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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1164

ANSWERED ON 30/07/2025

Infrastructure facilities in schools

1164 Shri Golla Baburao:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are 48 per cent of schools without internet facility, 43 per cent schools without computer, 50 per cent schools without handrails, 25 per cent schools without ramps and 72 per cent schools without rainwater harvesting;
- (b) if so, how Government looks at this deficiency in infrastructure in schools;
- (c) whether the Ministry will consider for providing one-time assistance to States to achieve 100 per cent of above infrastructure facilities; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d): Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under domain of the respective State and UT Governments. Samagra Shiksha, an overarching programme envisaging the 'school' as a continuum from pre-school to Grade 12, is running in the country. The vision of the scheme is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education in accordance with the National Education Policy 2020.

Samagra Shiksha supports creation of infrastructure and basic facilities such as classrooms, libraries, handrails, ramps, rainwater harvesting etc. in Government Schools. In this regard, Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) is prepared by the States and UTs based on their requirements. These plans are then appraised/approved by PAB in consultation with the States and UTs as per the programmatic and financial norms of the Scheme and availability of budgetary resources. The States/UTs Government are regularly urged to saturate the infrastructure deficiencies. The details of infrastructure facilities are available at UDISE+ report that can be accessed on the weblink: https://udiseplus.gov.in/#/en/page/publications

Under Samagra Shiksha, financial assistance is provided to States/UTs, inter-alia for setting up of ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms in Government and Government Aided Schools having classes VI to XII.

To saturate all secondary and higher secondary schools with ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms, a Supplementary Project Approval Board (PAB) meeting was held on 28.05.2025. A total of 20,456 ICT Labs and 29,896 Smart Classrooms have been approved, with financial approval of Rs. 911.13 crore for ICT Labs and Rs. 630.38 crore for Smart Classrooms under Samagra Shiksha, in addition to earlier approval of 1,56,213 ICT Labs and 1,46,040 Smart Classrooms.

As per the PM SHRI guidelines, there is a provision for ICT and Digital Initiatives for Classes VI to XII. Under this component, non-recurring grant of up to $\stackrel{?}{\stackrel{?}{$\sim}}$ 10.00 lakh per school is available for ICT/ smart classrooms/ and adopting futuristic technologies. Further, a recurring grant of up to $\stackrel{?}{\stackrel{?}{\stackrel{?}{$\sim}}}$ 2.50 lakh per school is available for procurement of e-content, inclusive software/apps/devices, digital resources, electricity charges, and technical support.

An advisory was issued by the Department of School Education and Literacy to all the States & UTs to enter into an MoU/ Agreement with BSNL and provide FTTH Internet connection to all the Government Schools which have computing devices. States/UTs have been advised that the Internet Charges can be met from recurring charges being released for ICT Labs/Smart Classrooms under Samagra Shiksha or from Management, Monitoring, Evaluation and Research (MMER) funds being released under Samagra Shiksha or can be met from any other State/UT Government funds.

Additionally, the Government of India, as part of the Budget 2025, has announced provision of broadband connectivity to all Government secondary schools in rural areas under BharatNet project to enhance digital infrastructure in remote areas.
