GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 6
ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023

Reforms in School Education and Higher Education by NEP 2020

*6. **SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:**
    SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 proposes various reforms in school education as well as higher education including technical education in the country, especially in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of the action taken/activities proposed for implementation of above reforms in school education as well as higher education;

(c) whether the All India Survey on Higher Education was conducted before the preparation of New National Education Policy 2020;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether the survey has given complete picture of higher education in the country;

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government to focus on the NEP without having a complete picture of higher education in the country; and

(f) the extent to which the NEP 2020 is able to make reforms in the higher education including technical education?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 6 FOR REPLY ON 04.12.2023 ASKED BY SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE AND SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING REFORMS IN SCHOOL EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION BY NEP 2020

(a) & (b): National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) provides for several reforms in school education as well as higher education including technical education and prescribes a number of action points/activities for its implementation in the entire country. The Government has taken several initiatives in the education sector such as PM SHRI (PM Schools for Rising India) for upgradation of schools; National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) for ensuring foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of Grade 3; 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; NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) 1.0, 2.0 and 3.0 Integrated Teacher Training Programme for different stages of school education for Teachers, Head Teachers/Principals and other stakeholders in Educational Management; 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" targeting all non-literates age 15 years and above, etc.

Similarly, in Higher Education, various initiatives / reforms have been carried out such as National Credit Framework (NCrF); National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF); guidelines / regulations like Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programme; Multiple Entry and Exit in Academic Programme; transforming Higher Education Institution (HEIs) into multi-disciplinary Institutions; pursuing two Academic Programme simultaneously; Academic Bank of Credit; revised regulation of ODL / Online Education; permitting upto 40% credits of courses using SWAYAM platform; regulations on Academic Collaboration between Indian & foreign HEIs to offer Twinning, Joint Degree and Dual Degree Programme; regulations on conferment of Autonomous Status to colleges; guidelines for admission & supernumerary seats for students from abroad in UG & PG in Indian HEIs, regulations on Minimum Standards and procedures for award of Ph.D. degree; regulation on Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India; offering of courses, translation of course material / books and entrance examinations such as JEE, NEET, CUET in Indian languages;. For enhancing industry-academic collaboration and entrepreneurship initiatives like guidelines on Professor of Practice to enable HEIs to work with industry experts; guidelines for HEIs to offer apprenticeship / internship embedded degree programme; guidelines on establishment of R&D in HEIs; industry aligned courses by HEIs to meet industry demand. For promotion of Indian Knowledge, Guidelines for Training/Orientation of Faculty on Indian Knowledge System (IKS), Empanelment of Artists/Artisans–in–Residence in Higher Educational Institutions, Introduction of courses based on Indian heritage and culture, Incorporating Indian Knowledge in Higher Education Curricula have been issued.

(c) to (e): Ministry of Education conducts an annual web-based All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) since 2010-11 to portray the status of higher education in the country. The

survey aims to cover all the Institutions in the country engaged in imparting of higher education. Data is being collected on several parameters such as teachers, student enrolment, programmes, examination results, education finance, infrastructure. Indicators of educational development such as Institution Density, Gross Enrolment Ratio, Pupil-teacher ratio, Gender Parity Index, etc. are useful in making informed policy decisions and research for development of education sector. As far as NEP 2020 is concerned, the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan for framing the draft National Education Policy had analysed and examined a humungous volume of suggestions, inputs, reports including reference of AISHE 2015-16 and 2016-17.

(f): Since announcement of NEP 2020, several positive impacts have been witnessed in the higher and technical education system. Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) which provides a platform to National Credit Framework (NCrF) and National Higher Education Qualification Framework for broad-based multi-disciplinary / inter-disciplinary, holistic education with flexible curricula, creative combination of subjects, multiple pathways, establishing equivalence, facilitate national and international mobility etc. is operational and being used extensively in Universities and HEIs. So far 1655 Universities/INIs/HEIs are onboarded on ABC portal & 2.62 Crore students are registered. To ensure access to high quality education with equity and inclusion courses are being offered in Indian Languages; entrance exams such as JEE, NEET, CUET are conducted in 13 Indian languages; 100 books for UG students on various subjects launched in 12 Indian Languages. In order to promote digital learning by leveraging technology, at present, 95 HEIs are offering 1149 ODL programmes and 66 Higher Educational Institutions are offering 371 online programmes. More than 19 lakh students are availing these facilities. To promote multi-disciplinary education and provide flexibility around 295 Universities have adopted SWAYAM regulation permitting learners to avail upto 40% credit Courses from SWAYAM platform. Around 9 lakh students are getting certified on SWAYAM every year. In order to enable HEIs to work with industry experts in developing courses and curriculum to meet the industry and societal needs, guidelines on Professor of Practice have been issued. More than 100 HEIs are offering Apprenticeship / Internship embedded Degree Programme. Technology enabled Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) based Solutions for Governance of HEIs starting from admission to grant of Degree – Smarter Automation Engine for Universities (SAMARTH) is being extensively used by around 2700 Universities & HEIs covering 32 States / UTs. 7 State Higher Education Departments are also onboarded. MoUs have been signed with leading companies such as Cisco/IBM/Meta/Adobe/Microsoft/Salesforce to create industry-aligned courses. Courses have also been started by HEIs to meet the industry demand. Single Unified online portal has been set for internship and around 10560 HEIs and 71883 industries are registered on portal. At present, around 7550 Institutions' Innovation Councils have been set up. Around 104 HEIs are funded for Idea Development, Evaluation and Application Labs (IDEA). To promote internationalization, campus of IIT Madras in Zanzibar- Tanzania and IIT Delhi in Abu Dhabi have been set up. Promotion of Indian Knowledge by way of several initiatives aims to include knowledge of ancient India, its contributions to modern India in its successes and addressing challenges, with a clear sense of India's future aspirations in the field of education, health, environment etc. Currently several initiatives have been taken, like setting up of 53 IKS centres to catalyze original research, education and dissemination of IKS, 88 research projects like inter-disciplinary research projects like ancient metallurgy, ancient town planning and water resource management, ancient rasayanshastra etc. and adoption of IKS into curriculum.

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