

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1452
ANSWERED ON 02.08.2023

Artificial Intelligence courses in every school

1452 SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the skill much needed for today and CBSE has also introduced it as a course in schools;
- (b) whether Government is planning to mandate the AI courses in other Boards too;
- (c) whether Government has assessed the readiness of CBSE schools to run AI courses in terms of Labs and computer systems; and
- (d) if so, whether Government has State/UT-wise number of CBSE schools which does not have infrastructure to support AI courses?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) National Education Policy, 2020 stresses upon creating holistic and well-rounded individuals equipped with the key 21st century skills. NEP 2020 recognises the role and importance of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI). Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) had introduced 'Artificial Intelligence' in its affiliated schools in the year 2019. The objective of the AI curriculum is to develop a readiness for understanding and appreciating Artificial Intelligence and its application in our lives. Artificial Intelligence is offered as a 12 hour module in class VIII and as a skill subject in classes IX to XII.

In the session 2022-23, more than 3,86,000 students had opted for AI at secondary level (classes IX & X combined) and approximately 12,000 students had opted for AI at senior secondary level (classes XI & XII combined).

(b): Education is a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and schools, other than those within the jurisdiction / funded by Central Government, are under the jurisdiction of the State Governments. Therefore, the State Board may take a call in this regard.

(c): As far as CBSE schools are concerned, all affiliated schools were advised to maintain minimum IT infrastructure vide its Affiliation Circular No. 10/2023 (annexed) and subsequent Corrigendum No. 20/2023 (annexed). Through this infrastructure, AI and related IT based courses can be offered effectively.

(d): Out of the 28,720 schools affiliated to CBSE, 28,427 schools have IT infrastructure as per CBSE Affiliation Bye-Laws.
