

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

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.216  
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2023**

**Education of Children having Mental/Neuro Disorder under NEP**

†\*216. **SHRI GUMAN SINGH DAMOR:**

Will the Minister of **EDUCATION** be pleased to state:

- (a) the provision in the New Education Policy for special children suffering from mental/neuro disorders;
- (b) whether special training is being imparted to teachers appointed to teach such children;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether the Government will consider the same;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide employment oriented education to such children;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, whether the Government will consider the same?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (F) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 216 FOR REPLY ON 18.12.2023 ASKED BY SHRI GUMAN SINGH DAMOR, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING 'EDUCATION OF CHILDREN HAVING MENTAL/NEURO DISORDER UNDER NEP'.**

(a) to (c) The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is in complete consonance with the provisions of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 and endorses all its recommendations with regard to school education.

Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of respective State and UT Governments. State and UT Governments are the appropriate Governments under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha launched in 2018-19, has dedicated Inclusive Education component for the education of Children with Special Needs (IE for CwSN) covering all CwSN with one or more disabilities as mentioned in the schedule of disabilities of the RPwD Act, 2016 including children with neuro-disorders like cerebral palsy, autism spectrum disorder and disability caused due to chronic neurological conditions. It aims to look at education of CwSN in a continuum from Pre-Primary to Class XII studying in Government, Government-aided and local body schools.

The good education, particularly for children with neuro-disorders like ASD and ADHD starts with the screening at the school, which in turn may lead to identification and certification of the disability making them eligible for the provisions under inclusive education component of Samagra Shiksha to support their learning in the nearby inclusive school. The screening of students with special needs including children with ASD and SLD is currently being done through the PRASHAST App.

Capacity building of general teachers and special educators on meeting learning needs to provide quality education to children with special needs and improve their learning outcomes, are also covered. There is a dedicated National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA) Module which aims to build competencies among all the teachers and school principals at the elementary stage. A five-day Capacity Building Programme for general teachers in Inclusive Education has been included in NISHTHA - Equitable and Inclusive Education for 2023-24.

(d) to (f) With a view to provide quality vocational training with high employability focusing only on Person with Disabilities, the National Action Plan for Skill Development of PwDs (NAP-SDP), a dedicated skill development programme for PwDs was launched by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) in March 2015. The key objectives of the Scheme are:

- a. To enhance skills of Persons with Disabilities; provisioning of quality vocational Skill Training to Divyangjans to enable them to have gainful employment.
- b. To enable PwDs to become self-reliant, productive and contribute members of society and stand up on their own feet.

The Vocational / Skill training (Short Term/Long Term) under NAP-SDP is provided by a network of skill training partners led by Government sector/Public Sector/ training institutions like VRCs, Private Training Institutions and Non-Governmental Organisations.

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