

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 512
ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023**

Quality of Education

†512. SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN:
MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU:
SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:
SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various initiatives taken by the Government under the new National Education Policy (NEP) to improve the quality of education at all levels from primary to University level;

(b) the amount of funds earmarked for the said purpose, year-wise;

(c) the amount of funds allocated under the NEP, State-wise especially in West Bengal; and

(d) whether there is any proposal under consideration to make education at secondary level, vocational-oriented skill-based education so that students can get gainful employment after completing class XII?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a): In pursuance of the goals and objectives of the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020), several initiatives have been started in School Education sector viz. National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) for ensuring foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of Grade 3, Vidya-Pravesh–Guidelines for Three-month Play-based School Preparation Module; PM e-VIDYA to unify all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable coherent multi-mode access to education, DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing) as One Nation One Digital Platform having e-Books and e-Contents, launch of National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (NCF FS) and Jadui Pitara: Learning Teaching Material (Jadui Pitara) based on NCF FS which is play-based learning teaching material tailored for children between the age group of 3 to 8 years. Indian Sign Language as a Subject at secondary level by National Institute of Open Schooling;

NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) 1.0, 2.0 and 3.0 Integrated Teacher Training Programme for different stages of school education for Teachers, Head Teachers/Principals and other stakeholders in Educational Management; National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR) for creating a unifying national digital infrastructure to energise and catalyse the education ecosystem, implementation of a scheme “New India Literacy Programme or ULLAS” targeting all non-literates age 15 years and above, etc.

Similarly, in Higher Education, various initiatives / reforms have been carried out such as National Credit Framework (NCrF) and National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF) in conjunction with guidelines / regulations like Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programme; Multiple Entry and Exit in Academic Programme offered by Higher Education Institutions; Transforming Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) into multi-disciplinary Institutions; pursuing two Academic Programme simultaneously; Academic Bank of Credit; revised regulation of ODL / Online Education permitting upto 40% credits of courses using SWAYAM platform; guidelines on Professor of Practice to enable HEIs to work with industry experts; regulations on Academic Collaboration between Indian & foreign HEIs; regulations on conferment of Autonomous Status to colleges; guidelines for admission & supernumerary seats for students from abroad in UG & PG in Indian HEIs, regulations on Minimum Standards and procedures for award of Ph.D. degree. For promotion of Indian Knowledge, Guidelines for Incorporating Indian Knowledge in Higher Education Curricula; Guidelines for Training/Orientation of Faculty on Indian Knowledge System (IKS); Guidelines for the introduction of courses based on Indian heritage and culture; Guidelines for Empanelment of Artists/Artisans-in-Residence in Higher Educational Institutions; 32 IKS centres have been set up to catalyze original research, education and dissemination of IKS; 64 high end interdisciplinary research like ancient metallurgy, ancient town planning and water resource management, ancient rasayanshastra etc. projects are undergoing. Around 3227 internships on IKS have been offered.

(b) and (c): National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) unequivocally endorses and envisions a substantial increase in public investment in education by both the Central and all State Governments. The Centre and the States / UTs work together to increase the public investment in Education sector to reach 6% of GDP. Various schemes/projects/programmes run by Ministry of Education have been aligned with NEP 2020. As far as Central Government is concerned, yearwise total Budget Allocation of the Ministry are given in table below:

(Rs. in Crores)

Details of Budget Allocation	
Financial Year	Total Budget Allocation
2020-21	99311.52
2021-22	93224.31
2022-23	104277.72
2023-24	112899.47

(d): The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing the initiative of Vocationalisation of School Education under the umbrella of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme ‘Samagra Shiksha’. The scheme aims at integrating Vocational Education with general academic education in all Secondary/Senior Secondary schools; enhancing the Employability and

Entrepreneurial abilities of the students, providing exposure to work environment; and generating awareness amongst students about various career options so as to enable them to make a choice in accordance with their aptitude, competence and aspirations. The scheme covers Government and Government aided schools. Under the Scheme, National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) compliant vocational courses are offered to the students from class 9th to 12th in the schools covered under the scheme.

In order to fulfill various objectives of NEP 2020, the existing scheme of Samagra Shiksha has been revamped and various new interventions relating to Vocational Education have been incorporated. Some of them are as under:-

- Coverage of Vocational Education has been expanded to cover Government aided schools also in addition to Government Schools.
- Hub and Spoke Model of Vocational Education has been introduced providing for the utilization of the infrastructure available in the Hub schools by the students of nearby schools (spoke schools) for vocational training.
- Exposure of pre-vocational education at Upper Primary level.
- Internships, bagless days etc., have been included under Innovation component of Samagra Shiksha.
