GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 148 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.04.2016

Reforms in Education Sector

148. KUMARI SUSHMITA DEV: SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes a series of structural reforms in education ranging from schools to Universities and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is also considering overhauling of University Grants Commission and All India Council of Technical Education and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal for taking the views of eminent educationists before finalising any reforms in education and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) and (d): The Government is in the process of framing a New Education Policy which will cover comprehensively various aspects of School and Higher Education. The Government of India has constituted a 'Committee for Evolution of the New Education Policy' for drafting the New Education Policy (NEP). The Committee consists of Shri T.S.R. Subramanian, Former Cabinet Secretary as the Chairman and Smt. Shailaja Chandra, former Chief Secretary, NCT of Delhi, Shri Sevaram Sharma, former Home Secretary, NCT of Delhi, Shri Sudhir Mankad, former Chief Secretary, Gujarat & Prof. J.S. Rajput, former Director, NCERT as members of the Committee. All the suggestions received from multiple stakeholders have been forwarded to the Committee. The Committee is mandated to examine the outcome documents, recommendations and suggestions received and formulate a draft National Education Policy as well as a Framework for Action (FFA).

(b): The Ministry has undertaken external review of the UGC through an Expert Committee and process reforms have already been initiated in the UGC. Further, AICTE was also reviewed through an external Review Committee. The Ministry is in the process of examining and implementing the recommendations of the Committee.

(c): MHRD held thematic consultations through Apex level institutions and regulators, such as, UGC, AICTE, NCTE, AIU, NCERT, CBSE, IIAS, NLMA, NAAC, NUEPA, IGNOU and Central Universities by inviting all relevant stakeholders including experts, academics, industry representatives, civil society etc. during July-October, 2015. Further, the Ministry held thematic consultations at the national level, in which experts having domain expertise as well stakeholders were invited for deliberations.