

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

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 360  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2022

**Employment oriented education**

**360 # Ms. Saroj Pandey:**

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prepared any action plan to make basic education employment oriented; and
- (b) if so, the nature of said action plan and if not, whether Government would consider to prepare any such action plan?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)**

(a) & (b): 'Education' is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the jurisdiction of the respective State Governments and UT Administration. The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing an initiative of Vocationalisation of School Education under the umbrella of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Samagra Shiksha'. The scheme aims at integrating Vocational Education with general academic education in all Secondary/Senior Secondary schools; enhancing the Employability and Entrepreneurial abilities of the students, providing exposure to work environment; and generating awareness amongst students about various career options so as to enable them to make a choice in accordance with their aptitude, competence and aspirations. The scheme covers Government and Government aided schools.

The objective of basic education during Grades 1 to 8 is to lay a strong foundation of general education through compulsory education, as envisaged in the Right to Education Act 2009. However, under the scheme of Samagra Shiksha, a provision for giving exposure to vocational education to the students of Classes VI to VIII has been made with an aim to

provide opportunities to the students to orient themselves with the skills required for various occupations in a Sector and to equip them to make informed choices while selecting their subjects in higher classes. Till 2021-22, 7136 schools have been approved, out of which this initiative has so far been implemented in 2623 schools with reported enrolment of 341893 students.

Under the scheme, National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) compliant vocational courses are offered to the students from class 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> in the schools covered under the scheme. Employability Skills module has been made a mandatory part of the vocational Courses. It consists of Communication Skills, Self-Management Skills, Information and Communication Technology Skills, Entrepreneurship Skills and Green Skills.

In addition, to fulfil the various objectives of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, following new interventions have also been provisioned under the existing scheme of Samagra Shiksha:

- i. For providing hands-on experience of a sampling of important vocational crafts, such as carpentry, electric work, metal work, gardening, pottery making, etc., a provision of a fun course for the students of class VI to VIII has been made.
- ii. A 10-day bagless period has been introduced for class VI to VIII students to intern them with local vocational experts such as carpenters, gardeners, potters, artists, etc.

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