

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2204
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02nd August, 2021**

School Education

2204 SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of cantours for quality education addressed in the New Education Policy;
- (b) whether it is a fact that in spite of having more number of schools in the country than China the infrastructure is far poor than China and other developing countries;
- (c) if so, whether the Government proposes to help States to create better infrastructure in schools even though it is a State Subject and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the action taken by the Government after the Finance Minister announced in her Budget speech of revamping 15,000 schools in the country;
- (e) the details of schools selected in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (f) whether the Government has studied Nadu-Nedu programme of Andhra Pradesh and if so, whether there are any plans to replicate the same in other parts of the country; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a): The National Education Policy, 2020 focuses on improving the quality of education through various measures such as introduction of New pedagogical and curricular structure, Early Childhood Care and Education, Foundational Literacy and Numeracy and Transforming Assessment for Student Development, Experiential and Competency based Learning etc.

(b) and (c): Education is in the concurrent list of Constitution and most of the schools are under jurisdiction of concerned States & UTs. State and UT Governments are the appropriate Governments under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, and have the responsibility and mandate to provide school infrastructure in schools in accordance with the norms laid down in the Schedule to the RTE Act, 2009 and as per respective State RTE Rules.

The Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an Integrated Centrally Sponsored Scheme for School Education – Samagra Shiksha w.e.f. 2018-19. Under Samagra Shiksha, States and UTs are supported inter-alia for strengthening of infrastructure facilities of existing Government schools. The scheme also provides for an annual recurring composite school grant varying upto ₹ 1,00,000/- per annum depending upon the number of students, for all government schools. Each school is required to spend at least 10% of the composite school grant on activities related to Swachhata Action Plan for hygiene and sanitation.

Every year, Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) under Samagra Shiksha is prepared by the respective States and UTs based on their requirements and priorities for various interventions including strengthening of the school infrastructure. These plans/estimates are appraised and approved by the Project Approval Board in Ministry of Education, and Central share is released to respective State/UT as per the programmatic and financial norms of the scheme, availability of budgetary resources, GFR and physical & financial progress.

(d) and (e): The Finance Minister in her Budget speech on 01.02.2021 has announced to qualitatively strengthen more than 15,000 schools from across the country to include all components of the National Education Policy, 2020. The objective is to develop them as exemplar schools in their regions, handholding and mentoring other schools to achieve the ideals of the National Education Policy.

(f) and (g): Nadu-Nedu is an initiative of State Government of Andhra Pradesh on School Infrastructure Development. Under Samagra Shiksha, the best practices or innovations carried out by various states and Schools are uploaded on Shagun digital repository for the use of all stakeholders.
