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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3624 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.07.2019

Teaching Tamil Language

3624. SHRI S. VENKATESAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government considers teaching Tamil language in non-Tamil speaking States in the country under the draft education policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether this will result in the demand for Tamil teachers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the number of Tamil teachers required for the purpose?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')

(a) to (d): The Government has undertaken a detailed exercise in formulating a New Education Policy and the Committee for the Draft National Education Policy under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan has submitted its report to the Ministry on 31st May 2019. The Draft NEP 2019 suggests several measures to promote multilinguism and develop Indian languages including education in mother tongue in early stages of schooling with the aim of promoting multilingual communicative abilities across the various regions of the country. This would help raise the status of all Indian languages, the teachers of such languages, and the literature of such languages, and would open positions and increase opportunities for language teachers across the country; it would of course also truly expand horizons and enlarge the range of opportunities for graduating students. The draft NEP 2019 also suggests that there will be a major effort from both the Central and State governments to invest in large numbers of language teachers in all regional languages around the country, and in particular all Schedule 8 languages. It mentions that States may enter into bilateral agreements to hire teachers in large numbers from each other.

The Government is committed towards the equal development and promotion of all Indian languages.

At this stage, the Draft NEP 2019 has been uploaded on MHRD website and also at innovate.mygov.in platform to elicit suggestions/comments from all stakeholders including the public, Government of India Ministries and State Governments. The Government will finalize the National Education Policy only after considering the inputs/suggestions and comments of all stakeholders.
