

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3315
ANSWERED ON 29.03.2023

SKILL DEVELOPMENT FOR CHILDREN

3315. SHRI MANAS RANJAN MANGARAJ:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) what does Government mean by 'skill programmes' for school children under the Skill India Mission;
- (b) whether measures shall be taken for the introduction of skill development programmes in schools for children of all ages; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a) to (c) The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 envisages curriculum integration of essential subjects and skills in all schools and higher education institutions in a phased manner to provide necessary vocational skills for a variety of occupations along with awareness about the benefits of vocational education.

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.

Under Vocational Education component of 'Samagra Shiksha', National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) compliant vocational courses are offered to the students from class 9th to 12th 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.

At the Secondary level i.e. Class IX and X, vocational modules are offered to the students as an additional subject. At Senior Secondary level, i.e. Class XI and XII, vocational courses are offered as a compulsory (elective) subject. Vocational Courses are selected on the basis of notional hours, age & educational qualification prescribed and suitability for school students.

As of now as per Prabandh portal, 17,761 schools have been approved under the scheme out of which the scheme has so far been implemented in 14,056 schools with the reported total enrolment of 19,09,256 students.

Further, The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in coordination with Ministry of Education organized Skill network, School network and Higher Education network into Skill Hubs Initiative (SHI) as a pilot project under PMKVY 3.0 with a focus on introduction of skill training programme in education ecosystem as envisioned in National Education Policy. Under PMKVY 3.0, an amount of Rs. 700 crore was earmarked separately for SHI. As on 31.12.2022, 1,957 SHI have been established across the country.

Under the National Education Policy 2020 also, there is a special emphasis on vocational education and Skill Development. Integration of vocational education with general education and mainstreaming of vocational education have been identified as the key reform in the education system of the country.
