

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.235
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2022)**

DEDICATED CHANNEL FOR EDUCATION

235. SHRI N.R. ELANGO:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning dedicated television and radio channels for education, especially to cater to the needs of differently-abled students who do not have access to education due to technological and mobile connectivity issues, if so, details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons for not having devoted channels for education, not only for differently abled students but also for those who have suffered for not having mobile connectivity; and
- (c) whether Government is planning for telecasting channel which is dedicated to education, and whether it will be telecasted in regional languages?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): Prasar Bharati has 51 co-branded educational TV channels which have been made available to the viewers of “DD FreeDish”, a free-to-air DTH service, as per MoU signed with Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Informatics {BISAG(N)}, Ministry of Electronics & IT, Government of India. These channels can be viewed across the country free of cost with the help

of a small sized dish and set top box, which does not require any mobile connectivity. The details of these channels are as under: -

S. No.	Type of Channels	Number of channels	Name of Channels
1	Swayam Prabha channels of Ministry of Education, Department of Higher Education	22	DD SWAYAM Prabha 1" to "DD SWAYAM Prabha 22"
2	eVidya Channels of NCERT	12	"DD eVidya 1" to "DD eVidya 12"
3	Vande Gujarat channels of Government of Gujarat	16	"DD Vande Gujarat 1" to "DD Vande Gujarat 16"
4	DigiShala of NeGD, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India (MeitY)	01	"DD DigiShala"

In addition, Gyanvani, a Radio Educational Channel of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), is also made available by Prasar Bharati on “DD Free Dish” to the listeners.

Prasar Bharati also broadcasts various programmes on AIR radio channels covering topics relating to education, health and overall well-being of children including differently-abled students.

Further, in order to provide learning opportunities in the present COVID-19 pandemic, time slots on various Regional Language Satellite Services Channels/ State Network channels of Doordarshan Network are provided to various State Governments/State Government bodies as per their requests for telecasting Educational Programmes.
