RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1154
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2021

Reforms in CBSE exams

1154   Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a)   the steps taken to engage with students every year before their Board Exams to help them overcome anxiety and stress and whether Ministry also propose to introduce CBSE Board Exam reforms in a phased manner and whether exams will move away from rote-learning and students shall be tested on their conceptual clarity, analytical skills and application of knowledge to real life situations; and

(b)   the present status thereof and views of States taken into consideration so far?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(**SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN**)

(a) and (b):   The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has taken following pre-examination steps for psychological wellbeing of students:

➢ CBSE provides psychological tele-counseling services through toll free number across the country to students and parents before annual examinations every year.
➢ The facility of IVRS is also provided to the students/parents/stakeholders for disseminating useful information about exams every year.
➢ Free of Cost weekly Question Answer Columns are published under CBSE annual Counseling program in Malyalam Manorama and Amar Ujala in the month preceding annual Board examinations.
➢ CBSE has also launched a counseling app called 'Dost For Life' for psycho social Wellness of students of classes IX-XII during the pandemic.

CBSE has made concerted efforts to ensure more focus on assessing the application of conceptual knowledge and analytical skills in real life contexts by student rather than rote memorisation of the content. To test the understanding of students rather than mere content, CBSE has started modifying the design of its Question Papers (QP). This is done by adding 10% of questions oriented towards a higher-order application which are source/case-based and related to a real-life context.

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