

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2609
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2021

Incentivizing philanthropic activity in education

2609 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of incentives provided to private schools as part of the AatmaNirbhar Bharat package and the list of principal entities receiving the same;
- (b) the list of EdTech companies and other organization with whom MOUs were signed by the Ministry to support education delivery during the pandemic;
- (c) a detailed list and details of initiatives taken by the Ministry to prevent overcharging and fee hikes by private schools during the lockdown; and
- (d) whether the Ministry is considering relaxing the not-for profit status of education?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')

(a) & (b) In the year 2020-21, COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic which caused an unprecedented public health emergency, affecting almost all countries and territories globally. However in these challenging circumstances, **Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan** or **Self-reliant India** campaign was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The Government has announced the Special economic and comprehensive package of INR 20 lakh crores - equivalent to 10% of India's GDP – to fight COVID-19 pandemic in India. The aim is to make the country and its citizens independent and self-reliant in all senses.

As a part of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Programme, a comprehensive initiative for using Technology with Equity, called **PM e-VIDYA** has been initiated which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education.

- PM e-Vidya has following components:
 - DIKSHA – One nation, one digital education platform
 - One class, one TV channel – Swayam Prabha
 - E-content for Open School
 - Extensive use of Radio, Community radio and podcast
 - E-content for visually and hearing-impaired students

Swayam Prabha DTH channels are meant to support and reach out to those students who do not have access to the internet. In the Ministry of Education, a total of 32 channels are devoted to telecast high quality educational programmes. Of these, 12 TV channels are earmarked for the one class, one TV channel under the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Programme for the Department of School Education and Literacy. Further, ministry has tied up with private DTH operators like TATA Sky & Airtel to air educational video content to enhance the reach of these channels. The List of MoUs signed during COVID-19 to support education delivery during the pandemic is at **Annexure**.

(c) & (d) 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 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.

National Education Policy 2020 (para. no 8.7) provides for assessment and accreditation of Public and private schools (except the schools that are managed/aided/controlled by the Central government) on the same criteria, benchmarks, and processes, emphasizing online and offline public disclosure and transparency, similar standards of audit and disclosure as a 'not-for-profit'

entity, so as to ensure that public-spirited private schools are encouraged and not stifled in any way. Private philanthropic efforts for quality education may be encouraged - thereby affirming the public-good nature of education - while protecting parents and communities from arbitrary increases in tuition fees.

Annexure

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (a) and (b) OF THE REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2609 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2021 ASKED BY SHRI SUJEET KUMAR REGARDING “INCENTIVIZING PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITY IN EDUCATION”

List of MoUs signed during COVID-19 to support education delivery during the pandemic

S.No.	Organization	Purpose
1	Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Vahini	Sharing of Digital content to be put on DIKSHA Platform
2	Sencilen Interactive Pvt. Ltd	Sharing of Sencilen eContents with DIKSHA and NROER
3	ISLRTC	To Develop Videos using sign language
4	Khan Academy	TO disseminate Khan Academy contents through DIKSHA platform
5	Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo Informatics (BISAG-N)	Transmission of 12 DTH TV channels of NCERT under the PM eVidya program.
6	Rotary Club of India Kolkatta	Sharing of eContents for PM eVIDYA
7	Dragon Learn Organisation	Sharing of eContent related to Primary Mathematics concepts
8	SARD	Sharing of eContent based on Language learning
9	Google India Private Limited	G-Suite for Education
10	Saavn Media Company	Podcasting of NCERT Audio contents through JioSaavn App
11	NETCORE Solutions Pvt Ltd	WhatsApp chatbot for DIKSHA
12	EdCIL	For providing human resource for PM eVIDYA Programme
13	Samsung India Ltd	For establishment of Samsung Smart Classes one each in 80 Jawahar Navodaya vidyalayas during the session 2020-21, under CSR scheme
