

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3876

TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH APRIL, 2022

Internet connectivity issues regarding online education

3876 Shri K.T.S. Tuls:

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

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to provide dedicated internet connectivity to ensure online education to every student studying in schools in rural areas and urban areas which are without or have low internet connectivity; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether there is a plan/scheme to make all the villages internet equipped for the purpose of online education at school level and if so, the details of such plan or scheme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) & (b) Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and States/UTs have been directed to take all the necessary action for the students to have access to education. To improve the internet connectivity in rural areas, the CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd (CSC-SPV) of MEITY has been assigned the task of providing Fiber to the Home (FTTH) connectivity to the Government Institutions, including schools under BharatNet.

Keeping in view the availability of digital infrastructure PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education have been issued. The guidelines brief on various modes of digital education including online mode that depends more on availability of internet, partially online mode that utilizes the blended approach of digital technology and other offline activities, and offline mode that utilizes television and radio as a major medium of instruction of education. The guidelines can be accessed at:

https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines_0.pdf

A comprehensive initiative called PM eVidya has been started which aims to unify all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education. The initiative includes all forms of digital modes to provide wide access- DIKSHA (online), SWAYAM (online), SWAYAM PRABHA (TV), other TV Channels including use of Doordarshan and AIR Networks.
