

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2187  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.12.2018**

**Indian Education System**

**2187. SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:  
DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:  
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Indian education system lacks modernisation and innovation although is the largest in the world in terms of institutions and third largest in terms of enrolment it;
- (b) if so, whether despite allocating more resources of focusing more on higher education the main shortcomings noticed in the education system and the steps are being taken by the Government to improve the quality of education at the institutional level;
- (c) whether the Government is considering for a holistic review of the standard of education;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the initiatives taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government has decided to expand the Digital literacy in rural India through the National Digital Literacy Mission and trained the youth competitively to fit into a global market; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

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

**(Dr. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

(a) to (d): Improving the quality of education across all levels from primary to university level is a continuous and ongoing process. The 42<sup>nd</sup> Constitutional Amendment, 1976 brought about a fundamental change by transferring education from the State List to the Concurrent List giving equal responsibility to both the Central and State Governments to promote education. Recognizing the centrality of states both in policy formulation and effective implementation of education reforms, the Ministry of HRD has been regularly convening meetings of the Central Advisory Board on Education (CABE), which is a composite body and is also the highest advisory body on education.

Poor quality of education resulting in unsatisfactory learning outcomes is a matter of grave concern. Several initiatives are currently being undertaken in this direction, such as in elementary education, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme aims for improvements in school infrastructure, curricular and assessment reforms, identification of learning indicators, improved teaching and learning resulting in better learning outcomes. Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha (RSMA), ICT in Schools, Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Teacher Education (CSSTE), Shaala Siddhi, Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan are being implemented to improve the quality of secondary education. Recently, the Department of School Education and Literacy has formulated the Samagra Shiksha – an Integral Scheme for School Education as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and it is being implemented throughout the country with effect from the year 2018-19. This programme subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha (RSMA) and Teacher Education (TE). It is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education. It envisages the ‘school’ as a continuum from pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to senior secondary levels.

In higher education also, various schemes, namely, Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), Scheme for promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC), Global Initiative for Academics Network (GIAN), Impacting Research, Innovation & Technology (IMPRINT), Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP), Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNMTT), Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM), National Digital Library, campus connect programme, Uchchar Avishkar Abhiyan, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan are being implemented to improve the quality of higher education. A number of initiatives are also undertaken by UGC and AICTE for quality improvement in higher and technical education.

Presently, the Government is in the process of formulating a New Education Policy (NEP) to meet 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 this purpose, the Government has constituted a Committee for preparation of the draft National Education Policy under the Chairmanship of eminent scientist Padma Vibhushan Dr. K. Kasturirangan, which is expected to submit its report soon.

(e) and (f): The Government has approved a scheme titled “Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)” to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households by 31.03.2019. The Government has implemented two Schemes for providing Digital Literacy to the masses viz. Scheme for IT Mass Literacy renamed as National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM) and Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (DISHA) with a cumulative target of 52.5 lakh persons across the country. Under these two Schemes, around 53.46 lakh beneficiaries have been trained and certified.

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