

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1350
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th July, 2022**

Quality of Education

†1350. SHRI AJAY NISHAD:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various initiatives taken to improve the quality of education at every level i.e from Primary Level to University Level; and

(b) the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to start Vocational Education at school level in various States of the country including Bihar in order to make Secondary education job oriented?

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

(a): The following initiatives have been taken by the Department of School Education and Literacy, MoE to improve the quality of education upto Higher Secondary level:

1. National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) has been launched under Samagra Shiksha for ensuring that every child in the country necessarily attains foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN) by the end of Grade 3, and e-content for the same has been released in DIKSHA platform.
2. NISHTHA integrated training programme 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0 Integrated Teacher Training Programme has been introduced for different stages of school education for Teachers, Head Teachers/Principals and other stakeholders in Educational Management.
3. Learning Outcomes for the Secondary level have been notified.

4. National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2021 has been conducted on 12th November 2021 by the Ministry of Education to evaluate children's progress and learning competencies as an indicator of the health of the education system, and to take appropriate steps for remedial actions at different levels.
5. A 70 indicator-based matrix Performance Grading Index (PGI) has been developed to grade the States/UTs. District level Performance Grading Indices (PGI) have been prepared and a Web application for compilation of PGI-District has been developed.
6. The Structured Assessment for Analyzing Learning levels (SAFAL) framework has been developed by CBSE and launched on 29th July 2021 for Competency-based assessment in CBSE schools for grades 3, 5 and 8 focusing on testing for core concepts, application-based questions and higher-order thinking skills.
7. VIDYA PRAVESH—Guidelines for Three-month Play-based School Preparation Module for Grade-I Children have been released on 29th July 2021 to ensure that all children are exposed to a warm and welcoming environment when they enter Grade-I.
8. Introduction of Indian Sign Language as a subject at secondary level by National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS).

Also, the following initiatives have been taken by the Department of Higher Education, MoE upto University level to improve the quality of education:

1. Academic Bank of Credit Scheme has been launched on 29.07.2021 to promote flexibility of curriculum framework and interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary academic mobility of students across the Higher Education Institutions in the country with appropriate "Credit Transfer" mechanism.
2. Credit Framework for Online Learning Courses through SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) Regulations, 2021 have been notified on 25th March, 2021 to allow up to 40% of the total courses being offered in a particular programme in a semester through the online learning courses offered through SWAYAM platform. With this, the students

studying in conventional Institutes/Colleges can transfer the credits earned through the SWAYAM Courses into their academic records.

3. Shodh Shuddhi Programme has been initiated by MoE, Government of India which provides access to Plagiarism detection software to all Universities/ Institutions in India.
4. Repository of over 1000 virtual lab experiments to provide a complete learning system around the virtual lab where the students/teachers can avail themselves of the various tools for learning, including additional web resources, video lectures, animated demonstrations and self-evaluation.
5. National Digital Library - a digital repository of a vast amount of academic content in different formats and provides interface support for leading Indian languages for all academic levels including researchers and lifelong learners, all disciplines, all popular forms of access devices and differently-able learners.
6. Life skills (Jeevan Kaushal) for students, a curriculum has been prepared to empower graduates with the vital skills required for global employment.
7. Faculty Induction Programme (FIP), has been developed to familiarise the teachers with the structure, functioning, rules, regulations etc; understand their roles and responsibilities; explore pedagogical processes and recognise the importance of self-development and nurturing ethics and values in higher education.
8. A scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE) to strengthen research culture and innovation in higher educational institutions has been introduced.
9. The consortium for Academic Research and Ethics (CARE) has been established to promote research integrity and publication.
10. Guidelines for "Mentoring of NAAC Aspirants Institutions by a well-Performing Institution to promote Quality Assurance in Higher Education, 'PARAMARSH" has been prepared for helping mutual support and growth among various HEIs.
11. MulyaPravah – Guidelines for the inculcation of Human values and Professionals Ethics in Higher Educational Institutions have been developed.

12. Human Resource Development Centers (HRDC), Scheme of Academic Staff colleges have been introduced to maintain high standards of teaching in Universities and Colleges.

13. Institutions of Eminence (IOE) Scheme have been launched to implement the commitment of the Government to empower Higher Educational Institutions and to help them become world-class teaching and research institutions.

(b): The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing an initiative of Vocationalisation of School Education under the aegis of Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Samagra Shiksha'. The scheme aims at integrating Vocational Education with general academic education in all Secondary/Senior Secondary schools; enhancing the Employability and Entrepreneurial abilities of the students, providing exposure to the work environment; and generating awareness amongst students about various career options to enable them to choose in accordance with their aptitude, competence and aspirations. The scheme covers Government and Government aided schools.

Under the Vocational Education component of 'Samagra Shiksha', National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) compliant vocational courses are offered to the students from class 9th to 12th in the schools covered under the scheme. The Employability Skills module has been made a mandatory part of the vocational courses. It consists of Communication Skills, Self-Management Skills, Information and Communication Technology Skills, Entrepreneurship Skills and Green Skills.

At the Secondary level i.e. Class IX and X, vocational modules are offered to the students as an additional subject. At Sr. Secondary level, i.e. Class XI and XII, vocational courses are offered as a compulsory (elective) subject. Vocational Courses are selected based on notional hours, age & educational qualification prescribed and suitability for school students.

Further, to fulfil various objectives of NEP, the existing scheme of Samagra Shiksha has been revamped and various new interventions relating to Vocational Education have been incorporated including the following:

- Coverage of Vocational Education has been expanded to cover Government aided schools also in addition to Government Schools.
- The provision for Hub and Spoke Model has been made. Under this model, the infrastructure available in the Hub schools will be utilized by the students of nearby schools (spoke schools) for vocational training. As of now, 1002 Hub schools and 1038 Spoke schools have been approved in 21 States/UTs.
- Exposure to pre-vocational education at the Upper Primary level, internships, bagless days etc. has been included under the Innovation component of Samagra Shiksha. Till 2021-22, 7136 schools are approved for providing exposure to Vocational Education at the Upper Primary level.

To date, 14435 schools including 81 schools of Bihar have been approved for providing Vocational Education under Samagra Shiksha to all States/UTs.
