

Educational Research and Training (NCERT) textbooks prescribe themes and examples related to moral conduct across the subject areas and across the various stages of school education in the syllabi and textbooks for classes I - XII as a follow-up of the National Curriculum Framework- 2005. The NCERT has also brought out a Value Education Framework entitled "Education for values in schools - A framework" which provides guidelines to schools to identify their priorities of values and plan their actions accordingly. The NCERT has also developed a Resource Book for teachers 'Ways to Peace'.

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has made moral education compulsory in the curriculum offered to the schools affiliated to it. The CBSE has published source books for classes VI-VIII and a Teacher's Manual on Life Skills for Classes IX-X and also on Environmental Education and Adolescent Education which help to foster values in children. The CBSE has also introduced value based questions from the prescribed books in the Summative Assessment II in classes IX-XII for the year 2012-13. The CBSE has also launched a value education kit comprising of a Hand Book for Teachers, Value Cards and a CD on songs on the theme of Duty, Solidarity and Respect for Nature.

All Universities being completely autonomous in academic matters are free to revise the syllabi and curricula. However, The UGC is funding various programmes at the Under-Graduate and Post-Graduate levels concerning Human Rights and Value Education in the universities and colleges. The Commission has also been implementing the scheme of Human Rights and Value Education and provides financial assistance to the eligible Universities/Colleges under this scheme. The objectives of this scheme, *inter-alia*, include the creation of awareness and commitment to values where the individualistic self-interest is properly reconciled with the collective and common good.

#### **Integration of SHP and MDMS**

1923. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain States have ignored the component of integrating the School Health Programme (SHP) with the Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard and ensure proper use of funds for boosting health of students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) The Government of India has launched a new initiative *i.e* the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) under the National Rural Health Mission. The school health component gets subsumed under the RBSK. This initiative aims to screen and manage children from birth to 18 years of age for defects at birth, deficiencies, diseases, developmental delays including disabilities. All newborns born at public health facilities and at home are screened for birth defects by health personnel and ASHAs respectively, between six weeks to six years of age at Anganwadi centres and between six years to 18 years of age who are enrolled in Government and Government aided schools by Mobile Block Health Teams. The children with identified health conditions are referred to the appropriate facility for further interventions.

At present there are 4844 dedicated block level mobile health teams providing early screening of children both in anganwadis and schools. During the F.Y 2013-14, a total of 3.45 crore children including school children were screened by RBSK teams and 12 lakh children were identified with health conditions and referred to the health facilities for further management.

The MHRD has written to the Education Departments of all States for coordination with NRHM for effective implementation of RBSK. The implementation of the RBSK is reviewed by the Joint Review Missions for Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) during their visit to the States. The representatives of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare are involved with the Governance structures of the MDMS at all levels to ensure proper coordination in this regard.

#### **Rising cost of education**

1924.DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey by ASSOCHAM has recently reported that the rising cost of education has become a major cause of worry for parents;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken/being taken by Government to check the high cost of education system prevalent in universities and technical educational institutions in the country, at present?