

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 535
ANSWERED ON – 07/02/2024

Convergence of vocational streams

535 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

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

- (a) whether Government is contemplating to consider the German, Austrian and Swiss models that allow healthy convergence of vocational and conventional streams with flexible framework inside;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (c): NEP 2020 recommends integration of skill education programmes into mainstream education in all education institutions in a phased manner. In pursuance of NEP 2020, National Curriculum Framework for School Education, 2023 has been developed. The approach to Skill Education in this NCF aims to achieve, among others, the following objectives:

- I. Vocational capacities, knowledge, and relevant values will be developed for all students, and this will create the possibility of their joining the workforce after school if they choose to.
- II. Provide the possibility of learning range of vocations – ones that are aspirational, as also those that are most relevant locally, also new and emerging vocations.

The National Credit Framework developed by a High-Level Committee of Government of India is a comprehensive credit framework encompassing elementary, school, higher, and vocational education & training, integrating creditization of learning in its all dimensions. The framework establishes equivalence and mobility between general education and training/ skilling so that

lifelong learning, recognition of prior learning, multiple entry and exit, and continuous professional development is encouraged.

Further, financial assistance is also provided to States/UTs under the Skill Education component of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha for giving exposure to Skill Education to students of Grades VI to VIII and introduction of skill courses from Grades IX to XII, which are aligned with the National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF). The aim of the programme is integration of skill education with general academic education in all schools; enhancing the employability and entrepreneurial abilities of the students and providing exposure to the work environment; 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.
