GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2408

ANSWERED ON 22/03/2023

Making school education interesting and value-oriented

2408 # Shri Brijlal:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a new curriculum has been prepared by Government for all levels of school education and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Central Government has held any consultations with the States in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) additional steps taken by Government to make school education interesting and value-oriented?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): National Education Policy 2020 envisages making concerted national effort to ensure universal access and accord opportunity to all children of the country to obtain quality and holistic education from pre-school to grade 12. As per para 4.30 of NEP 2020 National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) under the Ministry of Education has initiated the process of development of National Curriculum Frameworks (NCF) where in inputs are invited from various stakeholders including various Ministries/Departments, States and UTs drawing from grass root levels.

The National Curriculum Framework for Early Childhood Care and Education (NCFECCE), called Foundational Stage is one of the four National Curriculum Framework (NCFs), the other being National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE), National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education (NCFTE) and National Curriculum Framework for Adult Education (NCFAE). The NCF for Foundational Stage (NCFFS) has been developed by NCERT through an extensive consultative process with States & UTs upto grass root level and various institutions and organisations. The National and a technological platform was prepared for eliciting state position papers for the 25 thematic areas of the NCF; workshops were conducted by NCERT and SCERT at district level with stakeholders and mobile app survey was also conducted.

The NCF (FS) was released by Hon'ble Education Minister on 20th Oct 2022 at New Delhi. Some transformative ideas for implementation of quality school education are included in the Framework, which are- toy-based pedagogy, play as the core of teaching-learning process, lifestyle for environment, learning about the external world. The framework has provided for stimulating experiences for the child's development in all dimensions – cognitive, social-emotional, physical, to enable the achievement of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy for all children.

Contents and Updates on NCFECCE are available on the given link: https://ncf.ncert.gov.in/#/web/documents

The details on the developments on NCF may be found at the link given: https://ncf.ncert.gov.in/#/web/home

(c) NEP-2020 (Para-4, P-12) explicitly states that curriculum and pedagogy followed in the schools should be holistic, integrated, enjoyable, and engaging. The policy states in clear terms that "Pedagogy must evolve to make education more experiential, holistic, integrated, inquiry-driven, discovery-oriented, learner - centered, discussion-based, flexible, and, of course, enjoyable" (NEP 4:25). NEP (Para 4.5 and Para-4.6) also talks about reducing curriculum loads to essential learning and critical thinking.

NEP 2020 stresses on 21st century skills (Para-4.4). The key overall thrust of curriculum and pedagogy reform across all stages is to move the education system towards real understanding and towards learning how to learn. Curriculum frameworks and transaction mechanisms should ensure that these skills and values are imbibed through engaging processes of teaching and learning. Fundamental principles that guide the education system in schools include life skills such as communication, cooperation, teamwork, and resilience. A hand book on 21st Century skills is prepared by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) which is available on the given link: https://cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/Manuals/21st_Century_Skill_Handbook.pdf
