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

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. 200
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2021

Skills in School Syllabus

*200. **SHRI KOTHA PRABHAKAR REDDY:**
  SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a)   whether the Government has introduced coding and data sciences as skill modules in CBSE curriculum this year in collaboration with software giant Microsoft in accordance with the National Education Policy;

(b)   if so, the details thereof;

(c)   whether the National Education Policy envisages increased integration of a variety of skills into the school syllabus;

(d)   whether the Government has invited views from the State Governments and all other stakeholders in this regard; and

(e)   if so, the details of the views/ suggestions received along with the response of the Government thereon?

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

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.200 FOR ANSWER ON 02.08.2021 ASKED BY SHRI KOTHA PRABHAKAR REDDY AND SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY, HON'BLE MP, LOK SABHA REGARDING SKILLS IN SCHOOL SYLLABUS.

(a) and (b): Yes Sir, In compliance of the provisions of National Education Policy (NEP) - 2020, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has introduced 'Coding' and 'Data Science' as Skill Modules in CBSE curriculum this year vide its Circular No. 38/2021 dated 3rd June 2021which can be accessed on the website of CBSE i.e. http://cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/Circulars/2021/38_Circular_2021.pdf

Coding has been introduced as a Skill Module of 12 hours duration for students of classes VI-VIII. Whereas, Data Science has been introduced as a Skill Module of 12-hours duration in Class VIII and as an optional Skill Subject in Classes IX - XII. Curriculum, Faculty and Student handbooks for both subjects were prepared with support from Microsoft.

(c): Yes Sir, Para 4.23 of National Education Policy, 2020 provides that while students must have a large amount of flexibility in choosing their individual curricula, certain subjects, skills, and capacities should be learned by all students to become good, successful, innovative, adaptable, and productive human beings in today's rapidly changing world. In addition to proficiency in languages, these skills include: scientific temper and evidence-based thinking; creativity and innovativeness; sense of aesthetics and art; oral and written communication; health and nutrition; physical education, fitness, wellness, and sports; collaboration and teamwork; problem solving and logical reasoning; vocational exposure and skills; digital literacy, coding, and computational thinking; ethical and moral reasoning; knowledge and practice of human and Constitutional values; gender sensitivity; Fundamental Duties; citizenship skills and values; knowledge of India; environmental awareness including water and resource conservation, sanitation and hygiene; and current affairs and knowledge of critical issues facing local communities, States, the country, and the world.

(d) and (e): A comprehensive action plan called 'Students' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement through Quality Education (SARTHAQ) has been prepared for implementation of the recommendations of the NEP through identified tasks, agencies and timelines. For the preparation of SARTHAQ, views were invited from State Government and other stakeholders and around 15 Lakh suggestions from teachers and 7177 suggestions from States / UTs were received. Relevant views / suggestions have been taken into consideration and included in SARTHAQ. (Link at:- https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/upload_document/SARTHAQ_Part-1_updated.pdf)

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