GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4209 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2021

Implementation of New Education Policy

4209. SHRI ANNASAHEB SHANKAR JOLLE:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has chalked out the implementation plan for the NEP,2020;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the private universities and institutions are also involved in the process along with the States; and

(d) the roles for the States envisaged in the policy?

ANSWER MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')

(a) and (b): A number of action points/activities for implementation in school education as well as higher education are mentioned in the National Education Policy 2020 which inter-alia include following:-

(i) Ensuring Universal Access at All Levels of schooling from pre-primary school to Grade 12;

(ii) Ensuring quality early childhood care and education for all children between 3-6 years;

(iii) Introducing New Curricular and Pedagogical Structure (5+3+3+4);

(iv) Ensuring no hard separations between arts and sciences, between curricular and extracurricular activities, between vocational and academic streams;

(v) Establishing National Mission on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy;

(vi) Emphasis on promoting multilingualism and Indian languages; The medium of instruction until at least Grade 5, but preferably till Grade 8 and beyond, will be the home language/mother tongue/local language/regional language.

(vii) Assessment reforms – Introducing Board Exams on up to two occasions during any given school year, one main examination and one for improvement, if desired;

(viii) Setting up of a new National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development);

(ix) Equitable and inclusive education – Ensuring special emphasis to be given on Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Groups(SEDGs);

(x) Establishing a separate Gender Inclusion fund and Special Education Zones for disadvantaged regions and groups;

- (xi) Robust and transparent processes for recruitment of teachers and merit based performance;
- (xii) Ensuring availability of all resources through school complexes and clusters;
- (xiii) Setting up of State School Standards Authority (SSSA);
- (xiv) **Providing** Exposure of vocational education in school and higher education system;
- (xv) Increasing GER in higher education to 50%;
- (xvi) Introducing Holistic Multidisciplinary Education with multiple entry/exit options;
- (xvii) Introducing Common Entrance Exam for Admission to HEIs to be offered by NTA;
- (xviii) Establishment of Academic Bank of Credit;
- (xix) Setting up of Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities(MERUs);
- (xx) Setting up of National Research Foundation(NRF);

(xxi) Framing 'Light but Tight' regulation;

(xxii) Setting up of single overarching umbrella body for promotion of higher education sector including teacher education and excluding medical and legal education- the Higher Education Commission of India (HECI)-with independent bodies for standard setting- the General Education Council; funding-Higher Education Grants Council (HEGC); accreditation- National Accreditation Council (NAC); and regulation-National Higher Education Regulatory Council (NHERC);

(xxiii) Expansion of open and distance learning to increase GER.

(xxiv) Internationalization of Education.

(xxv) Professional Education will be an integral part of the higher education system. Stand-alone technical universities, health science universities, legal and agricultural universities, or institutions in these or other fields, will aim to become multi-disciplinary institutions.

(xxvi) Teacher Education – Introduction of 4-year integrated stage-specific, subject- specific Bachelor of Education.

(xxvii) Establishing a National Mission for Mentoring.

(xxviii) Creation of an autonomous body, the National Educational Technology Forum (NETF) to provide a platform for the free exchange of ideas on the use of technology to enhance learning, assessment, planning, administration. Appropriate integration of technology into all levels of education.

(xxix) Achieving 100% youth and adult literacy.

(xxx) Introducing multiple mechanisms with checks and balances to combat and stop the commercialization of higher education.

(xxxi) All education institutions will be held to similar standards of audit and disclosure as a 'not for profit' entity.

(xxxii) The Centre and the States will work together to increase the public investment in Education sector to reach 6% of GDP at the earliest.

(xxxiii) Strengthening of the Central Advisory Board of Education to ensure coordination to bring overall focus on quality education.

(xxxiv) Ministry of Education: In order to bring the focus back on education and learning, it may be desirable to re-designate MHRD as the Ministry of Education (MoE).

A detailed consultation process with various stakeholders including educationists have been held before and after announcement of National Education Policy 2020. Suggestions have been invited from States / UTs Government and also from other stakeholders through MyGov platform. Department of School Education & Literacy has constituted subject-wise/theme-wise implementation committees of experts for implementation of National Education Policy 2020. Similarly, UGC and AICTE have also constituted Expert Groups on various themes of higher education sector for formulation of Implementation Plan of National Education Policy.

(c) and (d): As per National Education Policy 2020, implementation of the Policy requires multiple initiatives and actions, which will have to be taken by multiple bodies in a synchronized and systematic manner. Therefore, the implementation of this Policy will be led by various bodies including Ministry of Education, CABE, Union and State Governments, education-related Ministries, State Departments of Education, Boards, NTA, the regulatory bodies of school and higher education, NCERT, SCERTs, schools, and HEIs. Since Education is in the concurrent list of Constitution of India, hence, State/UT Government will play a vital role in the implementation of the National Education Policy. Ministry of Education has communicated to all States/UT Governments for taking steps for implementation of NEP 2020. In this direction, Ministry of Education had organised 'Shikshak Parv' from 8th September to 25th September, 2020 to deliberate on various themes and implementation of NEP 2020 aimed at eliciting suggestions. Ministry had also organised a Conference of Governors on "Role of National Education Policy in Transforming Higher Education". In the conference, Governors and Lt. Governors of State and Union Territories, Education Minister of State and UTs, Vice Chancellors of State Universities and other dignitaries participated. Majority of states have taken steps toward implementation of NEP 2020. Further, Ministry and other implementing agencies under its purview have started taking initiatives towards implementation of NEP 2020.