Scholarships Portal (NSP)



## MANDATED SERVICES

- Deliver the state board curriculum for Classes 9-12, including daily lessons, assessments, and board exam coordination
- Facilitate scholarship applications through the National Scholarships Portal (NSP) for pre-matric, post-matric, National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS), and Pradhan Mantri Young Achievers Scholarship Award Scheme for Vibrant India (PM YASASVI) schemes
- Deliver vocational education where approved under Samagra Shiksha – NSQF-aligned trade courses, the mandatory Employability Skills module, and a minimum 80-hour On-the-Job Training (OJT) / internship per job role, arranged during vacations, for Classes 9-12 students (typically one job role across Classes 9-10, a second across Classes 11-12)
- Vocational hub-and-spoke arrangement – students from nearby schools (spokes) use the workshop / skill-lab infrastructure of a designated hub school (or, where feasible, an Industrial Training Institute (ITI) / Polytechnic / Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) acting as hub) for NSQF practicals; spoke schools receive a small per-student transport grant for the purpose
- Digital and ICT delivery – use of the DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing) platform for digital content and teacher training; smart classrooms and ICT labs where sanctioned and operational under Samagra Shiksha's ICT and Digital Initiatives component
- NEP-aligned holistic elements (where implemented): vocational internship opportunities with local artisans, industry, ITIs and higher institutions during the school year and holiday periods (NEP Para 4.26 – the formal "10-day bagless period" sits at the Middle Stage, Grades 6-8); field visits to places of historical, cultural or vocational interest; and competency-based external assessment with a joint school-board and Sector Skill Council (SSC) certificate for NSQF vocational courses at the end of Class 10 and Class 12
- Distribute free textbooks, uniforms, and scholarships for eligible students
- Offer co-curricular activities: sports, cultural events, morning assemblies
- Conduct Beti Bachao Beti Padhao awareness sessions and re-enrolment drives for dropout girls

## LINKED SCHEMES

- **Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan** – infrastructure, teacher training, equity, ICT, vocational education, and school grants
- **Pre-matric / Post-matric Scholarships (NSP)** – financial assistance for SC/ST/OBC/minority students
- **NMMSS** – merit-cum-means scholarship for government school students in Classes 9-12
- **PM YASASVI** – scholarship for Other Backward Classes (OBC) / Economically Backward Classes (EBC) / Denotified Tribes (DNT) students
- **PM SHRI (Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India) Schools** – enhanced infrastructure and digital resources for designated model schools
- **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao** – girls' enrolment monitoring and awareness campaigns
- **Children with Special Needs (CWSN) (Children With Special Needs) support under Samagra Shiksha (Inclusive Education)** – up to Rs 3,500 per child per year covering aids and appliances, assistive devices, Teaching-Learning Materials (TLMs), therapeutic services, transport / escort and home-based education, plus an additional stipend of Rs 200 per month for 10 months for girls with disabilities, available from pre-primary to senior secondary level and delivered via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)
- **Transport / escort facility** – under Samagra Shiksha, up to Rs 6,000 per child per year (up to Class X) is available where a secondary school is more than 5 km away, in remote habitations with sparse population, in difficult terrain or urban-deprived areas where opening a new school is unviable. The child must attend the nearest government or local-body school; payment is by DBT to an Aadhaar-linked account, linked to attendance



## HOW TO LOCATE

**Portal:** [udiseplus.gov.in](http://udiseplus.gov.in) — search by state, district, school name, or pin code for full school profiles

**Also:** Ask the Block Education Officer (BEO) or District Education Officer (DEO/DIOS) for the complete list of secondary schools in the block

## KEY FACILITIES

A functioning government secondary school should have: one classroom per section with adequate seating and ventilation (student-teacher ratio of 1:30), separate science labs for Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, an ICT lab with at least 10 internet-connected computers, a library, separate functional toilet blocks for boys and girls, safe drinking water, electricity, a boundary wall, and a playground.

## WHAT A FUNCTIONING GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL LOOKS LIKE

- Classes are running on schedule with subject teachers present in classrooms
- Science and computer labs show signs of regular student use
- Scholarship applications for the current cycle have been processed and forwarded by the INO
- Board exam pass percentages from the last two years are available on request
- The SMC has met in the last quarter, with minutes and parent attendance recorded
- Free textbooks and uniforms have been distributed to eligible students this academic year

## GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

**During service delivery.** The first point of contact is the Principal / Headmaster. Issues of teacher absenteeism, textbook non-distribution, scholarship processing delays, or non-implementation of Samagra Shiksha entitlements are raised here first.

**After service.** Unresolved issues go to the Block Education Officer (BEO) and then the District Education Officer (DEO / DIOS). Parents and students can raise matters at the School Management Committee (SMC/SMDC), whose quarterly meetings are a formal redressal forum under RTE Rules.

**External.** The Ministry of Education operates the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) at [pgportal.gov.in](http://pgportal.gov.in). State-specific portals (e.g., Samagra Shiksha state grievance systems) accept school-level complaints. Right to Education violations can be escalated to the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR). The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has final jurisdiction under Section 31 of the RTE Act.

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