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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3781
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

Practical Work in Schools and Colleges

3781.   Shri Zia Ur Rehman:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government agrees with the view that the neglect of practical work in schools and in vocational training centres including polytechnics and engineering colleges is a cause of concern;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to inspire individuals and to ensure speedy, accurate and correct reforms are put in place by the institutions in this regard; and
(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): National Education Policy 2020 has envisaged a complete re-imagination of how skill education will be offered to students. This policy recommends integrating skill education programmes into mainstream education in all education institutions in a phased manner. Focus areas for Skill education will be chosen based on skills gap analysis and mapping of local opportunities.

Under the Skill Education component of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Samagra Shiksha' financial assistance is provided to State/UTs for offering National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) aligned skill courses to the students from class 9th to 12th. At the Secondary level i.e., Class IX and X, skill modules are offered to the students as an additional subject. At Sr. Secondary level, i.e., Class XI and XII, skill courses are offered as a compulsory (elective) subject. Exposure of pre-vocational education at Upper Primary level, 10 bagless days etc. have been included under Innovation component of Samagra Shiksha. Under Samagra Shiksha, NSQF level aligned Job Roles

(JRs) are implemented with a focus on new age skills like Industry 4.0, Web 3.0, AI/ML, AR/VR, Climate Change, Green Economy, and Energy Transition. Employability Skill modules including Communication Skills, Self-Management Skills, Information and Communication Technology Skills, Entrepreneurship Skills, and Green Skills are included in the curriculum of Job Roles (JRs). The curriculum for the JRs is continuously updated to include more practical training, workshop practices, and hands-on projects. Provision has also been made under Samagra Shiksha for specialized practical work and training in commercial and industrial establishments, ITIs, polytechnics, community colleges, hospitals, agricultural farms etc.

NEP 2020 also recommends that all students participate in a 10-day bagless period during Grades 6-8 where they intern with local experts such as carpenters, gardeners, potters, artists, etc. In pursuance of this recommendation, the Government in consultation with concerned stakeholders has developed guidelines for 10 bagless days. These guidelines aim at providing children of classes 6-8 an exposure to skill education using experiential learning pedagogy and to make learning at schools joyful and stress free. The guidelines are available at https://www.psscive.ac.in/storage/uploads/others/Guidelines/pdf/english/guidelines-for-implementation-of-10-bagless-days-in-school-english.pdf.

In alignment with the objectives of NEP 2020, the National Credit Framework (NCrF) was notified by University Grant Commission (UGC) and a copy of the same is available at https://www.ugc.gov.in/pdfnews/9028476_Report-of-National-Credit-Framework.pdf.

In order to implement NCrF, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has notified the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for implementing the operationalisation of NCrF in schools for Class 9 to 12. A copy of the notification may be seen at https://cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/Notifications/2023/75_Notification_2023.pdf. The State/UTs were also given the flexibility to evolve and develop their own SOP by taking the aforesaid CBSE-SOP as a model.

CBSE has allocated 20-70% weightage to practical work/project/ internal assessment for academic subjects as per the demand of the subject and also has allocated 50% weightage to practical work of all skill subjects.

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) offers skill courses through accredited institutes like schools, NGOs, ITIs etc. The practical and theory classes are monitored by NIOS on a regular basis.

AICTE has taken several measures to make the course content for polytechnics and engineering colleges, more practical and provide additional industry exposure to the students. It has made internship integrated part of technical education through its Internship Policy and has developed AICTE Internship portal to bridge the gap between academic learning and industry

requirements and to facilitate the student's internships. This portal is offering around 54 lakh internships posted by around 76578 industries and government organizations, which covers more than 11,485 institutions and 2 crore students have registered on the portal so far.

AICTE has developed an initiative named "Innovation Design and Entrepreneurship (IDE) Bootcamp" which is an intensive training program designed to nurture and develop entrepreneurial skills among young individuals. It aims to create a robust ecosystem for innovation and entrepreneurship in the country. Some of the key features of the bootcamp are as follows:

- Curriculum: The bootcamp offers a comprehensive curriculum covering various aspects of entrepreneurship, including ideation, design thinking, business model development, marketing, and fundraising.
- Hands-on Learning: Participants engage in hands-on activities, workshops, and projects to apply the concepts they learn.
- Networking Opportunities: Participants have the opportunity to network with successful entrepreneurs, investors, and other stakeholders in the entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- Funding and Support: Selected participants may receive seed funding, incubation support, and access to resources to help them launch and scale their start-ups.
- These initiatives reflect the government's commitment to fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship, providing young individuals with the necessary skills, knowledge, and support to succeed as entrepreneurs.

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