

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3969
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2014
NATIONAL TASK FORCE ON GEOSPATIAL EDUCATION
Khalsa Shri Harinder Singh

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

- (a) the details of the progress and implementation of the recommendations given by the National Task Force on Geospatial Education;
- (b) whether any of the four projects as recommended by them has been completed;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to create Geospatial Skill Force; and
- (e) the extent and reach of the Geospatial education in schools and universities in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (e): A National Task Force was constituted on Evolving Geospatial Education Strategy on 15th October, 2010 which submitted its report on 30th August, 2013. The major recommendations of the Task Force, in brief, are as under:-

i. Four projects are recommended:-

School Geospatial Education Project (SGEP) -
led by the Department of School Education, MHRD;

Geospatial University Networking Project (GUNP) -
led by the Department of Higher Education, MHRD;

Geospatial Training and Outreach Project (GTOP) -
led by Department of Science & Technology (DST);

National Institute of Geospatial Knowledge,
Engineering and Management (NIGKEM), NIGKEM project -
led by MHRD and DST.

ii. A number of reform actions are proposed e.g. CBSE and NCERT to include geospatial technology in middle and high-school curricula, coordination with state school boards for a similar inclusion, School teachers' orientation for geospatial technologies, develop prototypes of school geospatial kits, encouraging Universities to standardise curricula and undertake faculty orientation, wide usage of low cost, public-domain software and hardware resources, industries to come out with such education products that can be used at university levels, Geospatial technology and applications to form a part of civil-services academies and re-orientation programmes, coordination with Central Ministries to ensure the training pools are dedicated to train government employees. iii. Other Strategies are Self-Learning and Igniting Approach at School Level, Geospatial Research and Education Capacity at University Level and Training and Outreach for Enabling Geospatial Capability Amongst Existing Professionals.

iv. A high-level management council is also recommended with Minister, MHRD as Chair and Member (Science), Planning

Commission as Co-Chair, with various Secretaries as Members and experts as Members, for guiding and supervising the implementation of recommendations.

The above recommendations have been forwarded to all concerned departments on 9th December, 2014 for necessary action.