RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2257

ANSWERED ON 09/08/2023

Artificial Intelligence in curriculum

2257 Dr. Dharmasthala Veerendra Heggade:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Education Policy 2020 has recommended introducing contemporary subjects like Artifical Intelligence (AI) in curriculum, at relevant stages and if so, the steps taken to introduce AI in the High Schools;

(b) whether Government has any comprehensive policy for integrating AI in the education sector if so, the details thereof;

(c) details of funds allocated towards promotion of AI in Karnataka;

(d) whether Government has launched any initiative to facilitate Online/On-air education in the country, if so, details thereof;

(e) number of ICT Labs and Smart Classes sanctioned in the State of Karnataka; and

(f) objective of the comprehensive initiative, PM eVIDYA?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b)   National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 stresses upon creating holistic and well-rounded individuals equipped with the key 21st century skills. NEP 2020 (Para 4.24) recognises the role and importance of curricular and pedagogical initiatives, including the introduction of contemporary subjects such as Artificial Intelligence (AI)to develop such skills in students at all levels. 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.

(c) and (e)   Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and the state governments have been directed to act based on the situation prevailing at every place to meet the demands of all students for providing them with the digital access required for learning digitally. Under the Quality

and Innovation component of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme Samagra Shiksha, 5% of the total Annual Work Plan & Budgeting (AWP&B) is available to all States/UTs for innovative and technological initiatives that including emerging areas such as Artificial Intelligence (AI). Also, depending on the states' requirement the Ministry of Education provides Rs.6.40 Lakh for setting up computer labs and Rs.2.40 Lakh for smart classroom. As on 31.07.2023 a total of 8326 ICT Labs and 1768 Smart Classrooms are approved for the State of Karnataka.

(d) and (f)   A comprehensive initiative called **PM e-VIDYA** was initiated as part of AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan 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:

- 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).**
- 12 DTH Channels in school education and 22 SWAYAM PRABHA channels in higher education are already functional.
- 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.

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