

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 987
ANSWERED ON 04/12/2024

New National Education Policy, 2024

987. Shri Digvijaya Singh:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the implementation of the New National Education Policy, 2024 including key milestones achieved and areas where progress has been delayed;
- (b) key challenges encountered in integrating the 5+3+3+4 education structure;
- (c) the measures taken to address disparities in educational access and quality between urban and rural regions; and
- (d) the steps undertaken to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the policy reforms, along with recent assessments or reports on their impact?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a): A number of transformative changes have taken place both in school and higher education after announcement of National Education Policy (NEP 2020). In School Education several initiatives have been taken such as alignment of Samagra Shiksha with the recommendation of the NEP; National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) for ensuring foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of Grade 2; Vidya-Pravesh Guidelines for Three-month Play-based School Preparation Module; PM e-VIDYA to unify all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable coherent multi-mode access to education; DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing) as One Nation One Digital Platform having e-Books and e-Contents; launch of National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (NCF-FS) and Jai Pitara for play-based learning teaching material tailored for children between the age group of 3 to 8 years; National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) to address the entire educational journey until secondary stage. PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development); NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) Elementary, Secondary, FLN & ECCE; Vidya Samiksha Kendra; Integrated Teacher Education Programme; National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST); National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR) for creating a unifying national digital infrastructure to energise and catalyse the education ecosystem, implementation of a scheme "New India Literacy Programme or ULLAS" targeting all non-literates age 15 years and above, etc.

PM SHRI Scheme has been launched with an aim to develop more than 14,500 selected schools as exemplar schools that offer leadership to other schools in the neighbourhood, showcasing all the initiatives of NEP 2020.

(b): NEP 2020 envisages modification of the extant 10+2 structure in school education with a new pedagogical and curricular restructuring of 5+3+3+4 covering ages 3-18. Accordingly, the curricular and pedagogical structure and the curricular framework for school education is to be guided by a 5+3+3+4 design, consisting of the Foundational Stage (3 years of Anganwadi/preschool + 2 years in primary school in Grades 1-2; both together covering ages 3-8), Preparatory Stage (Grades 3-5, covering ages 8-11), Middle Stage (Grades 6-8, covering ages 11-14), and Secondary Stage (Grades 9-12 in two phases, i.e., 9 and 10 in the first and 11 and 12 in the second, covering ages 14-18).

Additionally, the National Curriculum Framework for the Foundational Stage (NCF-FS) and National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) has been launched by the Department of School Education and Literacy. These are the first ever integrated Curriculum Frameworks for children between ages 3-18 in India and it is a direct outcome of the 5+3+3+4 'curricular and pedagogical' structure that NEP 2020 has come out with for School Education. Based on these National Curriculum Frameworks, textbooks for classes 1,2, 3 and 6 have also been prepared.

Further, Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and major responsibility of implementation of NEP 2020 following prescribed norms and standards falls under the domain of the States and UT Governments.

(c) and (d): The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha focuses on improvement in quality of education by providing support for different interventions to all States and UTs, like in-service training of teachers and school heads, conduct of achievement surveys at state and national level, composite school grant to every school for providing a conducive learning environment, grants for library, sports and physical activities, support for Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan, ICT and digital initiatives, School Leadership development programme, remedial teaching for academically weaker students, etc.

To create awareness and discuss innovative ideas for NEP implementation, a series of workshops / consultation-cum-review meetings have been held with States/UTs, Educational Institutions, other stakeholders from time to time. Implementation of NEP 2020 was discussed in National Education Ministers' Conference held in June 2022; National Conference of Chief Secretaries held in June 2022 and December 2023; 7th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog held in August 2022; Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Samagam 2022, 2023 and 2024, 9th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog held on 27th July 2024. There has been wide publicity with a positive and encouraging response from stakeholders on NEP 2020.

NEP 2020 provides different timelines as well as principles and methodology for its implementation. It also envisions operationalization of the entire policy in the decade of 2030-40, following which another comprehensive review will be undertaken. Education being in the concurrent list of Constitution, Centre and States are equally responsible for providing quality education to all. Accordingly, Ministry of Education, State Governments, education-related Ministries, the regulatory and implementing bodies of school and higher education such as University Grants Commission, All India Council for Technical Education, National Council for Teacher Education, National Council of Educational Research and Training, Central Board of Secondary Education, Universities/Colleges/Schools etc. have taken several initiatives for implementation of NEP 2020. Monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the NEP is an ongoing process.
