

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2796
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010
EMPLOYMENT ORIENTED EDUCATION
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

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

- (a) whether the existing education system does not provide for the development of life skills and attitudes in students but is only concerned with high percentage of marks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for such situation;
- (d) the manner in which the Government proposes to tackle this issue in future; and
- (e) the views of the public, NGOs and experts in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (e): Keeping in mind that the education system should cater to the needs of the manpower requirement for the economic development of the country, Government has accorded high importance to vocational education and training. While elaborating on the essence and role of Education, the National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 (as modified in 1992) has recognized that Education develops manpower for different levels of the economy. The NPE also envisages the introduction of systematic, well-planned and rigorously implemented programmes of vocational education. These elements are meant to develop a healthy attitude amongst students towards work and life, to enhance individual employability, to reduce the mis-match between the demand and supply of skilled manpower, and to provide an alternative for those intending to pursue higher education without particular interest or purpose. The policy envisages that efforts will be made to provide children at the higher secondary level with generic vocational courses which cut across several occupational fields and which are not occupation specific.

Government has already started Technical Quality Improvement Programme to improve quality education and enhance existing capability of the technical institutions to become dynamic, demand-driven, quality conscious, efficient at national and international levels. The proposed reforms include faculty development, examination reform, curriculum revision, semester system, seminar tutorials, autonomy with the accountability.

Nation-wide scheme of `Sub-Mission on Polytechnics` has also been launched, wherein assistance is being given to the State Governments for starting 1000 new Polytechnics, revamping the Community Polytechnic Scheme and increasing their number to 1000, providing assistance for construction of 500 women hostels and for the upgradation of existing 500 Polytechnics. The UGC also has a scheme of Career Orientation to Education/Career Oriented Programme/ Career Oriented Course, with an objective to ensure that graduates who pass out after completing these courses, have knowledge, skills and aptitude for gainful employment.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of `Vocationalisation of Secondary Education` which was started in 1988, vocational courses are offered at the higher secondary stage to enhance the employability of the students. The National Curriculum Framework, 2005 has recommended work-centred education as an integral part of the school curriculum.

Government has also introduced a scheme of Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS). There are 221 JSS in the country and they are expected to act as district level support agencies especially in regard to organization of vocational training and skill development programmes for the neo-literates and other large groups of the continuing education programme. The Jan Shikshan Sansthans offer a large number (371) of vocational training programmes from candle making to computer courses. In the year 2006-07, 17.53 lakh beneficiaries have been covered under various vocational training programmes and other activities.