

# Integrated SSC course launched

## Times Report

The government has introduced the integrated course at the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) level from the current month. The students who have just been promoted to Class-IX will be the first batch to go through the new course.

A detailed curricula has already been framed and books based on it are awaiting distribution for the integrated course. Science has been made a compulsory paper. The learners will get instructions in mathematics, history, geography, basic agriculture techniques. The integrated course prepared through years of deliberations at different levels seeks to impart 'complete education' to learners at the level with a view to ensuring that those who would not be able to take up higher studies after passing SSC examination were

equipped with at least some knowledge to earn a livelihood.

Specialisation at the SSC level was considered as too early. And its effect on national development was negative. For more than 50 per cent of SSC pass-outs who cannot take up higher studies find themselves in a helpless situation. Those passing in Humanities group know little about basic principles of commercial activities and even less about the knowledge of science that affects day-to-day life. Similar was the case with those who passed in and Science groups for they got no instructions about the basics of history, civics, or environment.

The integrated course, it is hoped, would upgrade the standard of education at the SSC level.