

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1699
ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025

Education on Respect and Caring of Elderly

1699. Shri Zia Ur Rehman:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government agrees with the view that the younger generation must be educated about the importance of respecting and caring for the elderly;
- (b) if so, the details of the initiatives that are proposed to be taken by the Government keeping in mind that schools and colleges can play a significant role in fostering empathy and understanding; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): The Government recognizes the importance of educating the younger generation about respect and care for the elderly. The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 gives prime importance to the “Respecting and Caring of Elderly” and recommends special attention to respect and caring. The NEP, 2020, inter-alia, provides that “*As consequences of such basic ethical reasoning, traditional Indian values and all basic human and Constitutional values (such as seva,*

*ahimsa, swachchhata, satya, nishkam karma, shanti, sacrifice, tolerance, diversity, pluralism, righteous conduct, gender sensitivity, **respect for elders**, respect for all people and their inherent capabilities regardless of background, respect for environment, helpfulness, courtesy, patience, forgiveness, empathy, compassion, patriotism, democratic outlook, integrity, responsibility, justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity) will be developed in all students.”* The National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE), 2023 acknowledges that *“Respect is expressed in various forms towards elderly members of the immediate community, larger society and nation. They are remembered through readings and discussions about their life and achievements. They are invited for interaction and inspiration.”*
