

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

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**MEETING OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT FOR  
THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT HELD**

**New Delhi, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

The Meeting of the Consultative Committee of Parliament for the Ministry of Human Resource Development was held here today. The subject of discussion for the meeting was “National Education Policy”. The Union HRD Minister Smt Smriti Irani while introducing the topic of discussion welcomed the members attending the Parliamentary Consultative Committee Meeting. Minister of State for HRD, Shri Upendra Kushwaha also attended the Committee Meeting.

A presentation was made at the Consultative Committee Meeting by the JS, Ministry of HRD which highlighted the need for formulating the New Education Policy. The presentation brought out the fact that since technology has evolved and MOOCs, Distance Learning and on line courses are the emerging areas today in the educational scenario, there is a greater need to work out a New Educational Policy. The New Education Policy aims at meeting the twenty- first century challenges – globalization and liberalization. Also changing nature of knowledge and multi-disciplinary approach to learning, calls for formulating a New Education Policy according to the Presentation.

Thirty-three themes- thirteen under school Education and twenty under Higher Education have been identified for the consultation process of the New Education Policy. The rationale and objectives for the consultative process is a time-bound, grass-root consultative process; and an on-line consultation and complete transparency of consultation process through MyGov.in; Under Grassroot Consultative process, around 2.5 lakh meetings will be held at village level; approximately 6600 meetings at the Block level, 676 at the District level and 3700 meetings will be held at the Urban Municipal Bodies level. States/UTs could hold more than one meeting at the State level involving various stake holders. Thematic Consultations through experts’ workshops will also take place from April-September 2015. The entire consultations will continue till December, 2015.

Almost all the members unanimously agreed to the fact that lower primary level education and primary level education needs to be strengthened; learning outcomes need to be improved; moral education needs to be emphasized; and the problem of scarcity of teachers at all levels needs to be tackled. Some members raised the issues like need to review the no retention

policy up to eighth standard in schools, skill development and life skills; and measures to check absenteeism of teachers in schools, especially in rural areas.

Members of Lok Sabha who were present at the Consultative Committee Meeting were Shri Abhishek Singh, Shri C.S.Puttaraju, Shri Jose k. Mani. ShriK.C.Venugopal, Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya, Shri Lalubhai Babubhai Patel, Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan, Shri Muthamseti Srinivas Rao, Dr. Ravindra Kumar Ray, Smt Renuka Butta, and Smt Rita Tarai. Members of Rajya Sabha who attended the meeting were Shri Derek Obrien, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyer, Shri Ritabrata Banerjee, Shri Ram Kumar Kashyap, Dr. Sanjay Sinh, Smt Vijila Sathyanath, and Shri Vinay Katiyar.

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**DS/ New Education Policy**