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# Over 70k children out of schools in state, this year, says Survey

**BENGALURU:** At least 70,116 children in Karnataka are out of schools, nearly five times higher than the last year's numbers, with officials finding migration and parents' apathy among the major reasons for the problem.

The findings are part of a recent survey by the Education department. In the previous years, the department would keep track of the out-of-school children from class I to VIII under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. However, this year, under the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, children up to class X were surveyed.

The survey has found that besides migration, lack of interest from the children to come to school and parents' apathy are among the primary reasons for this.

The Education department, in coordination with several other government departments, including Women and Child Development, Social Welfare, RDPR, among others, had held Grama Sabhas across the state to understand the reasons behind children remaining out of school.

The report has found that the number of children who are out of school has gone up considerably this year. The government also improvised its system of keeping a tab on the children who would reg-



ister into schools and their attendance through online system SATS. The system also kept track of students from the private, aided and unaided schools. The data of these 70,116 students has been gathered by the department through the software.

## Migration

Ballari, Bengaluru South and Kalaburagi had, over the years, shown a high number of children who are out of school. Senior officials in the department said that this was primarily due to migration.

A similar trend was noticed even this year. Migration is among the primary factors why children have remained out of school according to the survey. Data gathered says that 11,813 children have remained out of school due to migration.

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