

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1954
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2021

Engagement of NCAER for skill development in schools

1954. SHRI SANJAY SETH:
SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the new National Education Policy released in 2020 has put a great emphasis on skill development from young age in schools and if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether the CBSE has signed an MoU with National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) for a project on skill development in schools and if so, details thereof;
- (c) number of research studies to be undertaken by NCAER to provide appropriate advice on development of skills in schools in accordance with the National Education Policy 2020; and
- (d) the other steps taken by Government to develop skills in schools in a time bound manner?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a): Yes Sir. National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 has put great emphasis on skill development and Vocational Education from young age in schools. Some of the major recommendations relating to development of Vocational Education under NEP 2020 are:

- Exposure of Vocational Education at early ages in Middle (Class VI to VIII) and Secondary schools
- Every child to learn at least one vocation
- By 2025, exposure of vocational education to at least 50% of learners through the school and higher education system
- Integration of Vocational education in the educational offerings of all Secondary schools in a phased manner over the next decade
- Setting up of Skill labs in the schools in a hub and spoke model
- Vocational courses through online and Open Distance Learning (ODL) mode

Under Vocationalisation of School Education component of the Centrally Sponsored scheme ‘Samagra Shiksha’, NSQF compliant vocational courses, based on the job roles which have been approved by National Skill Qualification Committee (NSQC) under National Council of Vocational Education and Training (NCVET), are offered to the students for Class IX to XII alongwith other academic subjects.

In order to fulfil various objectives of NEP in true spirit, the existing scheme of Samagra Shiksha has been revamped and various new interventions relating to Vocational Education have been incorporated. Some of them are as under:

- Coverage of Vocational Education has been expanded to cover Government aided schools also in addition to Government Schools.
- The provision for Hub and Spoke Model has been made with the aim to utilize the infrastructure available in the Hub Schools or Industrial Training Institutes (ITI) by the students of nearby schools (spoke schools) for vocational training.
- Exposure of pre-vocational education at Upper Primary level, internships, bagless days etc have been included under Innovation component of Samagra Shiksha.

(b) and (c): Yes Sir. CBSE has signed MoU with the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) on 15th June, 2021 for a study on skilling in schools and to provide appropriate advice to CBSE on research findings to implement NEP-2020 on skilling in schools. The MoU envisages the following:

- Preparation of a report on the status and problems with existing project of Skilling in CBSE schools, in first phase.
- Identification of steps and measures to overcome the constraints and strengthen the positive factors identified in first phase to make the skilling programmes in CBSE schools more effective in meeting their goals.

(d): In order to implement skilling in Schools in a time-bound manner, various tasks have been identified for implementing each recommendation of NEP including those relating to Vocational Education with clearly defined time-lines and responsibilities of various implementing agencies like Ministry, States, UTs and various Organisations of Ministry of Education (MoE). This has been documented as “Students and Teachers Holistic Advancement through Quality Education (SARTHAQ)” and published on the website of the Ministry of Education.

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