

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1618
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16th MARCH, 2022**

Language under NEP

1618 # Shri Brijlal:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- a) Whether Government proposes that children up to Vth class would be imparted education in their mother language only under the new National Education Policy (NEP), if so, the efforts made in this direction;
- b) the languages in which it is proposed to impart education to children under NEP;
- c) whether any consultation has been done with the States in this regard, if so, the response of the States thereon; and
- d) whether a high level committee has been constituted by Government to accord priority to Indian languages, if so, the structure and recommendations of this committee?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)**

(a) & (b): Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of the States/UTs. As envisaged in para 4.11 of NEP 2020, wherever possible, the medium of instruction until at least Grade 5, but preferably till Grade 8 and beyond, is to be the home language/mother tongue/local language/regional language. Thereafter, the home/local language shall continue to be taught as a language wherever possible.

National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers for Holistic Advancement - NISHTHA 3.0 has been launched to train the teachers from ECCE to grade V. It has 12 training modules including a module on Multilingual teaching in foundational years, which also covers usage of mother tongue / home language in teaching.

(c): During the formulation of National Education Policy 2020, a large number of consultations were held with different stakeholders including State/UT Governments, Government of India Ministries, Members of Parliament, public etc. Before finalising the policy, a highly participative, inclusive and multi-pronged consultation process, through online, grassroots and thematic expert consultations, involving State Governments was carried out. After receipt of the Draft National Education Policy 2019 (Draft NEP 2019) from

the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. K Kasturirangan, the Draft NEP 2019 was uploaded on Ministry of Education's website at https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf and also at <https://innovate.mygov.in/list-nep/> to elicit comments and suggestions from the various stakeholders. Further, letters were written to States/UTs Governments and Government of India Ministries inviting their views and comments on DNEP 2019. An Education Dialogue with Hon'ble MPs of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala, Karnataka & Odisha was organised on three consecutive days i.e on 31.07.2019, 01.08.2019 & 02.08.2019. Two meetings, one with State Education Secretaries of School Education and another with State Secretaries of Higher & Technical Education were held on 09.07.2019 and 08.08.2019 respectively. Around 2 lakh suggestions on the Draft National Education Policy were received from various stakeholders. A special meeting of CAGE on National Education Policy was held on 21.09.2019, to discuss the National Education Policy. 26 Education Ministers of various States and UTs, representatives of States and Union Territories, Members of CAGE, Heads of Autonomous Organisations, Vice Chancellors of Universities, attended the meeting along with senior officials of the Central and State Governments. A meeting of Parliamentary Standing Committee was held on 7th November, 2019 to discuss the Draft National Education Policy. As per the procedure, inter-ministerial consultation on the draft Cabinet Note on National Education Policy 2020 was done. There has been wide publicity and feedback from all stakeholders. Accordingly, based on all feedback/comments received from various stakeholders on the Draft NEP, the Ministry finalized the National Education Policy, 2020 and the same has been approved by the Union Cabinet on 29.07.2020.

(d): Government of India has constituted a High Powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Padmashri Chamu Krishna Shastry to explore and recommend pathways for the holistic and multidisciplinary growth of Indian Languages as envisaged in the National Education Policy, 2020. The Committee's mandate is, inter-alia, to advise the Ministry on all matters pertaining to revitalization of existing language teaching and research and its extension in various institutions in the country. Director, Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru, Vice Chancellor, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, New Delhi and Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Education are ex-officio members of the High Powered Committee.
