

(c) whether a proposed plan to ensure State autonomy in education exists, with the dilution of State Department of School Education in the NEP, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 provides that States will prepare their own curricula, based on the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE) prepared by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), to the extent possible and prepare textbooks based on the NCERT textbook materials to the extent possible, incorporating State flavour and material as needed. The Policy further provides that while doing so, it must be borne in mind that NCERT curriculum would be taken as the nationally acceptable criterion.

(b) and (c) The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 provides that the Department of School Education, which is the apex state level body in school education, will be responsible for overall monitoring and policy- making for continual improvement of the public education system. There is no dilution of State Department of School Education in the NEP 2020. Academic matters, including academic standards and curricula in the State will be led by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), (which is under State Department of School Education), with close consultation and collaboration with the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). To ensure that all schools follow certain minimal professional and quality standards, States/ Union Territories (UTs) will set up an independent, State-wide, body called the State School Standards Authority (SSSA). The SSSA will establish a minimal set of standards based on basic parameters namely, safety, security, basic infrastructure, number of teachers across subjects and grades, financial probity, and sound processes of governance, which shall be followed by all schools.

Status of online classes in Kendriya Vidyalayas

1306. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the students enrolled in Kendriya Vidyalayas have been availing online classes and the percentage of schools taking online classes;

(b) if so, the percentage of students attending such classes and whether notes are being made available to those who are unable to attend such classes; and

(c) if not, the plans in place to recover the academic time lost to students enrolled in Kendriya Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. All Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) across the country are conducting online classes. In order to reach out to students who have limited /no access to online learning, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has taken various measures such as preparing and delivering worksheets and handouts to the students at their homes, making available content material on pen drives, sending Questions and Answers through SMS, besides guided peer learning for students staying in the same locality etc. Community teaching maintaining social distancing is also undertaken.

(c) KVS is making constant efforts to connect with all its students. There is also a Compensation of Academic Loss Programme (CALP) in all the KVs where extra classes are organized for the benefit of students who have missed out on their classes, due to various reasons.

MoUs with foreign HEIs under NEP

1307. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether MoUs with foreign Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) will be signed after per-mission of State Government where they wish to set up their institute;

(b) the formal procedure that has been arrived at for the balance of power (for regulation) between Centre and State, when a foreign HEI is established; and

(c) if not, whether such a procedure is to be expected and by when?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) Recently announced National Education Policy, 2020 contains provisions, *inter alia*, for

(i) facilitation of research/teaching collaborations and faculty/student exchanges with high quality foreign institutions and signing of relevant mutually beneficial MOUs with foreign countries;

(ii) encouraging High Performing Indian universities to set up campuses in other countries;

(iii) facilitating selected universities e.g. those among the top 100 universities in the world to operate in India; and,