

Policy under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan has submitted its report to the Ministry on 31st May, 2019. The Draft NEP 2019 has been uploaded on MHRD's website and also at *innovate.mygov.in* platform to elicit suggestions/comments. The Committee had suggested various recommendations to improve the quality of education in the country. At this stage, the Draft Report is under consideration and suggestions/comments have been invited from various stakeholders including the public, Government of India Ministries and State Governments. The Government will finalize the National Education Policy only after considering the inputs/suggestions and comments of all stakeholders.

Compulsory learning of mother tongue

1482. SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to ensure compulsory learning of mother tongue in schools till secondary stage;
- (b) whether there is a decline in the number of school children studying mother tongue as one of the language subjects till secondary stage and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry to ensure preservation and promotion of six classical languages; and
- (d) whether the Ministry would consider setting up a Central Language University for each of the classical languages on the lines of Urdu Central University?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Section 29 (2) (f) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 states that "medium of instruction shall, as far as practicable, be in child's mother tongue". The National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005 emphasizes the importance of imparting primary education in the mother tongue of the child.

Since education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, States have the liberty to decide the medium of instruction in schools. The NCF clearly states that the Three-Language Formula is an attempt to address the challenges and opportunities of the linguistic situation in India. As per the "Three Language Formula" the first language to be studied must be the mother tongue or the regional language.

(c) The policy of the Government is to promote all Indian Languages including Classical Languages. Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore works for the promotion of all Indian Languages including classical languages. CIL works for promotion of four classical languages viz. Kannada, Telgu, Malayalam and Odia. There is a separate institute namely Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT) which works for the development and promotion of Classical Tamil. The Government of India is promoting the Sanskrit Language through three Deemed Universities viz. Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan (RSKS), New Delhi, Shri Lai Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi and Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, Tirupati.

(d) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration.

Opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas in Maharashtra

†1483. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to set up Kendriya Vidyalayas in Ratnagiri, Bijapur, Karwar and Belgaum districts under Konkan region of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) Proposals for opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) are considered only if sponsored by Ministries or Departments of the Government of India/State Governments/Union Territories Administrations thereby committing resources for setting up a new KV as well as the availability of necessary sanction of the Government. The proposals received from various sponsoring authorities for opening of new KVs also have to compete among other proposals under the "Challenge Method".

Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has informed that it has not received any proposals in the prescribed proformae for opening of new KVs at Ratnagiri (Maharashtra) and Bijapur (Karnataka). As regards Karwar (Karnataka), KVS has informed that it had received 2 proposals from the District Administration, Karwar for opening of new KVs at Dodnalli and Kansagiri taluks of Distt. Karwar. As these proposals were found to be incomplete, the Distt. Collector, Karwar was advised to resubmit the proposals

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.