GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 51
ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024

Encouragement of New Education Policy

51.   Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:

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

(a) what action has been taken by Government to encourage the New Education Policy (NEP) in the country, alongwith the Central funding to it;

(b) what amount and what percentage of Central funding has gone to States and their educational institutions in the last three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that the education system in the country has improved immensely after the implementation of NEP; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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(a): Education being in the concurrent list of Constitution, Centre and States are equally responsible for providing quality education to all. Accordingly, Central Government, State and UT Government have taken several initiatives for implementation of National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020). To create awareness and discuss innovative ideas for NEP implementation, a series of workshops / consultation-cum-review meetings have been held with States/UTs, Educational Institutions, other stakeholders from time to time. Implementation of NEP 2020 was discussed in National Education Ministers' Conference held in Gujarat in June 2022; National Conference of Chief Secretaries held in June 2022; 7th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog held in August 2022; Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Samagam 2022 and 2023 etc.

The Centre and the States / UTs work together to increase the public investment in Education sector to reach 6% of GDP. Various schemes/projects/programmes run by Ministry of Education have been aligned with NEP 2020. As far as Central Government is concerned, it has increased its Budget allocation from Rs. 93,224.31 Crore for the year 2021-22 to Rs. 1,04,277.72 Crore for the year 2022-23, to Rs. 1,12,899.47 Cr. for the year 2023-24 and to Rs. 1,21,117.77 Crore for the year 2024-25.

(b): The details of Budget allocation to States through Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Ministry of Education and percentage to Budget allocation of MoE from the year 2021-22 to 2023-24 is given below:-

(Rs. in Crore)

Items	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Budget allocation in Centrally Sponsored Schemes to States	46285.16	52737.06	55510.47
Budget allocation in Centrally Sponsored Schemes as % to MoE Budget allocation	49.65%	50.57%	49.17%

(c) and (d): A number of initiatives have been taken in school and higher education which have immensely improved the education system in the country.

In School Education, a number of initiatives have been taken such as PM SHRI (PM Schools for Rising India) for upgradation of schools (A total of 6448 schools were selected and Rs. 630.11 crore has been released to 6207 PM SHRI schools in 27 States/UTs along with KVS/NVS as first installment); National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat);Vidya-Pravesh–School Preparation Module; PM e-VIDYA for digital/online/on-air education; DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing) as One Nation One Digital Platform; National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (NCF FS); Jadui Pitara for children between the age group of 3 to 8 years; National Curriculum Framework for School Education; NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) 1.0, 2.0 and 3.0 an Integrated Teacher Training Programme for different stages of school education; National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR) for creating a unifying national digital infrastructure with 1500+ Micro courses, 5 billion+ Learning sessions, 12 billion+ QR codes, 20K+ ecosystem participants, 15K+ Micro improvements ongoing across various linked building blocks; "New India Literacy Programme or ULLAS" targeting all non-literates age 15 years and above, etc.

Samagra Shiksha Scheme has been fully aligned with the recommendation of NEP 2020, with a total financial outlay of Rs. 2,94,283.04 crore which includes a Central share of Rs. 1,85,398.32 crore. PM Poshan Shakti Nirman Yojna has also been aligned with the recommendation of NEP 2020.

National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development) has been set up to fulfil the objectives of setting norms, standards, guidelines and implement activities related to student assessment.

New policy on weight of School bags with focus on reducing the weight of school bags has been circulated to States/UTs.

4-year Integrated Teacher Education Program has been introduced. Recognition has been granted to 42 institutions including IITs, NITs, RIEs, IGNOU and Government Colleges for the Academic Session 2023-24.

National Mission for Mentoring (NMM) has also been introduced to create a large pool of outstanding professionals who are willing to provide mentoring to school teachers. NMM is being piloted in 30 Central schools. Also, a school volunteer management program namely Vidyanjali has been started to strengthen Government and Government aided schools through community and private sector involvement across the country. So far 688139 Govt. and Govt aided schools have onboarded and 445156 volunteers have registered on the Vidyanjali Portal.

In Higher Education, various initiatives / reforms have been carried out for implementation of NEP 2020. For learner centric education, National Credit Framework (NCrF), National Higher Education Qualification Framework, Academic Bank of Credit (ABC), multiple entry/exit etc. have been introduced. So far 1756 Universities/INIs/HEIs are on boarded on ABC portal & 13.23 Crore students are registered. To ensure access to high quality education with equity and inclusion, courses are being offered in Indian Languages; entrance exams such as JEE, NEET, CUET are conducted in 13 Indian languages; 100 books for UG students on various subjects launched in 12 Indian Languages; and 20 Technical books of first year have been translated in Indian Languages.

To promote digital learning by leveraging technology, at present 81 Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) are offering 1130 ODL programmes and 78 HEIs are offering 544 online programmes. More than 16.5 lakh students are availing these facilities. To promote multi-disciplinary education and provide flexibility, around 295 Universities have adopted SWAYAM regulation permitting learners to avail upto 40% credit Courses from SWAYAM platform. Over 9 lakhs students earn SWAYAM certificate through a proctored exam every year. These certificates can be utilised for credit transfer by the university in which student is enrolled. Technology enabled Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) based Solutions for Governance of HEIs starting from admission to grant of Degree – Smarter Automation Engine for Universities (SAMARTH) is being extensively used by around 2820 Universities & HEIs covering 32 States / UTs. 7 State Higher Education Departments are also on boarded.

In order to enable HEIs to work with industry experts in developing courses and curriculum to meet the industry and societal needs, initiatives have been taken such as Guidelines on Professor of Practice; MoUs with Cisco/IBM/Meta/Adobe/Microsoft/Sales force etc. to create industry-aligned courses; offering Apprenticeship / Internship embedded Degree Programme by HEIs; Single Unified online portal for internship with total registration of around 10578 HEIs and 75000 industries so far. For promotion of research and innovation, around 7701 Institutions' Innovation

Councils and around 104 Idea Development, Evaluation and Application Labs (IDEA) have been set up.

In line with recommendation of NEP 2020, to make the accreditation process binary, as per the extant global practice, the report of Committee under Chairmanship of Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, former Chairman of ISRO and Chairperson, Standing Committee of IIT Council for binary accreditation has been accepted. Currently, around 457 University and 9807 HEIs are accredited.

In NIRF 2023, Agriculture and Allied Sector has been added as new subject. The existing portfolio of India Rankings has increased to 13 categories and subject domains. Number of unique applicants to India Rankings have increased to 5,543 in 2023 whereas total number of applications for ranking in various categories is 8,686 in 2023.

To promote internationalization, regulation on setting up and operation of campuses of foreign Higher Education Institutions in India have been issued. Also, MOUs have been signed for setting up of campus of IIT Madras in Zanzibar- Tanzania and of IIT Delhi in Abu Dhabi. Classes have commenced at Zanzibar-Tanzania campus of IIT Madras.

Indian Knowledge System is being promoted by adoption of IKS into curriculum; setting up of 53 IKS centres to catalyze original research, education and dissemination of IKS; 88 inter-disciplinary research projects like ancient metallurgy, ancient town planning and water resource management, ancient rasayanshastra etc.

As a result of consistent effort, Indian HEIs/Universities have substantially improved their global ranking in last 9 years with 45 HEIs/ Universities ranked in Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Ranking 2024 as against 09 in QS 2014 ranking. India remains the most represented higher education system with 148 universities out of 856 featured in the QS World University- Asia Rankings 2024 and has also contributed the highest number of 37 new entrants. 7 Indian Institutes were amongst the top 100 Asian universities with 5 IIT's, 1 - Central University and IISc. Indian Universities have achieved the second best regional results in the Papers-per-Faculty metric among the Higher Education systems with more than 10 universities ranked. India achieves its best average score for the Staff-with-PhD indicator, signalling strong research output and a highly qualified faculty body and showing the potential for Indian institutions to enhance their global standing. 44 courses, in their respective subject categories, have been ranked among the Global top 100 in QS Rankings 2023. As per R&D statistics at a glance 2022-23, India occupies 3rd rank in terms of the number of PhDs awarded in Science and Engineering (S&E). As per Scimago Journal & Country rank number of publication in all discipline in 2022 is more than 2.73 lakhs as compared to 1.45 lakhs publication in 2015. As per IP India Annual Report filing of patents has increased from 42,763 in 2014-15 to 66,440 in 2021-22, i.e., more than 55% increase in a span of 8 years and there has been nearly 5 times increase in grant of patents in 2021-22 (30,073) as compared to 2014-15 (5,978). India has improved its Global Innovation Index Ranking from 76th rank in 2014 to 40th rank in 2023.

For better guidance and assistance to the students, Guidelines for Regulation of Coaching Center has been issued to all States/UTs for their consideration and adoption by way of appropriate legal framework.

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