



# AKHIL BHARATIYA VIDYARTHI PARISHAD

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20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Shri Prakash Javadekar  
Hon'ble Minister for Human Resources Minister  
Government of India, New Delhi

*Received*  
*20/07/18*

Memorandum: Pertinent issues in educational domain.

Assistant Private Secretary to  
Minister of Human Resources Development  
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली  
Govt. of India, New Delhi

Respected Javadekarji,

Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) is patriotic students' organisation working for the national and students' cause in education for over seven decades now. ABVP with its around 3 million members across the country keep itself updated with issues relating to the educational domain and raises its concerns to the authorities and policy makers regularly. It is in this regard that this delegation of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad wishes to seek your kind attention to the following pertinent subjects of educational domain primarily concerning the Union Government and at times as custodian of education domain in the country also seeks intervention in issues of larger context to apprise you to have positive outcomes.

In furtherance to the earlier delegation of ABVP under the present Shri Narendra Modi led government, where we have regularly presented students' concern with utmost sincerity:

1. **National Education Policy:** The present committee for the re-drafting of National Education Policy chaired by Dr K Kasturirangan is yet to submit its draft. There is an urgent need for a comprehensive policy so that other set of reforms can be undertaken in tune with the NEP.
  - a. The National Education Policy should be declared at the earliest incorporating the suggestions put forth by various stakeholders, and keen attention should be paid to its implementation.
  - b. It is also demanded that any reform suggested for the education should therefore be tabled only after declaration of National Education Policy.
  - c. National Education Policy should cover Agriculture Education and National Medical Education Policy immediately.
2. **Quality Education:**
  - a. To improve the quality of education in the school education and higher education sector, the taught-teacher ratio should be lowered. It can be lowered by forcing the strict rule as "All approved posts in all schools and institutes should not remain vacant and unfilled for more than 3 months."
  - b. 10% the budget or 6% of GDP should be allocated to education.
  - c. Primary education in India should be made available in the mother tongue and various initiatives should be undertaken to promote the same. Medium of education should be 22 Indian languages mentioned in constitution of India and from primary to higher level, education should be imparted in Indian languages. Present English medium may also stay here. About the language and Medium of Instruction:
    - i. Education must be imparted in mother tongue or regional language up to standard 5th in all private and public schools.
    - ii. Up to 10th standard 3 languages should be learnt in schools and 2 languages in 11th and 12th standard. Option for the language must be another language.



- iii. In higher education students should have a choice to write examination in regional language
- d. For overall development of students, their participation in activity bases leaning through drawing, music, sports and social service should be made instituted in education.
- e. Universities and other educational institutes should utilize their corpus fund in the establishment and running of special institutes for research on the development of local area.
- f. Semester pattern which has confined students to writing exams only, should be rolled back in all non-professional courses at graduation level.
- g. Syllabus of all academic courses should be updated regularly to serve the needs of ever changing scenario on global arena.

**3. Scholarships & Financial Assistance:** Scholarship and fellowships are a means to support, assist and incentivize education for the various sections of the society. Such financial assistance paves way for providing some support environment to the students seeking better avenues of education and research.

- a. Scholarships provided to pre-matric and post-matric students should be increased by 3 times of what meagre amount is given today.
- b. Scholarship schemes should be regularly reviewed to promote research in the country.
- c. Disbursing agency for the scholarships on national as well as on state level should be made accountable and answerable for the undistributed scholarships. And, latest technological advancements should be utilized for ensuring hassle free disbursement.
- d. To ensure fair mechanism in distribution of scholarships, scholarship should be transferred directly to the students at the beginning of the academic year. A separate cell should be established to combat problems that arise in distribution of scholarships where grievances can be addressed promptly.
- e. Scholarship tracking platform should be made and students should be able to access status their scholarship in real time via a common website and a mobile application. This platform should cover all scholarships of Government of India.
- f. To address the standing grievances of student beneficiaries, an inter-ministerial coordination committee should be formed under the leadership of MHRD to streamline all processes and implement necessary changes in this regard.
- g. Non-NET fellowships should be increased with a clear policy on the basis of price hike and current needs. Non-NET fellowship which is currently limited to central universities and some state universities should be expanded to all state universities as well.
- h. Fraudulent transaction from fake accounts created by some money minting institutes and non-distribution of Utilization Certificates point towards a widespread mess-up. A high-level committee should be set up to investigate into such scandals.
- i. The amount of fellowships and scholarships should be increased from time to time keeping in mind the price index. Proper and timely disbursement of all scholarships should and fellowships should be ensured.

**4. Higher Education Commission of India:** As National Education Policy (NEP) is yet to be declared, without which any suggestion to repeal UGC is premature and unwarranted. ABVP is of opinion that the proposed Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) is a sub set of what ABVP had proposed to the MHRD in 2014 as National Education Commission. *Rashtriya Shiksha Ayog* (NEC) should be an autonomous body to see entire education from pre-primary to higher education in an integrated and an independent way similar to Election Commission or Atomic Energy Commission and thus be headed by an eminent educationist. Though ABVP, in principle, is not in objection to any set of reforms in education system, we propose that any such change should be through all-encompassing act(s) of legislation. The need of such major reforms in the Higher Education has been felt for a long time now but ABVP strongly feels that the time given by the MHRD for discussion and contemplation on the proposed bill is really inadequate. Such a major overhaul should be undertaken only after major discussions with the stakeholders especially educationists.

- a. The Commission is proposed to have 12 other members apart from the directly selected Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. Out of these 12 members, only 4 shall be academicians



- opposes this and demands that the committee should have more representation of academicians and educationists so that people who are well aware of the real situation on ground have a say in this crucial policy making.
- b. The Search-Cum-Selection Committee shouldn't be chaired by the Cabinet Secretary but instead by an eminent academician so that the political interference in the process is minimized.
  - c. This commission should indeed cover the entire spectrum of Higher Education and as such, all higher education institutions including autonomous bodies should be covered in its ambit of policy making.
  - d. All regulatory bodies for professional higher education (like MCI, AICTE etc.) should have a robust coordination mechanism with the proposed Higher Education Commission so that there is congruity in their functioning.
  - e. The Commission, being an all India body, should have adequate representation of various regions of the country. If only two educationists are selected to be its members, they may not be well aware of the difficulties in other regions. We suggest at least 6 eminent educationists from 6 regions (North, West, South, Central, East & North-East) to be nominated as its members.

**5. Commercialization of Education:** Rampant commercialization in schools and higher education is a bane for India's future. And the issue concerning financial autonomy to various private institutes also raises this fear increasing fee for various degree courses. Hence, ABVP demands that

- a. Central Govt. should enact a proper Central Legislation at the earliest to stop the ever-increasing commercialization, corruption and the autocratic attitude of private universities and other private educational institutions.
- b. Granting full financial freedom under the name of graded autonomy on the basis of NAAC accreditation should be withdrawn, so as to ensure students are not forced to exorbitant fees and such institution are not turned into money minting malls.
- c. Government should take immediate steps to curb malpractices in ever mushrooming coaching institutions which are hitherto unregulated and openly indulging in exploitation of students and families in the name of getting admitted in national level examination.
- d. ABVP demands a law for fees and admission regulation to stop the arbitrary attitude of private schools and colleges.

**6. Equity & Social Justice:** To let education reach the very quarters of the marginalized, a lot is to be done to secure social justice for students belonging to marginalized sections of the society. Hence it is requested that

- a. Implementation of facilities and schemes in SC/ST hostels meant for the holistic development of SC/ST students should be ensured and the basic infrastructure of these hostels should be properly regulated and modernized.
- b. The scholarships meant for SC/ST students should be decided on the basis of the price index of the country. And its numbers be increased accordingly with increase in the number of students undertaking various levels of education.
- c. Considering the number of SC/ST students, the hostel facilities should be enhanced.
- d. National scholarships should be provided to all research students from SC/ST category.
- e. Traditional skills of ST community be included in skill development effort and adequate training facilities be provided.
- f. Hostel facilities should be developed at district level for students taking competitive examinations.
- g. Reservation for SC/ST students should be provided as per Indian Constitution at Aligarh Muslim University and Jamia Milia Islamia.
- h. The vacant posts of teachers should be filled by the govt. immediately. Appointments should be made against the SC/ST/OBC/PWD (Divyang) posts should be made without delay, and proper arrangements should be made for the teachers.
- i. Protection, conservation and research of tribal languages should be promoted.
- j. History of icons of tribal communities should be included in academic syllabus.

7. **Women Education:** Making quality education equitably reach to the half of our citizenry needs a constant focus from the policy makers and implementing agency. Hence, ABVP firmly demands that:
  - a. Women Colleges should be opened in each sub-division to provide higher education in rural areas.
  - b. The central government should take effective steps for easy and affordable access to biodegradable sanitary napkins in all education institutes and install its vending machines.
  - c. Facility of hostels should
8. **Minority Institutions:** Educational institutes established by linguistic and religious minority are have students from various strata of the society including the very marginalized classes.
  - a. ABVP demands that Govt of India should bring an act of legislation to re-instate constitutionally mandated reservations in minority-run institutions
9. **Teaching Posts in Centrally Funded Institutes & Universities:** Vacant posts of teaching in various institutes is a worrisome trend, and we demand immediate step to
  - a. Fill up all vacant position of teaching staff in centrally funded universities and institutes including IITs, IIMs and NITs etc.
  - b. Various national fellowship should be provided to bring finest faculty from top 100 universities of the world.
10. **Vice-Chancellor's Appointment in Central Universities and National Institutions:** Appointment of Vice-Chancellors in various centrally funded universities and equivalent positions in national institutes should be filled immediately as such institutes of repute are being run with permanent leadership for quite long in many cases.
11. **Students' Union elections:**
  - a. ABVP demands that the Central and State Govt. should hold direct elections of Students' Unions in all higher educational institutions and formulate laws to ensure the role of students' unions in decision making of institutions of the university.
  - b. ABVP demands that student council elections should be held regularly, on time and by direct system. To ensure their full and effective participation in the decisions of institutions, students' union office bearers should be given representation in making bodies like Senate, Academic Council, Executive Council, etc.
  - c. To make students' unions compulsory, Central and State governments should introduce provisions in the acts of all private universities also.
12. **Funding of State Universities:** Central Govt. and the University Grant Commission should ensure proper funding to the State Universities in the same proportion as the Central Universities so as to increase the quality of higher education in the country and the development of the talents and abilities of crores of students of these universities.
  - a. State Governments should establish government colleges and universities so as to restrict the control of private colleges and universities whose numbers have been continuously rising.
  - b. Central and State governments should provide more financial support for infrastructural improvements to govt. colleges and universities, and should ensure its proper utilization; thus, initiating steps to make these institutions more competent and significant in the educational milieu.
13. **National Programs viz. Swachh Bharat, Drugs Free India:** National programs targeted at youth participation in social campaigns should be integrated with mainstream education.
  - a. ABVP appeals to the Central and State Govt. to take steps to retrieve youth of this nation from influence of drugs to ensure a drug-free India.
14. **Skill Development:**
  - a. Policies like Start Up Village, Skill India, Stand Up India Start Up India, Make in India should be made a part of syllabus and the concept of skill development in the students



should be inter-woven right from school education. Students should live with skills from beginning so as to create awareness in the growing minds.

- b. ABVP demands certification facility for experience gained and skills acquired in agriculture, cottage industry linked to traditional vocations and unorganized sectors. ABVP further demands for skill enhancement through new techniques and tools in farming, carpentry and self-employment fields of tourism, *Dharmik Anushthan*, traditional medicine, Yoga, arts, etc. so that such skilled personnel can be provided with respectful position in the society.
- c. Govt. should bring private sector, social organization and educational institutions in skill development project through all 37 sectorial skill development councils.

**15. Agriculture Education:** To increase earning of our farmers, emphasis should be taken to further the quality education in agriculture discipline with an eye on entrepreneurship.

- a. Agriculture as a subject should be compulsorily taught in school syllabus to increase students' interest in the field of agriculture.
- b. More number of agriculture colleges should be opened at district level and all vacant posts of teaching staff should be filled at the earliest.
- c. Agriculture education should be made indo-centric. Students should be taught about plant, organic farming, and conservation of species along with traditional farming system.
- d. 10<sup>0</sup>% reservation should be given to students who come from village area and are from agricultural background.

#### **16. Medical Education**

- a. Proper execution of NEET examination should be ensured. There should also be an integrated admission examination system for AYUSH medical education.
- b. In order to bring changes in medical and dental education, MCI and DCI should be reconstituted, and the recommendations given by the Parliamentary Committee should be implemented at the earliest.

**17. Northeast India region:** Northeast region of India represents the land of rich biodiversity and untapped human resources. ABVP believes that various initiatives should be directed for overall development of the region. And, in this regarding following steps are necessary to create fair opportunities for youth:

- a. Establishment of universities and institutes of international standards in the North East to attract national and international students in order to get inclusive and affordable education here.
- b. Establishment of proper infrastructure in the field of sports i.e. sports universities, academies, scholarships, etc. in order to attain higher position in the medal tally in international competitions, especially Olympics.
- c. Efforts to preserve the languages, dialects, dance forms, culinary skills, music, paintings, literature, etc. of North East India should be undertaken through universities and various academic and research institutes.
- d. Promotion of famous stories, legends, folklore, etc. of North East amongst the citizens of other parts of India through the universities courses, academic literature and inter-university programs.
- e. Conservation, preservation and development of traditional knowledge and the art of craft through education.
- f. After observing the number of untoward incidents that happened with the students from North-East, ABVP demands the Central and State Govt. to take appropriate steps to include information about North-East India in their course curriculum.
- g. Holistic development of the North-East and thereby ensuring the role of North-East in development of India should be the priority of Central and State Governments.

**18. Urban Maoism:** Many organizations and many activists, in the garb of teachers and students, are actively promoting anti-constitutional Maoist activities in campuses of some prominent universities of the country. ABVP demands that

- a. Central and State Governments should take urgent effective measures to stop Maoist activities on University campuses and ban organizations which promote Maoist terror in the garb of cultural and social forums.

**19. Entrance Examinations & National Testing Agency:** The National Testing Agency in line of the National Exam Conducting Board is a welcome move to provide relief to lakhs of students.

- a. Central Govt. should address the issues concerning conduct of exams, should check paper leaks and frame policies to prevent failure in examinations.
- b. Exemplary punishment should be meted out to those accused in question paper leak cases.
- c. Since many students are still not properly acquainted with computers, university exams and national level entrance exams should be conducted in both online and offline mode in the initial few years.

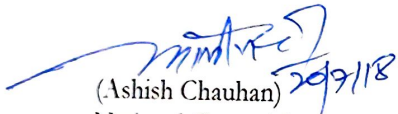
## **20. Sports**

- a. All States and Central Govt. should work proactively to promote sports in universities by establishing Faculty of Sports in universities. Adequate support should be provided to the students who wish to choose sports as a career option.

Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad demands urgent attention of the government on these pressing issues of education sector.

Thanking you

Yours Sincerely,

  
(Ashish Chauhan) 20/9/18  
National General Secretary, ABVP