

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3429

ANSWERED ON:12.02.2014

REVIEW OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME

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

- (a) whether the National Working Group on vocationalisation of education has reviewed the vocational education programme extensively and developed guidelines for its expansion;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the main recommendations made by the said working group;
- (c) whether the Union Government has issued instructions to the States to implement these recommendations and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the subjects offered at senior secondary level are mismatched with the subjects offered in the higher education which deprived the students to take admission in higher studies; and
- (e) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (Dr. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) : Yes Madam, the Planning Commission had set up a Working Group on Secondary and Vocational Education under the Chairpersonship of the Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development in 2011. The National Working Group on Secondary and Vocational Education reviewed the status of secondary and vocational education.

(b) & (c): The recommendations of the National Working Group on Secondary and Vocational Education, inter alia, include the introduction of vocational education from the secondary level, the engagement of industry in design development and delivery of curriculum, the coverage of Special Focus Groups, provisions for assessment and certification, convergence with other schemes, initiatives for innovative programmes etc. The recommendations of the National Working Group on Secondary and Vocational Education were incorporated into the National Vocational Education Qualifications Framework (NVEQF) issued in Sep 2012 by the Ministry and were also shared with the States/UTs in various forums, such as national and regional level workshops, State Education Secretaries' Conference, etc.

(d) & (e): The National Working Group on Secondary and Vocational Education observed that there is a lack of vertical or horizontal mobility in case of students wanting to move out of vocational stream into the general education stream and vice-versa. To address this bottleneck, the NVEQF and the recently notified National Skills Qualifications Framework provide for multiple pathways both within vocational education and between general and vocational education. The new Community College scheme also incorporates the above elements.