GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1163
ANSWERED ON 30.07.2025

Implementation of National Education Policy (NEP)

1163 **Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla:**

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

(a) how can the NEP's goals of promoting Indian values and culture be reconciled with the increasing globalization of education, and what strategies can be employed to ensure that Indian students are competitive in the global job market while also retaining their cultural identity; and

(b) what are the potential risks and benefits of integrating technology into pedagogy under the NEP, and how can educators balance the need for digital literacy with the importance of human interaction and critical thinking in the learning process?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)**

(a) & (b): This National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 has envisaged an education system rooted in Indian ethos that contributes directly to transforming India, that is Bharat, sustainably into an equitable and vibrant knowledge society, by providing high-quality education to all, and thereby making India a global knowledge superpower.

NEP emphasizes the curriculum and pedagogy of our institutions to develop among the students, a deep sense of respect towards the Fundamental Duties and Constitutional values, bonding with one's country, and a conscious awareness of one's roles and responsibilities in a changing world. The vision of the Policy is to instill among the learners a deep-rooted pride in being Indian, not only in thought, but also in spirit, intellect, and deeds.

The thrust areas of the NEP include the promotion of Indian languages and the Indian Knowledge System, and ensuring equitable and inclusive education. Along with with other focus

areas such as multidisciplinary and holistic education, digital empowerment, skill development, research, innovation and entrepreneurship, and capacity building of teachers, these priorities collectively drive the comprehensive development of the education landscape, while ensuring that global competitiveness is deeply rooted in culturaly values.

To promote Indian cultural values in higher education, UGC has issued guidelines for incorporating Indian Knowledge System (IKS) in Higher Education Curricula. As per these guidelines, undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) students are encouraged to take credit courses in IKS constituting at least 5% of the total mandated credits.

The Ministry of Education has implemented a Central Sector Scheme, "Indian Knowledge System" (IKS). Under IKS, 51 centers have been established, and 88 research projects have been initiated, which have already produced over 140 scholarly publications. IKS has provided over 6800 internships and organized more than 80 faculty development programs. At the undergraduate level, IKS has facilitated the development of over 50 specialized courses in IKS and curated over 300 hours of expert lectures on various specific IKS topics. All of these materials are freely available to any learner.

While Digital Empowerment and Online education is one of the thrust areas of NEP, NEP also enphasizes that pedagogy must evolve to make education more experiential, holistic, integrated, inquiry-driven, discovery-oriented, learner-centred, discussion-based, flexible, and enjoyable. The NEP highlights that creativity and critical thinking to encourage logical decision-making and innovation is one of the foundational principles guiding the education system.

The PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education issued by Department of School Education and Literacy outline modes of digital, blended, and offline learning, and recommend age-appropriate screen time for students. The guidelines cater to various stakeholders, including school heads, teachers, parents, and students, including those with special needs, emphasizing both educational access and student well-being.

University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 for offering full-fledged online programme by the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). These regulations, inter-alia, include eligibility conditions, recognition process for offering online programmes, faculty requirement, quality standards for e-content and other quality standards to be maintained by HEIs for offering online programmes.

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