

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 991**

ANSWERED ON 04/12/2024

e-learning programmes

991# Shri Lahar Singh Siroya:

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

- (a) the details of the steps taken by Government under various e-learning programmes to achieve the goal of providing digital education to all across the country including Karnataka;
- (b) whether students and teachers can interact simultaneously from different locations through audio and video conferencing, live chat and virtual classes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the schools where virtual classes have been set up across the country, State-wise details particularly in Karnataka?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(Shri Jayant Chaudhary)

- (a) to (c), (f) The National Education Policy (NEP)- 2020 in Para 24.4 (c) emphasizes various key initiatives such as Online teaching platform and tools: Appropriate existing e-learning platforms such as SWAYAM, DIKSHA, is extended to provide teachers with a structured, user-friendly, rich set of assistive tools for monitoring progress of learners. Tools, such as, two-way video and two-way-audio interface for holding online classes have become a necessity.

To achieve the objectives of NEP 2020, Ministry of Education has undertaken various initiatives that include e-Learning programmes. These initiatives are available free of cost to all learners across the country.

The major initiatives are:-

- 1) PM eVidya: PM eVidya unifies all efforts related to e-education including digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education.

The key initiatives under PM eVidya are: -

- DIKSHA Portal - Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA) - **One Nation, One Digital Platform**, is the platform for providing quality e-content for school education in States/Union Territories (UTs) and is fully funded through the National Component of the Samagra Siksha scheme and managed by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). Most of the States/UTs have made their textbooks available on DIKSHA in their regional language and have further linked them with additional learning resources (explanation videos, audios, interactive assessments, and text resources through QR codes) mapped to various topics, which are called as Energized Digital Textbooks (ETBs).
 - DTH TV Channels - As per the Union Budget announcement for Financial Year 2022-23, the 12 DTH Channels have been expanded to 200 PM eVidya DTH TV Channels to enable all States/UTs to provide supplementary education in various Indian languages for classes 1-12. The channels have been allocated to the States/UTs and they are using it. Five PM eVidya DTH TV Channels have been allocated to Karnataka, to offer high quality education content in Kannada/local regional languages.
 - Extensive use of Radio, Community Radio and CBSE Podcast- Shiksha Vani.
 - Special e-content (talking books) for visually and hearing impaired developed on Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY) and in Indian Sign Language (ISL). This is available on NIOS website/YouTube, DIKSHA, ePathshala etc.
- 2) Ministry of Education is also implementing a National Mission to improve learning outcomes through an Integrated Teacher Training Programme called National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA).

NISHTHA courses have been launched for Elementary, Secondary, Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) and Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). NISHTHA courses are offered online by the NCERT on the DIKSHA platform using high-quality professionally made e-content. Under NISHTHA (Elementary, Secondary, FLN and ECCE) about 63 lakh teachers have been trained. From the State of Karnataka, more than 3.47 lakh teachers have been trained under NISHTHA and other Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses so far.

- 3) The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) is an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Education, Government of India. NIOS provides academic courses at secondary and senior secondary level, vocational & skill development programmes, open basic education and teacher education programmes through open and distance learning mode.

NIOS actively reaches out to school dropouts, marginalized communities such as rural youth, urban poor, girls and women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, backward classes, differently-abled individuals, and ex-service personnel. To ensure inclusive and accessible education, NIOS has launched various e-learning initiatives and leverages multiple online platforms. These include live video programmes broadcast on PM eVidya channels 17, 18, 19, and 20; content support for learners through the DIKSHA platform; Massive Open

Online Courses (MOOCs) on the SWAYAM platform; and Web Radio (Mukta Vidya Vani). Additionally, NIOS engages with communities through its Community Radio station (91.2 MHz), delivering education- focused programmes to further enhance outreach and learning opportunities, of NIOS. Furthermore, the e-library of NIOS DEEP (Digital Education and e-Resource Platform) is a virtual platform where e-contents available for learners, teachers and avid readers. It provides an accessible, stimulating and fascinating world of knowledge.

Education is in the Concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the administrative control of respective State Government and UT Administration. Government of India, through its centrally sponsored scheme Samagra Shiksha, implements the Integrated Scheme for School Education, from 2018-19. Samagra Shiksha 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.

Like other components of Samagra Shiksha, the funds of setting up ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms are also released to State/UTs based on the requirement communicated by them in the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B). ICT and Digital Initiatives component of Samagra Shiksha covers Government and Aided Schools having classes VI to XII. Under this component financial assistance is provided for establishing ICT Lab and Smart Classrooms in schools. The non- recurring/recurring grant under 'ICT and Digital Initiatives' is available to the States and UTs for following two options:

(i) 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. States/UTs have flexibility to procure hardware such as tablets/ laptops/notebooks/ integrated teaching learning devices and open source operating system as well as Hardware, Software, training and resource support. This would include support for digital boards, smart classrooms, virtual classrooms and DTH channels on pro-rata basis for number of schools approved.

(ii) 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.

Financial Provisions:

ICT Lab: a non-recurring grant of up to Rs. 6.40 lakh per school and recurring grant of upto Rs. 2.40 lakh per school per annum for a period of 5 years. From 2023-24, the scheme also

offers step-wise funding based on school enrolment. (Strength < 100: Rs. 2.5 Lakhs, Strength between 100 – 250: Rs. 4.5 Lakhs, Strength between 250 – 700: Rs. 6.4 Lakhs)

Smart Classrooms: The non-recurring grant for Smart Class rooms (2 smart classrooms per school) is of Rs. 2.40 lakh and the recurring grant is Rs. 38,000/- per school per annum (including E Content and Digital Resources, Charges for Electricity).

The State of Karnataka has been approved with 8,777 ICT Labs and 1,963 Smart-Classes.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO PART (A) TO (C), (F) OF THE REPLY OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 991 ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024 ASKED BY SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA, HON’BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING E-LEARNING PROGRAMMES

State/UT wise number of ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms (Sanctioned and Functional)

States/UTs Name	ICT (From 2005-06 to till date)		Smart Classroom (2020-21 to till date)	
	Approval	Functional	Approval	Functional
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	146	137	0	0
ANDHRA PRADESH	9,602	9,040	5,337	4,677
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	632	414	243	107
ASSAM	6,986	6,903	6,481	3,884
BIHAR	3,483	2,855	5,473	2,827
CHANDIGARH	139	107	186	185
CHHATTISGARH	3,777	2,341	10,439	5,857
DND - DNH	143	130	192	137
DELHI	1,181	1,106	1,119	1,018
GOA	463	460	24	24
GUJARAT	6,361	5,581	7,155	6,634
HARYANA	4,349	3,501	3,556	3,226
HIMACHAL PRADESH	3,332	2,555	2,262	2,248
JAMMU AND KASHMIR	3,807	3,036	3,427	1,352
JHARKHAND	5,322	4,726	1,319	982
KARNATAKA	8,777	3,293	1,963	437
KERALA	2,410	2,409	510	373
LADAKH	187	169	132	66
LAKSHADWEEP	28	11	0	0
MADHYA PRADESH	4,590	3,701	8,141	3,829
MAHARASHTRA	10,466	10,134	3,543	2,257
MANIPUR	828	785	544	508
MEGHALAYA	466	411	25	22
MIZORAM	1,035	507	240	229
NAGALAND	760	649	712	649
ODISHA	8,412	8,315	7,655	6,973
PUDUCHERRY	176	176	145	145
PUNJAB	5,807	3,969	3,885	3,567
RAJASTHAN	10,751	8,807	13,057	7,612
SIKKIM	385	372	301	274
TAMIL NADU	14,429	13,351	7,149	865
TELANGANA	6,177	4,960	4,212	3,707
TRIPURA	1441	1350	901	854
UTTAR PRADESH	10,820	3,975	27,526	18,460
UTTARAKHAND	893	621	2,522	1,537

WEST BENGAL	4,184	2788	160	0
Total	1,42,745	1,13,645	1,30,536	85,522

Source: PRABANDH
