

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 529  
ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024**

**National Education policy in Tamil Nadu**

**529 Shri P. Wilson:**

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

(a) whether Government has considered the request of Tamil Nadu to draft its own policy and move Education into State list considering that Tamil Nadu has Gross Enrolment ratio (GER) of 51.4 per cent and achieved the objective of NEP;

(b) whether Government is contemplating the adoption of the Tamil Nadu education model across country, given its exemplary results and success; and

(c) whether Government has considered forming high level body comprising equal representation from SC, ST, OBC and all minority communities across University to address caste based discrimination?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b): National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) was announced after detailed consultations / deliberations with various stakeholders including States/UTs. After announcement of NEP 2020, the Government has started taking steps to implement NEP 2020. As NEP 2020 provides for careful planning, joint monitoring and collaborative implementation between the Centre and States / UTs for execution of this policy, Ministry of Education has since been organizing workshops / consultation-cum-review meetings with States/UTs and other stakeholders for handholding and to discuss innovative ideas for NEP implementation from time to time.

NEP, 2020 aims to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio in Higher Educational Institutions including vocational education to 50% by 2035. The policy also recommends making higher education in the country flexible, multidisciplinary allowing multiple entry and exit, focus on research and internationalization of education, making books and study materials available in mother tongue as far as possible, among others. Such steps are progressive and forward looking which are beneficial to all students of Higher Educational Institutions including those belonging to the state of Tamil Nadu.

Further, the subject 'Education' was transferred from List II (State List) to List III (Concurrent List) by the Constitution (Forty-Second Amendment) Act, 1976. Since then, it has resulted in sharing of responsibility between the Central Government and the State / UT Governments on the matter related to education. This has also enabled Central Government serving the need to meet varying

demands of different States / UTs who are at different levels of educational development; and to take measures for development, promotion and growth of education in the Country.

(c): The University Grants Commission has notified UGC (Promotion of Equity in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012 which is applicable to all the HEIs under the purview of UGC and provides for HEIs to take measures to safeguard the interests of the students without any prejudice to their caste, creed, religion, language, ethnicity, gender and disability.

Apart from the above, UGC has amended its anti-ragging regulation by third amendment on 29.06.2016 which covers all caste-based discrimination in ragging. In order to proactively address any issues of SC/ST students, Institutes have set up mechanisms such as SC/ST students' cells, Equal Opportunity Cell, Student Grievance Cell, Student Grievance Committee, Student Social Club, Liaison officers, Liaison Committee etc. Further, University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued instructions from time to time for promoting equity and fraternity amongst students.

UGC has also issued guidelines to provide Equitable Opportunity for the Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) in HEIs with objective, inter alia, for Improving equitable access to quality education for SEDGs; Extending and ensuring basic facilities and amenities to SEDGs for inclusive, healthy, safe, and secure environments on campuses; and Setting up SEDGs Cell for the purpose of sensitization of all stakeholders etc.

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