

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 201**

ANSWERED ON 27<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2024

**National Educational Policy**

201 Shri P. Wilson:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is withholding funds from State of Tamil Nadu under Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan because it sent a MoU which excludes the provision mandating adherence to National Education Policy (NEP), if so, the reason for forcing State Government to accept National Education Policy;
- (b) the details of funds withheld under Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan for non-adherence of NEP, State wise; and
- (c) the NEP tries to achieve gross enrolment ratio of 50 per cent by 2035, whereas, States like Tamil Nadu has already achieved this objective, whether Government has considered empowering the State Government to draft their own education policy, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

- (a) & (b): The Union Government is committed to ensuring that every child, in every corner of the country has access to the transformative benefits of the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020). Samagra Shiksha is an integrated scheme that envisages education as a

continuum from pre-school to class XII. The Scheme has been aligned with the provisions of NEP 2020 and new interventions such as Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), Support for NIPUN Bharat, Quality and Innovation at all levels, Equity and Inclusion, Skill Education, ICT and Digital Initiatives etc. have been incorporated in the Scheme. Since inception, tens of lakhs of students from the State of Tamil Nadu are benefitting from the provisions of this Scheme. An amount of Rs. 4305.66 crore has been approved for the state of Tamil Nadu by the Project Approval Board (PAB) for the financial year 2024-25.

PM SHRI Scheme was launched in September 2022 with an aim to develop more than 14,500 selected schools as exemplar schools that offer leadership to other schools in the neighborhood, showcasing all the initiatives of NEP 2020. Every State/UT is required to sign a MoU with Ministry of Education and so far, **33** States/UTs have signed the MoU and have been onboarded on the scheme platform. The State of Tamil Nadu, too, gave an undertaking dated 15.03.2024 to sign the PM SHRI MoU before the beginning of the academic year 2024-25. After receiving the undertaking, a draft MoU under PM SHRI was sent by Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSEL) to the State Government. However, the State responded with a modified MoU vide letter dated 06.07.2024 wherein key paragraph referring to the implementation of NEP 2020 in entirety had been dropped. Thereafter, State Govt has been repeatedly requested to sign the MoU without any modifications.

(c) 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.

The transfer of the subject 'Education' from List II (State List) to List III (Concurrent List) by the Constitution (Forty-Second Amendment) Act, 1976, 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 to support 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.

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