

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:357

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2015

FINANCIAL LITERACY IN SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Reddy Shri J.C. Divakar;Sule Smt. Supriya Sadanand

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any assessment of the financial awareness and financial literacy of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Central Board of Secondary Education has in principle accepted the importance of financial literacy and if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereto;
- (c) whether financial education is still not a part of school curriculum and if so, the reasons there for; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the state of financial literacy in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE) has conducted NCFE-Financial Literacy and Inclusion Survey (NCFE-FLIS) over eight months on both Financial Literacy and financial inclusion covering financial knowledge, behavior and attitudes relating to budgeting and money management, short and long term financial plans, and financial product awareness and usage.

(b) & (c) As a follow up of NCF-2005, the syllabi and textbooks from elementary stage incorporate components of Financial Literacy and in class X this has been introduced as a major theme i.e. Money and Financial System. Different components of financial literacy have been integrated in the curriculum at different stages of school education. NCERT has also developed a supplementary reading material titled "Personal Finance" aiming at improving the student's knowledge and ability to deal with complex financial transactions.

CBSE adopts the textbooks developed and designed by the NCERT. The Board has also incorporated the elements of Financial Literacy in the subject of Entrepreneurship in classes XI and XII and these books are being used by the schools affiliated to CBSE.

(d) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) launched a financial education drive through Resource Persons (RPs) in June 2010, with study material developed in 13 languages. Currently, there are 896 RPs covering 27 states and 288 districts across the country. More than 23,000 programs covering more than 17 lakh participants have been conducted in remote parts of the country. A program was started by SEBI in February 2011 in which students from schools, colleges and professional institutes were invited to learn about SEBI and its role as a regulator of securities markets. More than 210 programs covering 9000 participants from various schools/colleges institutes have been conducted since its launch.