GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1171

TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2021

Support for online and remote education

1171 Shri Rajmani Patel:

Smt. Phulo Devi Netam:

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

(a) whether the Ministry has taken initiatives for teacher training and orientations for online and remote learning;

(b) if so, the details of the same including funds disbursed till date, and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Ministry has assessed the need to reform the National Education Policy, 2020 to reflect the realities of online and remote education;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Ministry has formulated any directives to restructure the assessment for students through the virtual medium; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) and (b) An Integrated Teacher Training Programme called NISHTHA was launched on 6th October, 2020, it is an online capacity building programme for "**Improving Quality of School Education through Integrated Teacher Training**". A total of 30 states and 8 autonomous organisations have started their courses on NISHTHA in 11 languages. Till date 5,17,25,114 (Five crore Seventeen Lakh Twenty five thousand One hundred and Fourteen) enrolments have been made on NISHTHA of which 4,61,75,725 (Four crore sixty one lakh seventy five thousand seven hundred twenty five) courses have been completed and certificates have been issued.

NISHTHA can be accessed from the given link: https://itpd.ncert.gov.in//

The details regarding funds disbursed for teacher training under Samagra Shiksha is mentioned in the table below:

Years	Approved		Progress		% of Progress	
	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin
2018-19	3139876	84091.34	1577332	34287.95	50.24	40.77
2019-20	4945727	146299.241	3295181	66301.78	66.63	45.32
2020-21*	2678996	26791.46	1194103	5636.38	44.57	21.04

Source: PRABHAND

** Progress as on February 2021 for the year 2020-21*

(c) and (d) National Education Policy 2020, has been formulated keeping present/futuristic view of remote and online education and its downsides. Para 24.1 and 24.2 explains the reality of the existing digital divide and how it can be optimized and expanded to meet the current and future challenges in providing quality education for all and Para 24.4 focuses on the initiatives to be undertaken leveraging technology for teaching and learning employing digital tools/solutions (Virtual Labs, Digital Repository, Online teaching platform, Digital Infrastructure, Online Examinations, Blended learning etc.)

(e) and (f) Education being in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools, colleges and university are under the domain of respective State and UT Governments. The Central Government is constantly advising States/UTs through guidelines and meeting with respect to interventions for reducing impact of pandemic on education. The guidelines issued so far are as follows:

- PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education: https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines_0.pdf
- Learning Enhancement Guidelines for Continuous Learning: https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/announcement/Learning_%20Enhancement_Guidelines.pdf
- Covid Action Plan for School Education: The Department of School Education and Literacy vide letter dated 4th May, 2021 has shared the Covid Action plan with States/UTs

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