

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 993
ANSWERED ON 31.07.2024**

Tuitions, Tutorials & Rote Learning

993. Shri Jawhar Sircar:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has studied the phenomenon of private tuitions that are almost compulsory from early schooling onwards, as class teaching is inadequate and syllabuses too overloaded;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to tackle this;
- (c) Government's response to coaching and tutorial industries at Kota and the high pressure of competition that leads to suicides; and
- (d) the manner in which Government plans to get out of rote learning systems that churn out vast number of unemployable youngsters?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (d): National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) recognises that the current nature of secondary school exams, including Board exams as well as entrance exams is compelling the students as well as parents to opt for coaching for better results. It is replacing valuable time for true learning with excessive focus on coaching only for passing examination/entrance test through rote learning and memorization. In this context, it suggests introducing greater flexibility, student choice, and best-of-two attempts, assessments that primarily test core capacities and develop further viable models of Board Exams that reduce pressure and the coaching culture. NEP 2020 inter-alia provides that curriculum content will be reduced in each subject to its core essentials, to make space for critical thinking and more holistic, inquiry-based, discovery-based, discussion-based, and analysis-based learning. The mandated content will focus on key concepts, ideas, applications, and problem-solving. Teaching and learning will be conducted in a more interactive manner; questions will be encouraged, and classroom sessions will regularly contain more fun, creative, collaborative, and exploratory activities for students for deeper and more experiential learning, rather than rote learning.

As far as early schooling is concerned, several initiatives like National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) for ensuring foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of Grade 3; Vidya-Pravesh–Guidelines for Three-month Play-based School Preparation Module; National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (NCF FS); Jadui Pitara for play-based learning teaching material tailored for children between the age group of 3 to

8 years etc have been taken. Additionally, The PM eVidya initiative unifies all efforts related to digital, online, and on-air education, enabling multi-mode access to equitable, quality and lifelong education for all. Launched as 12 DTH TV Channels - One Class, One Channel for classes 1-12, it has grown to 200 direct-to-home TV channels transmitting educational e-content for students of all classes and providing continuous professional development training programmes for teachers and educators. Also, the Guidelines for 'Bagless Days' has been developed by NCERT. These guidelines are designed to make learnings in schools more joyful, experiential and stress free for students. The guidelines encompass a variety of activities including activities outside classrooms and skill based learning through 10 "Bagless Days".

National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has rationalised and updated the content of textbooks, as per extant procedures, across the grades and subjects in the year 2021-22. Specific criteria were also developed for the rationalisation of content load, including overlapping content, high difficulty level, etc. These textbooks are continued from 2022-23 sessions onwards. Subsequently, some updates have been included in the year 2023-24 due to evolution of knowledge, facts and their interpretations.

Keeping in view the growth in number of unregulated private coaching centers in the country in the absence of any laid down policy or regulation; instances of such centers charging exorbitant fees from students; undue stress on students resulting in students committing suicides and many other malpractices being adopted by these centres, Ministry of Education has circulated a Guidelines for Regulation of Coaching Center to States/UTs on 16.01.2024 for consideration by way of appropriate legal framework. Education being in the concurrent list, the State and UT Governments need to take further action by way of appropriate legal framework.

In line with recommendations of NEP 2020 for regular formative assessments, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development) has been set up for setting standards for student assessment across all school boards in India. It endeavours to align assessment patterns with the evolving demands of the 21st century.

For higher education, entrance examinations like CUET, JEE, NEET etc. are conducted based on learning level in core subjects studied in Board level examinations. JEE exams are conducted twice a year and student has option to appear in these examinations and the best of two results is considered. CUET, JEE and NEET are available in 13 Indian languages for ease of students' comprehensibility.

SATHEE platform has been launched to provide high-quality content for the competitive examinations like JEE and NEET, along with providing an online assessment module for students. It leverages Web Platform, Mobile Application, YouTube live sessions & DTH channels for delivery. More than 10,000 Hours of Learning Content is available across topics and subjects for the learners. The platform recently hosted a 45-day JEE crash course in 5 languages including English, aimed at providing intensive preparation and revision.
