

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-513
ANSWERED ON- 07.02.2024

INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM

513. SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) what exactly does NEP's Para 4.27 mean when it refers to "knowledge of India" will include "knowledge from ancient India and modern India, and a clear sense of India's future aspirations with regard to education, health, environment, etc.";
- (b) how are these elements to be "incorporated in an accurate and scientific manner throughout the school curriculum wherever relevant";
- (c) whether this process has been taken up; and
- (d) how it is intended to include "Indian Knowledge Systems" in mathematics, astronomy, philosophy, architecture, medicine, agriculture, engineering and so on?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Para 4.27 of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 refers "Knowledge of India" to the heritage of ancient Bharat. The Indian education system produced great scholars such as Charaka, Susruta, Aryabhata, Bhaskaracharya, Chanakya, Panini, Patanjali, Nagarjuna, Sankardev, Maitreyi and Gargi among numerous others, who made seminal contributions to world knowledge in diverse fields such as mathematics, astronomy, metallurgy, medical science and surgery, civil engineering, architecture, shipbuilding and navigation, yoga, fine arts, chess, and more. Indian Knowledge System(IKS) encompasses all of the systematized disciplines of knowledge which were developed to a high degree of sophistication in India from ancient times and all of the traditions and practices that the various communities of India including the tribal communities—have evolved, refined and preserved over generations.

The National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE) has become the blue print for preparation of syllabus and text books. In the spirit of NEP 2020, the Curricular Area Groups (CAGs) have been constituted on various subjects to develop/integrate the IKS in curriculum/syllabus & Teaching Learning Material (TLM) for classes III to XII in scientific manner. Teams of academic scholars who are well versed in IKS and the contemporary knowledge systems who are trained in both scientific research methodologies & the traditional methods are incorporating factual, scientifically accurate information in school curriculums in all subjects.

The Ministry of Education through its central sector scheme "Indian Knowledge Systems" (IKS) has set up 53 IKS centers for research, education, and outreach activities through research programs across the country under wide categories of subject such as Science, Engineering, Technology, Health and wellness through Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Psychology, Linguistics, Phonetics, Epistemology, Language technology, Management, Administration, Law, Governance etc., funded 88 research projects in 13 interdisciplinary domains to facilitate creation of new knowledge, provided 5200 internships in various domains of IKS for promoting IKS among youth, introduced Bhartiya Games and Kalashala to promote

Indian games and artforms in schools, conducted more than 80 Faculty Development Programmes/Workshops/Conferences & trained more than 2500 teachers across the country. Moreover, approximately 1000 faculty has been trained by University Grants Commission (UGC) in traditional knowledge along with values system in regular classroom.

Further, UGC has issued Guidelines for incorporating the Indian Knowledge System in Higher Education Curricula & Guidelines for Training of Faculty on IKS. Apart from the above, the “Indian Knowledge System” (IKS), as one of the subjects, has been introduced in UGC-NET.

The IKS contents in various subjects provide students a better appreciation of practices of India that are still relevant in contemporary context and can form the basis of future research for more sustainable practices nationally and globally.
