

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1706
ANSWERED ON 21.12.2022

EARLY AGE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

1706. SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Ministry has any programme/scheme to promote skill development from an early age;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry has integrated such skill development programmes with other schemes for young children;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Ministry has taken initiatives for implementation of International Labour Organisation (ILO) early age skill development trainings; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a) and (b) Under Skill India Mission, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) delivers skill-training through a comprehensive network of skill development centres across the country, under various schemes viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) and Craftsmen Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) for the youth of age 14 and above. JSS and PMKVY provide skill training in the age group of 15-45 years. Under CTS, vocational training is being offered in NSQF compliant courses for the age group of 14 years and above. Further, apprenticeship opportunities are provided to candidates in the age group of 14-35 years in the industrial establishments under NAPS.

(c) to (f) Further, considering the importance of the Skill Development among the young children, school students and towards implementation of International Labour Organisation (ILO) early age skill development trainings, the Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL) is implementing an initiative of vocationalization of School Education under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme - Samgra Shiksha - throughout the country. The Scheme aims at integrating vocational education with general academic education in all Secondary/Senior Secondary schools, enhancing the employability and entrepreneurial abilities of the students, providing exposure to work

environment and generating awareness among students about various career options so as to enable them to make a choice in accordance with their aptitude, competency and aspirations.

Under the scheme, National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) compliant vocational courses are offered to the students from class 9th to 12th in the schools covered under the scheme. At the secondary level, that is, Class 9 and 10, vocational modules are offered to the students as an additional subject. At Senior Secondary level, that is, Class 11 and 12, vocational courses are offered as a compulsory (elective) subject.

Employability skill module has been made a mandatory part of the vocational courses. It consists of communication skills, self management skills, information and communication technology skills, entrepreneurship skills and Green skills.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has also integrated vocational education and skilling.

In order to fulfil various objectives of the NEP, the existing scheme of Samagra Shiksha has been revamped and various new interventions relating to vocational education have been incorporated. Some of them are as under:

- (i) Coverage of vocational education has been expanded to over Government aided schools also in addition to Government Schools.
- (ii) Hub and Spoke Model of Vocational Education has been introduced providing for the utilization of the infrastructure available in the Hub Schools by the students of nearby schools (spoke schools) for vocational training.
- (iii) Exposure of pre-vocational education at Upper Primary level.
- (iv) Internships, bagless days, etc. have been included under innovation component of Samagra Shiksha.

Under the Scheme, a module on entrepreneurship development has been made a core component of vocational education programme from Grades 9 to 12 for nurturing innovation and creativity among the students. The module has been oriented towards the development of creative and innovative skills among the students so that they can apply new knowledge to the existing work and create new ideas and values.

Taking the vision of New Education Policy, Government of India has developed National Credit Framework (NCF) to enable integration of academic and vocational domains to ensure flexibility and mobility between the two.

NEP and vocationalisation of school education target at reduction in the number of new entrants to the labour force without any vocational skills.
