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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3911 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28th MARCH, 2022

Language Improvement Programme

3911. SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government plans to take initiatives in vocabulary improvement of children, similar to Language Improvement programme (LIP) under Jagananna Vidya Kanuka (JVK) implemented by Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure filling of learning gaps among children to enhance their multilingual capacity?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (c): Department School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India has launched a 100 days Nation Wide Reading Campaign called Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat starting from 1st January 2022 so that each child learns to read with comprehension, in a joyful manner, as per the vision of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Children studying in Balvatika to Grade 8 are part of this campaign. Detailed guideline has been shared with class wise weekly calendar of activities which are to be done by children with the help of teachers, parents, peers, siblings or other family members. The link of the guidelines is https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Guidelines_on_Reading_Campaign.pdf. The reading campaign aims to have participation of all stakeholders at national and state level including children, teachers, parents, community, educational administrators etc.

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, while deliberating on language education in school underscores the need for recognising and promoting multilingualism as a path to realising the fundamental aims of education and schooling. In this regard, Bhasha Sangam has been launched by the NCERT which enables learners to learn and use 100 sentences in the 22 language aiming to promote language learning and understanding others through schooling. The guidelines of Bhasha Sangam can be accessed at https://ncert.nic.in/bs-2021.php

Further, National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers for Holistic Advancement - NISHTHA 3.0 has been launched to train the teachers from ECCE to grade V. It has 12 training modules including a module on Multilingual teaching in foundational years, which also covers usage of mother tongue / home language in teaching.

In addition, The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India has launched the National Mission on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy called National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) on 5th July 2021 under the aegis of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha.

The mission aims to achieve universal foundational literacy and numeracy in primary classes and to ensure that all children attain grade level competencies in reading, writing and numeracy. The Mission lays down priorities and actionable agendas for States/UTs to achieve the goal of proficiency in foundational literacy and numeracy for every child by grade 3.

Detailed guidelines have been developed for implementation of the NIPUN Bharat Mission which includes the Lakshya or Targets for Foundational Literacy and Numeracy starting from the Balvatika upto age group 9. The guidelines for implementation of the NIPUN Bharat mission has been uploaded on the Department's website under the link mentioned below:

https://dsel.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/NIPUN BHARAT GUIDELINES EN.pdf
