

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1788
ANSWERED ON 11/12/2024

Promotion of Digital Education in Odisha

1788 **Shri Debashish Samantaray:**

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

- (a) whether any step has been taken to promote digital education and e-learning in schools across Odisha, especially in rural areas;
- (b) the details of any digital infrastructure, like smart classrooms or tablets, provided to schools in the State;
- (c) whether there are any collaboration planned with private sector or international organizations to enhance digital education in Odisha; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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□

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SH. JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a): To achieve the objectives of NEP 2020 and to bridge the digital divide in education, a comprehensive initiative called PM e-VIDYA is in place which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education, with a target to benefit nearly 25 crore school going children across the country including Odisha. The key components of this initiative are DIKSHA – the nation’s digital infrastructure, 200 PM e-VIDYA DTH TV Channels to provide supplementary education in various Indian languages for classes 1-12, ePathshala initiative to disseminate Digital Books and eContents, eJaadui Pitara is a digital app to supplement and a complement to the physical Jaadui Pitara, a vertical on Virtual Labs created on DIKSHA platform where 280 Virtual Labs for Science and Mathematics for subjects Class 6th to 12th have been made available.

The above digital initiatives of Department of School Education & Literacy especially “ICT and Smart Classroom component” provide basic infrastructure to the students and transform

the classroom into tech-driven class. The students increase engagement with multimedia content and interactive activities, while availing wider range of resources. This fosters deeper understanding, collaboration, and digital literacy for students, enriching their overall educational experience.

(b): As per information provided by State Government of Odisha, all Government and Government Aided Secondary Schools are equipped with Smart Classrooms. 667 Upper Primary schools and 318 Secondary schools of Jajpur, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj and Sundargarh districts have been equipped with Smart Classroom under Odisha Mineral Bearing Area Development Corporation (OMBADC).

Further, 6065 Upper Primary schools and 909 Secondary schools have been equipped with smart classroom under Samagra Shiksha. 96718 Primary level teachers of 41448 schools having primary section have been provided with Tablet under Samagra Shiksha.

(c) & (d): Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) Project support by the World Bank is being implemented as a centrally sponsored scheme in six identified States including the State of Odisha. The STARS Project became effective on 23.02.2021 for a period of five years i.e. up to Financial Year 2024-25.

The project envisages improving student outcomes in the selected States and the governance of school education in India. Under one of the Component of STARS Project “Improving Service Delivery”, digital initiatives like establishment of Vidya Samikha Kendra (VSK); Career Counselling Platform to enhance school-to-work transition etc. are being undertaken in STARS States.
