

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3696
ANSWERED ON 05.04.2023**

Shifting back Education from List 3 to List 2

3696. Shri P. Wilson:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is exploring to shift back Education from List 3 to List 2 to enable the States to exclusively take care of the education as per the political and social conditions of the State;
- (b) whether Government has got any policy to fund and replace ordinary Black Boards with Smart Black Board in schools across the country;
- (c) whether Government has implemented any policy to lessen the books being carried by students which results in health problems for the students across the country; and
- (d) if so, details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Under Samagra Shiksha scheme, Information and Communications Technology (ICT) component envisages covering all Government and Aided schools from classes VI to XII, subject to the availability of budgetary provision. The schools which have not availed the ICT facility earlier can opt either for ICT or smart classrooms as per their requirement and need for digital boards, smart classrooms, virtual classrooms and DTH channels. Schools which have already availed the ICT facility earlier can avail smart classrooms/tablets as per the norms of the scheme. Under the scheme, for ICT labs, there is provision for onetime non-recurring grant upto Rs. 6.40 lakh and a recurring grant of upto Rs. 2.40 lakh per school per annum for a period of 5 years. For Smart Classrooms, there is provision for onetime non-recurring grant upto Rs. 2.40 lakh and recurring grant of upto Rs. 0.38 lakh per school for a period of 5 years.

(c) and (d): "Policy on School Bag" was formulated by Expert Committee comprising of members from National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and released by NCERT in 2020. The Ministry of Education has circulated the Policy across the States and UTs vide its letter dated 24th November 2020. The National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage has been brought out and released on 20th October, 2022. This framework also focuses on experimental learning and variety of Learning-Teaching Material (LTM) for the foundational stage rather than only on textbooks.

Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution of India. States & UTs have been advised to adopt relevant suggestions of the School Bag Policy and National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 and ensure the implementation of the same.
