GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1055

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

INTEGRATE SKILL DEVELOPMENTAL FRAMEWORK IN INDIA

1055. SHRI MANISH JAISWAL: SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to integrate skill development into the frontier educational framework in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the role of mutual recognition of skills and standards in addressing the shortage of the global workforce;
- (c) the strategies being taken by the Government to encourage lifelong learning among individuals in the workforce;
- (d) the measures taken by the Government in place to leverage technology to make said programmes more accessible for a wider audience, particularly in remote and rural areas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a): National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has recommended integration of vocational education into mainstream education in all educational institutions. For integration of vocational education into mainstream education, the following initiatives *inter-alia* have been taken:

- (i) Under the vocational education component of Samagra Shiksha scheme, National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) compliant vocational courses are offered to the students from class 9th to 12th in eligible schools. At the Secondary level (Class 9 and 10), vocational modules are offered to the students as an additional subject. At the Senior Secondary level (Class 11 and 12), vocational courses are offered as a compulsory (elective) subject.
- (ii) Employability Skills consisting of communication skills, self-management skills, information and communication technology skills, entrepreneurship skills and green skills have been made mandatory part of the vocational courses.
- (iii) National Curriculum Framework for School Education, developed in pursuance of National Education Policy 2020, has laid down the objectives of approaches to Vocational Education. One of the objectives is that vocational capacities, knowledge, and relevant values will be developed for all students, and this will create the possibility of them joining the workforce after school if they choose to.
- (iv) PMKVY 4.0 is also being implemented through schools under Skill Hubs initiative, in co-operation with the Department of School Education and Literacy. Skill Hubs Initiative provides blended learning opportunities, creating pathways for long-term career development.
- (v) University Grants Commission (UGC) has facilitated Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to offer skill-based programmes as per the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF).
- (b): Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) endeavours to engage with different countries and facilitate gainful employment opportunities to the youth of the country. In this regard, MSDE has signed Government to Government MoUs. As on date, 07 MoUs are presently active with different countries, namely: Australia, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Qatar, UAE, and Singapore. These MoUs provide a broad framework for cooperation with the partner country in areas such as Information Exchange, Standard Setting, Mutual Recognition of Qualifications, Training of Trainers, Internship etc. for skilled mobility.

Additionally, India has welcomed the efforts to map global skill gaps and the development of the G20 policy priorities to address skill gaps globally, including through further strengthening our national statistical data, extending the coverage of the ILO and OECD Skills for Jobs Databases to G20 countries, as appropriate. NSDC International (NSDC-I), has also signed Business to Business Agreements with business entities of various countries to facilitate overseas mobility of Indian skilled workforce, capacity building of trainers, employer engagements, etc.

- (c): To encourage the lifelong learning among individuals in the workforce, the Government has taken the following measures:
- (i) National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) has been notified as an outcome and competency-based framework which organizes qualifications according to a series of levels of knowledge, skills, aptitude, and responsibility levels defined in terms of learning outcomes. NSQF enables multiple entry-multiple exit and progression pathways within and between school education, higher education, technical education, vocational education, training & skilling, and the job markets. NSQF enables and promotes lifelong learning and skill development.
- (ii) Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH)- a digital public infrastructure to provide a comprehensive and accessible platform for skill enhancement, offering industry-relevant skill courses, job opportunities, and entrepreneurship support- enhances the accessibility to skill training to the individuals of all ages.
- (iii) The Government of India implements New India Literacy Programme (NILP), popularly known as ULLAS (Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society). The scheme aligns with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and aims to empower those adults aged 15 years and above from all backgrounds who could not get due schooling and mainstream them with society to be able to contribute more to the growth story of the country. The scheme consists of five components: Foundational Literacy and Numeracy, Critical Life Skills, Basic Education, Vocational Skills, and Continuing Education.
- (d) & (e): The Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) is a comprehensive digital platform designed to synergize and transform the skills, education, employment, and entrepreneurship landscape in India. It represents the aspirations of millions of Indians seeking better opportunities by providing access to industry-relevant skill courses, job opportunities, and entrepreneurship support. As the Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for Skilling, Education, Employment, and Entrepreneurship, SIDH serves as a comprehensive information gateway for all government initiatives in these domains, making it a go-to hub for citizens pursuing career advancement and lifelong learning. The primary objectives of SIDH include facilitating digital access to skill development by enhancing individual competencies in digital technologies, integrating the skilling ecosystem, enhancing employability and entrepreneurship, promoting lifelong learning, serving as an information gateway, and leveraging data-driven decision-making. Further, the Directorate General of Training (DGT) under the aegis of MSDE implements Bharatskills portal to support digital skill development, provides access to a range of educational materials, including e-books, question banks, and e-learning videos, available in 12 regional languages, for courses offered.
