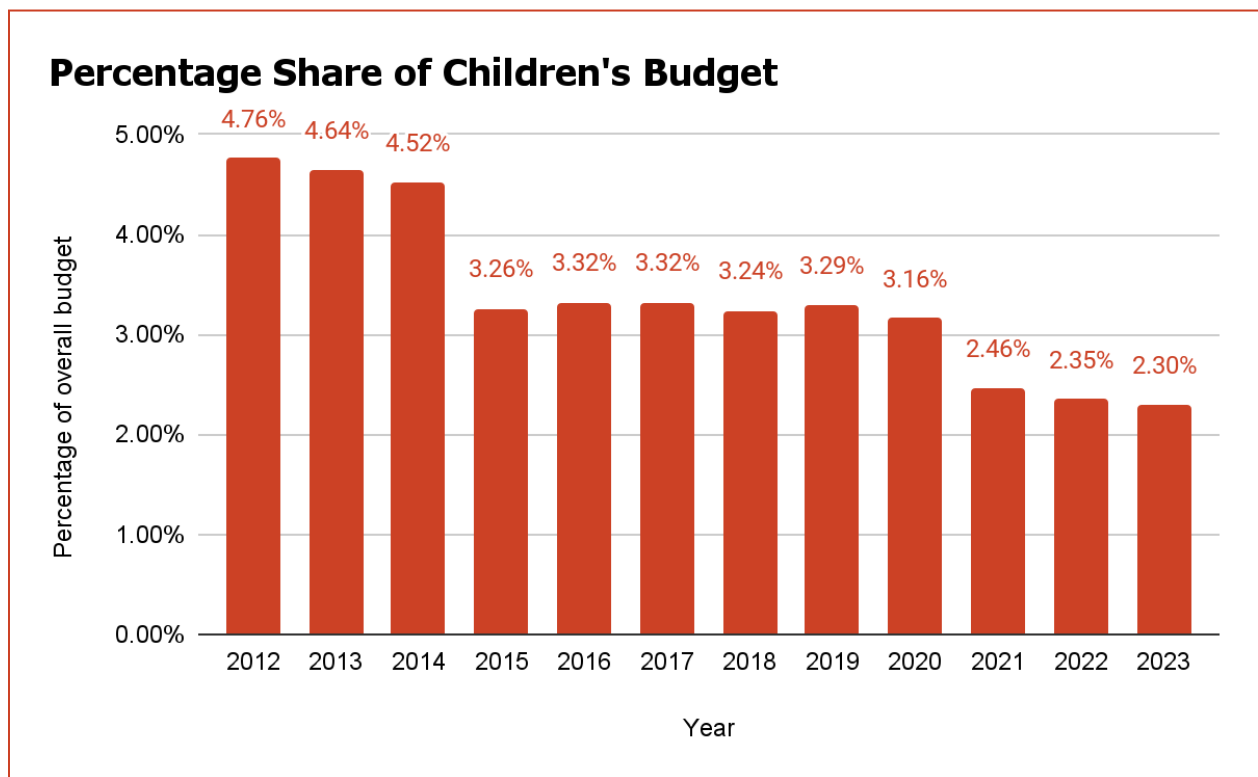


QUICK FACTSHEET | UNION BUDGET - 2023 | BUDGET FOR CHILDREN

Total Budget Estimate (BE 2023-24): Rs. 45,03,097 Crore and Allocation for Welfare of Children (BE 2023-24): Rs. 1,03,790 Crore. So the share of children's budget is 2.30% of the total expenditure. This is the **lowest allocation (percentage wise) for child welfare in 12 years.** It is important to note here that **in absolute terms, the children welfare budget saw an increase of Rs. 11,054.20 crore from Rs. 92,736.50 crore in 2022 to Rs. 1,03,790.70 crore in 2023.**



Ministry wise allocation of child welfare budget

Ministry/ Department	2022-23 (BE) (In Crore)	2023-24 (BE) (In Crore)	%age increase or decrease
Ministry of Women and Child Development	18858.67	19336.98	2.5%
Ministry of Minority Affairs	2554.01	1582.10	38%
Ministry of Tribal Affairs	2419	6338.94	162%
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	22	22	-
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change	54.32	53.35	1.7%
Department of School Education and Literacy	59819.37	67290.34	12.5%
Department of Health and Family Welfare	3498.58	3490.50	0.2%
Department of Science and Technology	75	73	2.6%
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities	73.50	76.50	4.08%
Department of Social Justice and Empowerment	3992.50	4153.03	4.02%

Despite the lowest share of the children's budget in more than a decade, most of the ministries majorly concerned with child welfare saw an increase in allocation in absolute numbers.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD), being the nodal ministry in child welfare, saw a **2.5% increase in funding** compared to 2022 (last year). But the allocation is still less than the allocation of 2021 which was Rs. 20400.60 crore. Mission Vatsalya under MoWCD saw no increase or decrease in budget, allocation being Rs. 1472.17 crore, similar to last year. Another important program under MoWCD i.e. Saksham Anganwadi & POSHAN 2.0 saw a slight increase in the budget from Rs. 17,223.61 crore in 2022 to Rs. 17,471.16 crore in 2023, reflecting an increase of 1.43%

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs saw a major increase of 162% in its funding majorly because of the **Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)**, for which the funding was **increased by 196%** from Rs. 2000 crore to Rs. 5927.31 crore.

Department of School Education and Literacy

Department of School Education and Literacy saw an **increase 12.5% in its funding**, with most of the important scheme under it witnessing a minor bump:

- Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan - 9.3% increase
- National Means Cum Merit Scholarship Scheme - 4% increase
- Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti - 33.3%
- Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) - 13.3% increase
- Samaghra Shiksha - 0.18% increase

On 5th September 2022, on the occasion of Teacher's Day, PM School for Rising India (PM SHRI) Yojana was launched. Under this yojana, 14500 schools across the country will be selected and upgraded. These schools will become model schools and are expected to encapsulate the full spirit of the New Education Policy 2020. **Budget allocation of Rs. 4000 crore has been made for the implementation of the PM SHRI program.**

The Ministry of Minority Affairs

The Ministry of Minority Affairs saw a major cut in its budget allocation. The budget of the Ministry was **cut down by 38%**, compared to the 2022 allocation. A few of the schemes run by the ministry which saw a substantial reduction in funding were:

- Education Scheme for Madarsa and Minority: 93% reduction
- Merit cum Means Based Scholarship: 87% reduction
- Pre-Matric Scholarship for Minorities: 69% reduction

The Budget speech highlighted 7 priority areas:

1. Inclusion
2. Reaching the last mile
3. Infrastructure and investment
4. Unleashing the potential
5. Green growth
6. Youth potential
7. Financial sector

Of these seven (7) priority areas, four (4) reflect the concern of India's children, adolescent & youth, namely, inclusion; reaching the last mile; unleashing the potential of youth. Following are the proposed plans from the central government for India's youngsters under each of the priority areas.

INCLUSION

Teachers' Training

Teacher's training will be re-envisioned through innovative pedagogy, curriculum transaction, continuous professional development, dipstick surveys, and ICT implementation. The District Institutes of Education and Training will be developed as vibrant institutes of excellence for this purpose.

National Digital Library for children and adolescents

As part of inclusive development, the budget proposed to set up a National Digital Library for children and adolescents for facilitating availability of quality books across geographies, languages, genres and levels, and device agnostic accessibility. The States will be encouraged to set up physical libraries for them at panchayat and ward levels and provide infrastructure for accessing the National Digital Library resources. Additionally, to build a culture of reading, and to make up for pandemic-time learning loss, the National Book Trust, Children's Book Trust and other sources will be encouraged to provide and replenish non-curricular titles in regional languages and English to these physical libraries. The government will seek help from NGOs for proper implementation of the program.

REACHING THE LAST MILE

Pradhan Mantri PVTG Development Mission

To improve the socio-economic conditions of the particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs), Pradhan Mantri PVTG Development Mission will be launched. This will provide PVTG families and habitations with basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved access to education, health and nutrition, road and telecom connectivity, and sustainable livelihood opportunities. An amount of Rs. 15,000 crore will be made available to implement the Mission in the next three years under the Development Action Plan for the scheduled Tribes. In the next three years, the center will recruit 38,800 teachers and support staff for the 740 Eklavya Model Residential Schools, serving 3.5 lakh tribal students.

UNLEASHING THE POTENTIAL

Centers of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence

To realize the vision of "Make A-I in India and Make A-I work for India", three centers of excellence for Artificial Intelligence will be set-up in top educational institutions. Leading industry players will partner in conducting interdisciplinary research, develop cutting-edge applications and scalable problem solutions in the areas of agriculture, health, and sustainable

cities, which will galvanize an effective A-I ecosystem and nurture quality human resources in the field.

YOUTH POTENTIAL

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 will be launched to skill lakhs of youth within the next three years. On-job training, industry partnership, and alignment of courses with needs of industry will be emphasized. The scheme will also cover new age courses for Industry 4.0 like coding, AI, robotics, mechatronics, IOT, 3D printing, drones, and soft skills. She also announced that to skill youth for international opportunities, 30 Skill India International Centres will be set up across different States.

National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme

A pan-India National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme will be rolled out, under which stipend support to 47 lakh youth will be provided through direct benefit transfer (DBT) in the next three (3) years.