

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 445  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2018**

**Education System**

**445. SHRI DILIP PATEL:**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating a new policy initiative to change education system to realise India's demographic dividend as working population are not employable and most industries service and agriculture sector are struggling with scarcity of potential workforce and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

**(Dr. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

(a) and (b): The Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing several schemes aimed at enhancing literacy and basic education of the youth, expanding access to all levels of education, including higher and technical education, promoting equity and improving quality of education. There has also been significant focus on curriculum reform to increase employability of the graduates. The scheme of Rashtriya Uchcharitar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) seeks to strengthen the state higher education sector. Further, scholarships are being provided to meritorious students as also interest subsidy on educational loans is provided to students from economically weaker sections.

The Government is in the process of framing a New Education Policy (NEP) for meeting the changing dynamics of the population's requirement with regard to quality education, innovation and research, aiming to make India a knowledge superpower by equipping its students with the necessary skills and knowledge and to eliminate the shortage of manpower in science, technology, academics and industry, for which wide ranging consultations were undertaken at multiple levels of online, expert/thematic and grassroots from village to State, Zonal levels as well as at the National level. Initially, a Committee for Evolution of the New Education Policy was constituted which submitted its report in May, 2016 and thereafter, the Ministry prepared 'Some Inputs for the Draft National Education Policy, 2016'. Both these documents are treated as inputs for policy formulation. The Some Inputs document states that 'Skill development programmes in school

and higher education system be reoriented not only for gainful employment of our students but also to help them develop entrepreneurial skills' and that 'pre-vocational oriented activities be infused in the curriculum from early stages to develop positive attitude towards dignity of labour and develop skills in children'.

Suggestions and inputs have been received from various stakeholders such as, individuals, organisations, autonomous bodies, Hon'ble MPs, GoI Ministries and State Governments on various aspects of education. The exercise of preparing a New Education Policy is still ongoing as a Committee for Draft National Education Policy under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan has been constituted which will consider and examine all inputs and suggestions and is expected to submit its report shortly.

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