

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1169
ANSWERED ON 30.07.2025**

Quality education in the country

1169 Dr. Dharmasthala Veerendra Heggade:

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

- (a) whether the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 aims to transform and improve the quality of education in the country and to provide a standard of education that is inclusive, equitable and of high quality;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that there is a disconnect between University education and the jobs market resulting in the non-availability of suitable candidates for certain jobs in the market and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to enable integration of skill education into academia, to enhance employability of the students and achieve the objectives of NEP 2020?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Government of India launched National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 with an aim for holistic development of students. NEP aims to transform and enhance the quality of education across the country with an objective to establish an education system that is inclusive, equitable, and of high quality, empowering learners to meet future challenges and contribute to national development.

NEP lays emphasis on integrating skill development with mainstream education by embedding vocational and practical skills across school and higher education, removing hard separations between vocational and academic streams.

To enhance employability of the students and achieve the objectives of NEP 2020, University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified the National Credit Framework (NCrF), enabling integration of Skill Education into academia. It also enables credit accumulation through diversified domains such as Skill Enhancement Courses, Value Addition Courses, Ability

Enhancement Courses alongwith Internships and Projects. The NCrF also has a provision for the accumulation of a maximum of 50% of the total credit required through skill-based courses. These provisions have enabled Higher Educational Institutions to provide multidisciplinary knowledge to the students, making them industry ready.

Further, UGC has formulated guidelines for the introduction of Apprenticeship Embedded Degree Programmes to be offered by Higher Education Institutions to provide practical exposure during the course of study expected with the aim to enhanced competencies of the graduates and the employment thereof.

To achieve the objectives of NEP 2020 and ensure availability of industry relevant knowledge to students All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has taken several steps including:

- Model Curriculum in areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Space Technology, Electronic Engineering (VLSI Design and Technology), Robotics and Artificial Intelligence etc. Due representation of Industry stakeholders is ensured in the curriculum revision committees.
- Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with leading industries and organisations have been signed to facilitate internship, skilling and upskilling of students and faculty members.
- Issued model internship guidelines for technical courses. Internship is mandatory component of Model Curriculum issued by AICTE for different courses. These guidelines provide internship in full-time or part-time.
- Industry Academia Mobility framework launched by AICTE to facilitate connect between theoretical knowledge and practical application, facilitating collaboration between academia and industry. Additionally, it provides for frameworks for industry-academia partnership, encouraging mutually beneficial engagements that enrich both parties.

The Ministry of Education, in collaboration with IIT Madras and eminent Industry Partners, have launched the SWAYAM Plus platform on 27th February 2024. The platform offers high-quality learning and certification programs in partnership with leading industry and academic experts to students/ learners, helping them reskill, upskill, and become employment-ready. The Ministry of Education and IIT Madras have signed more than 65 MoUs with the leading industry partners. As of 25th July 2025, more than 400 Courses in 16 different sectors are available on the platform, and more than 3 lakh learners have enrolled for their Skill augmentation.

The Ministry of Education has implemented National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) to impart on-the -job training and enhance the employability of youth. In the last 5 financial years, i.e. from FY 2020-21 to 2024-25, the NATS scheme has engaged 12.94 lakh apprentices. For FY 2024-25, over 5.23 lakh apprentices have been engaged.
