

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 343
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2022

Online education system

343 **Shri S. Selvaganabathy:**

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

- (a) whether the divide between rural and urban populations has been erased by the online education system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, along with the steps taken by Government for making online education conducive to every student of the country;
- (c) whether Government agrees with the view that to make online education in universities successful, it is important to focus on providing high-quality learning experience at all levels of schooling; and
- (d) if so, what steps have been taken by Government, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d): Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under domain of respective State and UT Government. However, in order to ensure that every student including those residing in rural and educationally backward districts of the country, gets continues access educational, a multi-pronged approach has been adopted by the Dept. of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education.

A comprehensive initiative called PM e-Vidya has been started as part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan on 17th May, 2020, which unifies all efforts related to digital/ online / on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education. The initiative includes the following components:

- DIKSHA the nation's digital infrastructure for providing quality e-content for school education in states/UTs: and QR coded Energized Textbooks for all grades (one nation, one digital platform)
- One earmarked Swayam Prabha TV channel per class from 1 to 12 (one class, one channel)
- Extensive use of Radio, Community radio and CBSE Podcast- Shiksha Vani
- Special e-content for visually and hearing impaired developed on Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY) and in sign language on NIOS website/ YouTube

Where the digital facility (mobile device/DTH television) is not available, Ministry of Education has taken many initiatives like Community Radio Stations and a podcast called Shiksha Vani of CBSE, Textbooks, worksheet supplied to residence of learners, Handbook on 21st Century Skills and community/mohalla classes are organized. Innovation Funds of the Department are used to set up mobile school, virtual studios, virtual class rooms in schools. Continuous Learning Plan (CLP) for states/UTs has been initiated in all States/UTs, pre-loaded tablets in various states and UTs are effectively used in remote rural areas where online classes are difficult.

Further, an Alternate Academic Calendar has been prepared for learning solutions including self-assessment for grade 1 to 12 for both children with and without device. Bridge Course Modules have also been developed for bridging the learning gaps of Out of School children studying in special training centres (STC) under the provisions of RTE Act, 2009. Also, PRAGYATA guidelines were issued to the States/UTs to facilitate continued education through various modes. The guidelines inter-alia include situation where internet connectivity is not available or available with very less bandwidth, resources are shared through various platforms like television, radio etc. that do not depend on internet. Similarly, Students Learning Enhancement Guidelines were released in 2020 to support learning of children during COVID-19. Guidelines for development of e-content for children with special needs have been released. Guidelines for parent participation in Home- based learning during school closure and beyond have also been released in 2021.

Besides, the Ministry has undertaken a proactive initiative, named, ‘MANODARPAN’ covering a wide range of activities to provide psychosocial support to students, teachers and families for Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing during the COVID outbreak and beyond. The Central Government is constantly advising States/UTs through guidelines and meetings with respect to interventions for reducing impact of pandemic on education. The guidelines issued so far are given below:

S. No.	Intervention	Links of Guideline
1	Guidelines for Children of Migrant Labourers	https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Migrant%20labour%20guideline.pdf
2	Guidelines for Out of School Children and Mitigation of Loss of Learning	https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/guidelines_oosc.pdf
3	PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education	https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines_0.pdf
4	Learning Enhancement Guidelines for Continuous Learning	https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/announcement/Learning_%20Enhancement_Guidelines.pdf
5	Covid-19 Related Health and Safety SoP/ Guidelines for School Re-Opening	https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/SOP_Guidelines_for_reopening_schools.pdf
6	COVID Action Plan for School Education	https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Covid_Action_Plan.pdf
7	Alternate Academic Calendar	https://ncert.nic.in/alternative-academic-calendar.php
8	Guidelines for JNV Residential Schools	https://drive.google.com/file/d/ILAc4iKQTqTJkNVDGc5glEDsrDGdAXwC8/view
9	Guidelines for parents on Home Based Education	https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/MoE_Home_Learning_Guidelines.pdf
10	Guidelines for orphaned Children	In this regard, a joint DO letter No. 13-10/2021-IS-11 dated 16.06.2021 from Secretary DoSEL, MoE and Secretary, MWCD has been issued to all States and UTs.
11	Guidelines for developing E-content for CWSN	https://dssel.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/2021-06/CWSN_E-Content_guidelines.pdf
12	CBSE competency-based assessment framework	https://cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/Manuals/Safal_handbook.pdf
13	NCTE Guidelines for TEIs	https://ncte.gov.in/WebAdminFiles/RecentAnnouncement/0_20_08_2020_637335320672297662.pdf

The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education has prepared 'The India Report on Digital Education' which shows the digital and remote learning initiatives through the use of digital technology across the country. Link for accessing the report is given below:

The India Report on Digital Education 2020:

https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf

The India Report on Digital Education 2021:

https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/irde_21.pdf

Department of School Education and Literacy has launched the Samagra Shiksha – an Integrated Scheme for School Education from 2018-19. It envisages the 'school' as a continuum from pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to Senior Secondary levels. It is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education. Samagra Shiksha is implemented in partnership with all the States and UTs and financial assistance is provided to all States and UTs for various components including strengthening of ICT infrastructure in schools. Under Samagra Shiksha, ICT component envisages covering all Government and Aided schools from classes VI to XII and Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs), subject to the availability of budgetary provision.

a. Options under ICT:

Option I: Under this option schools which have not availed the ICT facility earlier can either opt for ICT or smart classrooms as per their requirement and need. In case of more than 700 enrolment, an additional ICT lab can also be considered.

Option II: Under this option schools which have already availed the ICT facility earlier can avail smart classrooms/tablets as per the norms of the scheme.

b. Financial Provisions:

ICT Lab: Onetime non-recurring grant upto Rs 6.40 lakh per school and a recurring grant of upto Rs 2.40 lakh per school per annum for a period of 5 years.

Recurring grant may be given for the 6th year to smoothen transition, subject to state giving a plan and commitment of funds for taking over the project and continuing the facility in the school.

Smart Classrooms: Onetime Non-recurring grant of Rs. 2.40 lakh and the recurring grant of Rs. 0.38 lakh (including E Content and Digital Resources, Charges for Electricity) for Maximum 2 smart classrooms per school for a period of 5 years.

Providing Tabs to the Teachers of Primary Schools: Financial support of @ Rs. 10000 per teacher for tablets is being provided from the year 2022-23 to the teachers at the primary level, based on state specific proposal as part of "Learning Recovery Package"

c. Coverage: ICT component covers Government and Aided Schools having classes from VI to XII which will enable use of ICT resources from younger grades. ICT Labs are approved in 120614 schools and Smart classrooms are approved in 82120 schools. Total 1482565 TABs have been sanctioned to the teachers dealing primary classes.

The State-wise details of ICT Labs, Smart classrooms and TABs sanctioned for Teacher Resource Package since inception is at **Annexure**.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 343 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2022 ASKED BY HON'BLE MP SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY REGARDING ONLINE EDUCATION SYSTEM

Statement showing the details of ICT Labs, Smart Classrooms and TABS sanctioned since inception under Samagra Shiksha

Sl. No.	State/UT	ICT Labs	Smart Classrooms	TAB Sanctioned
1	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	137	1531	1378
2	Andhra Pradesh	8635	107	70075
3	Arunachal Pradesh	426	3883	2488
4	Assam	6903	2865	53889
5	Bihar	5310	184	146138
6	Chandigarh	106	5338	770
7	Chhattisgarh	1989	1018	43658
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	1181	135	651
9	Delhi	107	0	20950
10	Goa	460	6150	1489
11	Gujarat	7199	2921	0
12	Haryana	4022	2248	36199
13	Himachal Pradesh	3317	1352	17510
14	Jammu and Kashmir	3037	640	40522
15	Jharkhand	3589	1768	28945
16	Karnataka	8323	372	138222
17	Kerala	2409	46	13997
18	Ladakh	124	0	1695
19	Lakshadweep	28	1358	262
20	Madhya Pradesh	2822	3292	172956
21	Maharashtra	9826	451	6140
22	Manipur	734	14	10876
23	Meghalaya	382	229	-
24	Mizoram	507	594	550
25	Nagaland	738	6974	-
26	Odisha	8317	145	96718
27	Puducherry	176	3521	1607
28	Punjab	4963	9207	12444
29	Rajasthan	8816	270	26178
30	Sikkim	372	865	3276
31	Tamil Nadu	9815	3010	79723
32	Telangana	4975	812	34257
33	Tripura	1245	18987	9790
34	Uttar Pradesh	4798	1833	209863
35	Uttarakhand	865	0	22050
36	West Bengal	3961	0	177299
	Total	120614	82120	1482565

Source: PRABANDH