

duplication and disjunction of regulatory efforts by the multiple regulatory agencies that exist at the current time. The NEP.2020 also states that NHERC will regulate in a 'light but tight' and facilitative manner, meaning that a few important matters particularly financial probity, good governance, and the full online and offline public self-disclosure of all finances, audits, procedures, infrastructure, faculty/staff, courses, and educational outcomes will be very effectively regulated.

**Charging hefty fees for online classes**

1331. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether complaints have been received from parents and similar complaints published in the newspapers that private schools are charging hefty fees for starting online classes;
- (b) if so, the response of Government;
- (c) whether any guidelines were provided to the States, for starting online classes, and to put restriction on the fees levied;
- (d) whether the Central agencies in the education field have developed online software for free distribution among schools and students, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) to (c) Education is a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of schools are under the jurisdiction of the State Governments. Thus, the matter relating to fees and its components in schools are regulated in terms of Rules and Instructions of the State Government concerned. It is for the respective State Government concerned to take necessary action against such schools which violate the Rules and Instructions of the State Government in the matter.

As far as schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education are concerned, they are governed by the clause 7.6 of the Affiliation Byelaws-2018 of CBSE which state 'the acts and regulations of the Central and State/UT governments enacted in connection

with the regulation of fee in respect of the various categories of the schools situated in the state will be applicable to CBSE schools also. Therefore, the complaints received regarding fees are forwarded to the Deputy Education Officer of the concerned State's Department of Education.

As schools affiliated to CBSE are expected to follow the guidelines issued by the respective State/UT government, the Board has requested various State Education Departments in April 2020 to consider issuing instructions on the periodicity of payment of school fees and salaries to the school staff applicable for the pandemic period.

(d) and (e) Online classes are being conducted at the schools by employing various digital tools in the form of DIKSHA portal (<https://diksha.gov.in/>), SWAYAM Portal ([swayam.gov.in](https://swayam.gov.in/)), SWAYAM Prabha, DD Channel, e-Pathshala (<https://epathshala.nic.in/>), NROER (National Repository of Open Educational Resources) portal (<https://nroer.gov.in/welcome>).

The State/UT Governments have also managed the critical task of providing digital education at the door step of the students which are available in India Report-Digital Education June 2020. The report can be accessed here: [https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/India\\_Report\\_Digital\\_Education\\_0.pdf](https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf)

#### **Central University for minority districts**

1332. SHRI K.P. MUNUSAMY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to open a Central University considering the education standard of minorities;

(b) if so, the time-frame for such university to be opened; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) to (c) The setting up of Universities is an ongoing process which is decided according to the demand and need.