

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1658
ANSWERED ON 31.07.2023

National Curriculum Framework

1658. DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR:

SHRIMATI GOMATI SAI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is developing the National Curriculum Framework as per New Education Policy (NEP-2020) for States including Chhattisgarh;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the said framework;
- (c) whether the Government is in the process of implementing new National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for school education and the same has been finalized by the National Steering Committee;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the time by which the new NCF is likely to be implemented throughout the country;
- (f) whether the proposed NCF will be implemented in all States by replacing the existing pattern followed by them;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) whether uniformity in the curriculum of public and private schools is likely to be maintained in case the above policy is implemented and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

- (a) In pursuance of the recommendations of National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, four National Curriculum Frameworks (NCFs) viz. Foundational Stage, School Education, Teacher Education and Adult Education are to be developed. The National Curriculum Framework for the Foundational Stage (NCF-FS) was released by Ministry of Education on 20th October, 2022 at New Delhi. Education being a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, the majority of schools are under the jurisdiction of the State and Union Territory (UT) Governments, it is for the respective State Government to either adopt National Curriculum Framework (NCF) or prepare State Curriculum Framework (SCF) as per their need and contexts.

(b) The Salient Features of NCF-FS are as follows:

- NCF-FS is the first ever integrated Curriculum Framework for children between aged 3-8 years in India. It is a direct outcome of the 5+3+3+4 ‘curricular and pedagogical’ structure that NEP 2020 has come out with for School Education.
- The NCF-FS is based on cutting-edge research from across the world in multiple disciplines which includes among other things better understanding in the fields of neurosciences, brain study, and cognitive sciences. The accumulated insights from the practice of Early Childhood Care and Education, and the wisdom and knowledge from diverse Indian traditions are also important considerations.
- As articulated in NEP 2020, it uses ‘play,’ at the core of the conceptual, operational, and transactional approaches to curriculum organization, pedagogy, time and content organization, and the overall experience of the child.
- It provides a sequence in curricular goals mapping with competencies and learning outcomes leading towards competency-based education as articulated by the NEP 2020.
- It includes some transformative ideas for implementation of quality school education, e.g., - toy-based pedagogy, lifestyle for environment, learning about the external world in consonance with learning about one’s inner reality and self, holistic development drawing insights from the Indian concept of Panchkosh, etc.
- It emphasizes upon socio-cultural contexts of children and its relationship with learning of children, curricular materials, and resources available, and contingencies in the classroom, etc.
- It paves the way to strengthen its linkages with the preparatory, middle, and secondary stages leading to holistic development of a child.

(c) to (e) The National Steering Committee was constituted to develop four curriculum frameworks including National Curriculum Framework for School Education. NCF-FS has been launched and its implementation has already been initiated while the National Curriculum Framework for School Education has been developed and is in the process of finalization. Other two curriculum frameworks- Teacher Education and Adult Education are in the process of development.

(f) & (g) Education is a subject of the Concurrent List of the Constitution, it is for the respective State Government to either adopt or adapt National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) textbooks or develop their own textbooks based on the NCF. NCERT has disseminated NCF-FS to all the States and UTs. The NCF enables the federal structure of school education, with States ultimately setting their State or regional curricula, easily incorporating local elements.

(h) As per the mandate of NCF, the NEP, 2020 gave central importance to the matter of empowerment of States, recognizing the nation’s federal structure with education as a concurrent subject. In this spirit, it is of the utmost importance – for the future of India and of our next generation – to develop a robust and high-quality NCF as well as SCFs to ensure that all students – no matter their background or geographical location – have the best possible education, with copious support from the system and with an outstanding curriculum and pedagogy, thereby enabling them to become the best versions of themselves which is available at <https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/Mandate-NCF.pdf>
