

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:- 689
ANSWERED ON-26/07/2023

Skill programmes for school children

689 Smt. Sulata Deo:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) what does Government mean by 'skill programmes' for school children under the Skill India Mission;
- (b) whether measures shall be taken for introduction of skill development programmes in schools for children of all ages; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

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

(a) : The Government of India has initiated various convergence efforts across the skill ecosystem under the “Skill India Mission (SIM)”. Under the Mission, skilling, re-skilling and up-skilling through short term and long term training programmes, to create a skilled workforce, have been taken up through more than 20 Central Ministries/Departments, including for school children across the country.

(b) 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 the 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. Employability skill modules have 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.

In order to fulfil various objectives of NEP 2020, various new interventions relating to Vocational Education have been incorporated in the Samagra Shiksha Scheme. Some of them are:

- Coverage of Vocational Education has been expanded to cover Government aided schools also in addition to Government Schools.
- 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.
- Exposure to pre-vocational education at the Upper Primary level.
- Internships, bagless days etc. have been included under the innovation component of Samagra Shiksha.
