

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 990
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2021**

Relevance of Vocational Education Course

†990. SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the vocational education courses are losing their relevance in the current education system and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether NITI Aayog has recommended to conduct a comprehensive study in regard to the impact of such courses and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the report submitted to NITI Aayog clearly indicates poor quality of education in such courses implemented by the University Grant Commission (UGC) which is primarily the reason why students are not being benefitted therefrom and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the quality of vocational education through such courses?

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

(a) No, Sir. Vocational education courses are not losing their relevance, rather the vocational courses are gaining importance in the current education system as these courses enable students to learn vocational skills and gain practical knowledge through on-job-training thereby enhancing their employability.

(b) & (c) No, Sir.

(d) National Education Policy 2020 has focussed on re-invigorating vocational courses by integrating them into all school & higher education institutions. In this respect, University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued guidelines for the Apprenticeship/internship embedded Under Graduate (UG) program in the general stream in August 2020. The curriculum in each of the semester/year of the skill programs is a suitable mix of general education and skill development components. This includes practical classes in laboratories/ workshops, internships, apprenticeships, and other forms of hands-on training.
