

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 63**  
ANSWERED ON 03/02/2025

**New Education Policy (NEP) 2020**

63. Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe:  
Shri Nilesh Dnyandev Lanke:  
Shri Mohite Patil Dhairyasheel Rajsinh:  
Shri Amar Sharadrao Kale:  
Shri Bajrang Manohar Sonwane:  
Shri Sanjay Dina Patil:  
Prof. Varsha Eknath Gaikwad:  
Shri Bhaskar Murlidhar Bhagare:  
Smt. Supriya Sule:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, across the country especially in Maharashtra;
- (b) whether the Government has set any timeline for the complete implementation of NEP 2020;
- (c) the impact of NEP in school education, particularly with respect to foundational literacy and numeracy in the State of Maharashtra;
- (d) the measures being taken by the Government to integrate vocational education into the school curriculum as per the NEP 2020 guidelines;
- (e) whether the Government has introduced any steps to implement a flexible and multidisciplinary curriculum at the school level, if so, the details thereof;
- (f) the steps being taken by the Government to implement reforms in teacher training as per NEP 2020;
- (g) the steps being taken by the Government to promote education in regional languages and mother tongues as per NEP 2020; and
- (h) the manner in which the NEP 2020 addressing issues of inclusion and equity, particularly for marginalized and disadvantaged communities?

## ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a): A number of transformative changes have taken place both in school and higher education after announcement of National Education Policy (NEP 2020). In School Education several initiatives have been taken such as alignment of Samagra Shiksha with the recommendation of the NEP; National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) for ensuring foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of Grade 2; Vidya-Pravesh Guidelines for Three-month Play-based School Preparation Module; PM e-VIDYA to unify all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable coherent multi-mode access to education; DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing) as One Nation One Digital Platform having e-Books and e-Contents; launch of National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (NCF-FS) and Jadui Pitara for play-based learning teaching material tailored for children between the age group of 3 to 8 years; National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) to address the entire educational journey upto secondary stage. PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development); NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) Elementary, Secondary, FLN (Foundational Literacy & Numeracy) & ECCE (Early Childhood Care and Education); Vidya Samiksha Kendra; Integrated Teacher Education Programme; National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST); National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR) for creating a unifying national digital infrastructure to energise and catalyse the education ecosystem, implementation of a scheme New India Literacy Programme or ULLAS (Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society) targeting all nonliterates age 15 years and above, etc.

Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) Scheme has been launched with an aim to develop more than 14,500 selected schools as exemplar schools that offer leadership to other schools in the neighbourhood, showcasing all the initiatives of NEP 2020.

The current status of the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, across states Maharashtra is as follows:

- A total of 209 tasks are for NEP implementation for Maharashtra
- Out of these total 209 tasks, 67 tasks have been completed at present
- There are 74 tasks which are still in progress.
- There are 20 tasks on which work is yet to begin.
- There are 28 tasks that have been completed but will continue on a continuous basis.
- 2 tasks are policy tasks

(b): NEP 2020 provides different timelines as well as principles and methodology for its implementation. It also envisions operationalization of the entire policy in the decade of 2030-40, following which another comprehensive review will be undertaken. Education being in the concurrent list of Constitution, Centre and States are equally responsible for providing quality education to all. Accordingly, Ministry of Education, State Governments, education-related

Ministries, the regulatory and implementing bodies of school and higher education such as University Grants Commission, All India Council for Technical Education, National Council for Teacher Education, National Council of Educational Research and Training, Central Board of Secondary Education, Universities/Colleges/Schools etc. have taken several initiatives for implementation of NEP 2020.

Further, Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and major responsibility of implementation of NEP 2020 following prescribed norms and standards falls under the domain of the States and UT Governments.

(c): The Scheme of Samagra Shiksha has been aligned with National Education Policy, 2020 with focus on improving the quality of education through various measures such as introduction of new pedagogical and curricular structure (5+3+3+4), Early Childhood Care and Education and Foundational Literacy and Numeracy, among others and covers the entire continuum of Education from 3 years of Balvatika (pre school) to class 12. All the 36 States/UTs are implementing NIPUN Bharat Mission.

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 2. Guidelines for Three-month Play-based School Preparation Module for Grade-I Children- Vidya Pravesh has been launched on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2021. All the 36 States/UTs are implementing Vidya Pravesh Programme.

Maharashtra issued Government resolution on 27 Oct. 2021 for smooth implementation of mission. In the GR, all the targets have been informed to all stake holders. According to this, State Programming Unit and Steering committee has been constituted. All the districts have constituted DISTRICT Steering committee and District PMU and they are working smoothly at field level. Revised lakshyas have also been conveyed to related stakeholders. Academic task force and District task force have been formed at state and district level.

- **Nipunotsav program:** Under this programme, to declare as a NIPUN Block or NIPUN Cluster, parameters have been conveyed to all stakeholders. Schools were instructed to organise different activities for FLN.
- **Training of teachers:** Teachers of Grades-I to V are being trained (including new teachers) in order to ensure the requisite capacity to deliver high quality instruction for the foundational stage. All 3,25,000 teachers (100 %) from Govt. and aided schools for the Grade 1 to 5 have received training on Foundational Literacy & Numeracy named “Adhyayan Prakriyeche Vyavsthapn” (Management of Learning Process). This training was based on activity and technology based. Also refresher training was given to teachers at cluster meetings.
- **FLN Workbooks for the students:** To strengthen Pedagogy and teaching learning process, the TLMs for Grade 1 to 5 have been distributed to all Govt. schools in the academic year 2022-23.
- **FLN NISHTHA Training:**
  - Online orientation of the teachers and FLN NISHTHA training has been given to all primary teachers with the help of DIKSHA Portal.

- The NISHTHA 3.0 training has been conducted during the period of 1st January 2022 to 31st March 2022 and 1st April 2022 to 9th May 2022.
  - Total 12 Modules were created under NISHTHA 3.0 program
  - Total 2,39,172 trainees have taken this training by completing the 45-60 hours of training on DIKSHA portal for completing the NISHTHA 3.0 (FLN) Training Program.
- **National Conference on FLN:** The state has been actively participating in national conferences and seminars focused on FLN, sharing best practices and learning from other regions to strengthen its educational strategies. For instance, during the two-day National Conference on FLN held from June 17-18, 2023, Maharashtra, along with other states and union territories, showcased its initiatives aimed at improving teaching-learning approaches and pedagogy in the context of multilingualism.
  - **Teachers Activity Handbook:** Teacher supportive material in the form of Teachers Activity Handbook has been developed and aligned with goals and Learning Outcomes (Los) of FLN for Languages and Maths and distributed to the school.
  - **Posters:** To create print rich environment, posters have been designed in different languages for Language and Maths.
  - **Vidyapravesh Programme:**
    - i. School preparation module of three months for Grade 1 students has been implemented in 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024- 25 in the form of Teacher Guidebook and Student activity book for smooth transaction of the children from pre-schooling to Grade 1.
    - ii. A total of 65,689 government schools participated in this, and 7,21,291 students were enrolled.

NEP 2020 has significantly influenced school education in Maharashtra, particularly concerning foundational literacy and numeracy. The state's initiatives, aligned with national missions like NIPUN Bharat, reflect a commitment to building a strong educational foundation for its young learners, thereby contributing to their long-term academic and personal success.

(d): The Government has adopted several steps to make school education more job-oriented and to increase the employable skill set of students. Under the Vocational Education component of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Samagra Shiksha', financial assistance is given to States for offering National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) compliant vocational courses to the students from classes 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> in the schools covered under the scheme to develop knowledge and practical skills required for gainful employment.

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. So far 138 Job Roles (JR) / Skill subjects have been approved for implementation in States/UTs as per the Skill Gap Analysis. 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 JRs.

Assistance for setting up Vocational or Skill labs in schools and DIETS, with state-of-the-art facilities, is also provided. The existing scheme of Samagra Shiksha has been revamped and various new interventions relating to Vocational Education like internships, bagless days, exposure to vocational education at the Upper Primary level etc. are being supported. The guidelines for 10 bagless days for students was launched on the 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of NEP 2020.

In coordination with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, the Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL) is implementing PMKVY 4.0 in the school education sector. Further, the Department of School Education and Literacy in partnership with industry is enhancing the knowledge and exposure of students in emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality.

The 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.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasises on the significance of counselling in schools as a key component of the educational framework. The policy advocates a holistic approach to career guidance, considering the individual needs, interests, and strengths of each student. NEP 2020 also promotes the use of technology and online resources to enhance career guidance services. DoSEL has launched Career Guide book for School Students on the 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of NEP 2020. This Career Guide Book consists of 500 career cards in 21 domains. Each career card contains work profile, essential Personal Traits, Course fee, Scholarships, Loan prospects, Entry Pathway, Details about course providing Institutions (Govt./Private/Online course) and example of pioneers in the field. A copy of this book is available at <https://dsel.education.gov.in/careers/index.html>

Career counselling at Secondary and Senior Secondary schools is considered of utmost importance which enables students to know the various career opportunities available as per their choice, need and strength. The revamped scheme of Samagra Shiksha provides for provisioning of one Academic Resource Person for career counselling at each Block/ULB in the Block Resource Centre (BRC). DoSEL has also finalised the Guidelines for Provisioning of Academic Resource Person for career counselling in the BRCs under Samagra Shiksha which are available at [https://dsel.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/update/guidelines\\_brc\\_1707.pdf](https://dsel.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/update/guidelines_brc_1707.pdf).

(e): Based on the principles of National Education Policy 2020, Ministry of Education have released the National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Studies (NCF-FS) and National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE), on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 and 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2023 respectively. NCF- FS and NCF-SE has been placed in public domain at [https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/NCF\\_for\\_Foundational\\_Stage\\_20\\_October\\_2022.pdf](https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/NCF_for_Foundational_Stage_20_October_2022.pdf) and [https://dsel.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/update/ncf\\_2023.pdf](https://dsel.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/update/ncf_2023.pdf) respectively.

(f): The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 states that "Teachers truly shape the future of our children - and, therefore, the future of our nation. The motivation and empowerment of teachers is required to ensure the best possible future for our children and our nation". NEP 2020 envisage that teachers are to be given continuous opportunities for self-improvement and to learn the latest innovations and advances in their professions. These are offered in multiple modes, including in the form of local, regional, state, national, and international workshops as well as online teacher development modules. Platforms (especially online platforms) are to be developed so that teachers may share ideas and best practices. Each teacher is expected to participate in at least 50 hours of CPD (continuous Professional Development) opportunities every year for their own professional development, driven by their own interests.

In order to provide continuous professional development opportunities to the teachers' initiatives like NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) program developed by National Council of Education, Research and Training (NCERT) are implemented by the Department. It aligns with NEP's focus on enhancing teacher competency, fostering innovative pedagogical practices, and integrating technology into education. NISHTHA plays a pivotal role in improving teaching quality, fostering equity, and achieving the NEP's goal of creating a vibrant, inclusive, and future-ready education system.

In addition, for pre-service training programmes, Norms and Standards for Integrated Teacher Education Program (ITEP), a four-year undergraduate course designed to prepare teachers comprehensively for the demands of the 21st century has been notified by National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) on 26th October 2021. As outlined in NEP 2020, ITEP is a pioneering initiative that combines education with a specific discipline and stage-specific specialization. This dual major programme spans four years and is structured to cater to different school stages: foundational, preparatory, middle, and secondary. The ITEP Curriculum Framework and stage-specific syllabi is aligned with NEP 2020, National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF) and National Credit Framework (NCrF) and emphasizes on 21st-century skills and abilities.

National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST) and the National Mission for Mentoring (NMM) have been developed to support the professional development of teachers. The NPST outlines the competencies required for effective teaching at different career stages. The NMM focuses on creating a robust network of mentors to provide professional and personal support to teachers. NPST guiding Document and NMM Bluebook have been shared with States/UTs for wider dissemination.

Further, under the integrated centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha, financial assistance is provided to the States/UTs as per the programmatic and financial norms of the scheme for implementing the different interventions/ components of the scheme, including teacher training as also for physical upgradation of all 613 functional DIETs in the country in a phased manner in order to strengthen the in-service training imparted by DIETs.

(g): The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 has placed a strong emphasis on multilingual and multicultural education. NEP 2020 inter-alia, provides that wherever possible, the medium of instruction until at least Grade 5, but preferably till Grade 8 and beyond, is to

be the home language/mother tongue/local language/regional language. Thereafter, the home/local language shall continue to be taught as a language wherever possible.

To promote language learning among young and adult learners; primers—instructional materials in book form (print or digital), is being designed. Such resources facilitate reading and writing—which are crucial inputs for strengthening foundational literacy and numeracy among young and adult learners in a specific language.

- In the first phase *Kuwi* and *Desia* Primers were launched on 17 August 2023 at Bhubaneswar, Odisha for its wider dissemination and use.
- In second phase 52 Primers in Indian Languages were released on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
- As on Date a total number of 104 primers have been launched. These Primers have been uploaded on NCERT web portal: <https://ncert.nic.in/primers.php?ln=en> and DIKSHA portals for wider dissemination and print copies have been shared with SCERTs in States / UTs

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

(h): The integrated Samagra Shiksha Scheme has been aligned with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and aims to ensure that all children have access to quality education with an equitable and inclusive classroom environment which should take care of their diverse background, multilingual needs, different academic abilities and make them active participants in the learning process.

Under Samagra Shiksha, financial assistance is provided to States and UTs for providing various facilities to the children including marginalized and disadvantaged children for implementing the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 as also for implementation of various provisions of Samagra Shiksha Scheme which include free uniform to eligible children at elementary level, free textbooks at elementary level, development of primers/textbooks for tribal language, teaching learning materials, transport/escort facility up to secondary level, special training for age appropriate admission of out of school children and residential as well as non-residential training for older children, seasonal hostels / residential camps, special training centers, age-appropriate residential and non-residential training, support of Rs. 2000 per child per grade to Out of School Children (16 to 19 years) for completion of education through NIOS/SIOS, Holistic Progress Card, bilingual teaching material and books, support to Children with Special Needs (CWSN). Further, under the student-oriented component for the children with special needs, financial assistance is provided for identification and assessment of children with special needs, aids and appliances, braille kits and books, appropriate teaching learning material and stipend to girl students with disability etc.

Also, under the Scheme financial assistance is provided to the States and UTs for Universalization of School Education including opening/strengthening of new schools upto senior secondary level, construction of school buildings & additional classrooms, development/strengthening of school infrastructure in northern border areas under Vibrant Village Programme, setting up, up-gradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, construction of hostels for PVTGs under PM-JANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan), setting up of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Avasiya Vidyalayas, construction of hostels under Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan for unsaturated ST population, reimbursement under RTE Act, various qualitative components, strengthening of teacher education and strengthening of DIETs/BRCs/CRCs, provision of ICT and digital interventions.

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