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

## RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2098 ANSWERED ON 19/03/2025

### Accessibility of Smart Classrooms and Digital Libraries in Schools

#### 2098 Shri Sujeet Kumar:

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

(a) whether the Ministry has taken any step to evaluate the effectiveness of smart classrooms and digital library in schools to achieve quality education;

(b) if so, the details of the key outcomes through performance indicators in critical thinking and problem-solving skills;

(c) whether the Ministry has taken any step for access of smart education for economically weaker sections;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing Samagra Shiksha – an Integrated Scheme for School Education from 2018-19. It 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 for various components including Smart Classrooms. Till date, 1,31,548 Smart Classrooms have been sanctioned to State/UT Governments.

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. 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 Virtual Labs for Science and Mathematics for subjects Class 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> 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. Students engage more with multimedia content and interactive activities, while accessing a wider range of resources. This fosters deeper understanding, collaboration, and digital literacy for students, enriching their overall educational experience.

Learning outcomes of students on various parameters including use of digital mode are evaluated periodically through State Educational Achievement Survey (SEAS), National Achievement Survey (NAS) etc. The most recent survey, conducted on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024, by the National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development). The survey is a baseline study to understand the achievement of the stage specific competencies at the end of foundation, preparatory and middle stages as per NEP 2020. It covers the entire spectrum of schools across the country.

\*\*\*\*