

KOTHARI COMMISSION

(PART II)

Structural Pattern:

The Kothari Commission suggested a through reconstruction of the system of education of the country to bring radical changes. The structural pattern as per the suggestion of the Commission was as the given below:

1. The new educational system should consist of:
 - a. One to three years of pre-school education
 - b. Primary stage of 7 to 8 years divided onto lower primary stage of 2 to 3 years
 - c. A lower secondary stage of 2 to 3 years
 - d. A higher secondary stage of two years of general education or one to 3 years of vocational education.
 - e. Higher education stage having a course of three years of more for the first degree and followed by course for the second degree or research degree of varying durations.
2. General education should be for the first ten years of schooling which includes seven or eight years of primary stage and two to three years of lower secondary stage.
3. Age of admission to class I should not be less than 6 years.

4. First public examination to be held at the end of ten years of schooling.
5. Secondary schools should be of two types- high schools providing a ten year course and higher secondary schools providing a total of eleven to twelve years of education.
6. New higher secondary course beginning in class XI and XII to provide specialized subjects.
7. At the end of ten years of general education 40% of students should be made to enter working life, 30% should join a vocational course and 30% should receive two years of general education.
8. Only better high schools to be up graded to higher secondary schools should be one fourth of the total number of secondary schools.
9. Transfer of Pre-University course from university and affiliated colleges to Secondary schools by 1975-76 and the duration of the course to be lengthened to two years by 1985-86. The UGC should be responsible for affecting the transfer of all Pre-University or intermediate work from universities and affiliated colleges to school.
10. Instructional days in the years to be increased to about 39 weeks at least.

11. Standard calendar to be worked out by the Ministry of Education in consultation with the State Government.

All over the country the issue of restructuring the formal pattern of education raised hue and cry and after a long debate, the new 10+2+3 pattern which was suggested by the Commission was accepted. This structure was implemented just after the finalization by the National Policy of Education, 1968.