

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:- 644
ANSWERED ON-26/07/2023

Study to make school education job oriented

644 Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:
Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the steps taken to make school education job-oriented are inadequate and organisations concerned with school education have been emphasizing on the need to make school education job-oriented and qualitative;
- (b) whether the Ministry has conducted any study on making school education job-oriented and to improve quality of education at primary level so that the tendency of dropping out may be contained; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

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

(a) to (c): Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha, there is a vocational education component, which provides financial support to States for giving exposure to students of classes VI to VIII and introduction of vocational courses from grades IX to XII, which are aligned with the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) notified by the Government of India.

The main objectives of vocationalisation of School Education are integrating vocational education with general academic education, enhancing the employability and entrepreneurial abilities of the students, providing exposure to work environment to the students, and generating awareness amongst students about various career options so as to enable them to make a choice in accordance with their aptitude, competence and aspirations. An 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.

‘Education’ is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and a majority of the schools are under the jurisdiction of the respective State Governments and UT Administrations. To improve the quality of primary education, the Department of School Education and Literacy has launched National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) Mission under Samagra Shiksha. In addition, the Integrated Teacher Training Programme called NISHTHA 3.0 on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy was released on 7th September, 2021 in an online mode on DIKSHA platform for 25 lakh teachers and school heads of pre-primary to class V.

The Department of School Education and Literacy with effect from 2018-19 has launched an Integrated Centrally Sponsored Scheme for School Education- Samagra Shiksha. The scheme has now been aligned with the recommendations of NEP 2020 to ensure that all children have access to quality education with an equitable and inclusive classroom environment which should take care of their diverse backgrounds, multilingual needs, different academic abilities and make them active participants in the learning process.

Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to States and UTs for undertaking various activities for the universalisation of school education, including opening/strengthening of new schools upto senior secondary level, construction of school buildings & additional classrooms, setting up, up-gradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, setting up of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalayas, free uniforms, free textbooks, transport allowance and undertaking enrolment & retention drives. Further, special training for age appropriate admission of out of school children and residential as well as non-residential training for older children, seasonal hostels / residential camps, special training centers at worksites, transport/ escort facilities are also supported to bring out of school children to the formal schooling system. Further, under the student oriented component for the children with special needs, financial assistance is provided for the identification and assessment of children with special needs, aids and appliances, braille kits and books, appropriate teaching learning material and stipend to girl students with disability etc.

Further, financial assistance upto Rs. 2000 per annum is being provided for Out of School Children of age group of 16-19 years, belonging to socio economically disadvantaged groups, for completing their education through NIOS/SIOS, for accessing course materials and certification.

Under 'Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman' (PM POSHAN) one hot cooked meal in Government and Government aided schools is provided to students at the elementary level of education, including Balvatika.

Also, Section 10 of the RTE Act states that it shall be the duty of every parent or guardian to admit or cause to be admitted his or her child or ward, as the case may be, for elementary education in the neighbourhood school.
