

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-686
ANSWERED ON 08/02/2023

Key issues affecting quality of education

686 **Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy:**

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

- (a) Whether the government is aware of the fact that if we need to progress towards Sustainable Development Goal-4 (SDG-4), the key issues needs to be examined that affect the quality of education in India today;
- (b) If so, the steps taken by the government in this regard; and
- (c) If not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (c): The Government of India has notified the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) which aims to address the growing developmental imperatives of education including Sustainable Development Goal (SDG). This Policy proposes the revision and revamping of all aspects of the education structure, including its regulation and governance, to create a new system that is aligned with the aspirational goals of 21st century education, including SDG4, while building upon India's traditions and value systems. SDG Goal 4 is related to education and it aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030.

The Government of India has taken various steps to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and improving the quality of education. The Samagra Shiksha, an integral scheme for School Education as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented throughout the country with effect from the year 2018-19 extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of schools education.

Further, to improve the quality of education and to achieve the SDG4 Goals, Department of School Education and Literacy, has taken following specific steps:

1. National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) has been launched under Samagra Shiksha for ensuring that every child in the country necessarily attains foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN) by the end of Grade 3, and e-content for the same has been released in DIKSHA platform.

2. NISHTHA integrated training programme 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0 Integrated Teacher Training Programme has been introduced for different stages of school education for Teachers, Head Teachers/Principals and other stakeholders in Educational Management.
3. Learning Outcomes for the Secondary level have been notified.
4. National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2021 has been conducted on 12th November 2021 by the Ministry of Education to evaluate children's progress and learning competencies as an indicator of the health of the education system, and to take appropriate steps for remedial actions at different levels. The report of the NAS 2020-21 was published on 25th May 2022.
5. To ensure universal acquisition of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) skills and to establish a baseline for NIPUN Bharat Mission, Nationwide Foundational Learning Survey (FLS) for Grade 3 students was carried out by Ministry of Education. The objective of the study was to establish reading proficiency benchmark for fluency and comprehension for each of the language considered under the survey and proficiency benchmark for numeracy. The report of the survey was published on 2nd September 2022. Ministry of Education also organized workshops on Post-FLS interventions with all the States/UTs including a National Workshop to collaborate & support activities in the States/UTs to improve the foundational Literacy and Numeracy skills.
6. The Structured Assessment for Analyzing Learning levels (SAFAL) framework has been developed by CBSE and launched on 29th July 2021 for Competency-based assessment in CBSE schools for grades 3, 5 and 8 focusing on testing for core concepts, application-based questions and higher order thinking skills.
7. VIDYA PRAVESH—Guidelines for Three-month Play-based School Preparation Module for Grade-I Children have been released on 29th July 2021 to ensure that all children are exposed to a warm and welcoming environment when they enter Grade-I.
8. Introduction of Indian Sign Language as a subject at secondary level by National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS).

To achieve the goal of quality in higher education, Government have initiated various schemes namely, Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), Impacting Research, Innovation & Technology (IMPRINT), Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP), Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission of Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNMTT), Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM), National Digital Library, campus connect programme, Uchchatar Avishkar Abhiyan, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, Impactful Research in Social Sciences (IMPRESS), Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA), National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).
