

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3060
ANSWERED ON- 20/08/2025**

ICT labs and digital libraries in Government schools in Odisha

3060 Shri Niranjana Bishi:

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

- (a) whether there is a plan to establish ICT labs and digital libraries in Government high schools across Odisha under the PM e-Vidya scheme; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Under Samagra Shiksha, financial assistance is provided to States/UTs, including rural, tribal and aspirational districts for setting up of ICT Labs in Government and Government Aided Schools having classes VI to XII. The non- recurring/recurring grant under 'ICT and Digital Initiatives' is available to the States and UTs for following two options:

Option I: Under this option schools which have not availed the ICT facility earlier can either opt for ICT or smart classrooms as per their requirement and need. In case of more than 700 enrolment, an additional ICT lab can also be considered. States/UTs have flexibility to procure hardware such as tablets/ laptops/notebooks/ integrated teaching learning devices and open-source operating system as well as Hardware, Software, training and resource support. This would include support for digital boards, smart classrooms, virtual classrooms and DTH channels on pro-rata basis for number of schools approved.

Option II: Under this option schools which have already availed the ICT facility earlier can avail smart classrooms/tablets as per the norms of the scheme.

Financial Provisions: A non-recurring grant of up to Rs. 6.40 lakh per school and recurring grant of upto Rs. 2.40 lakh per school per annum for a period of 5 years.

As per PRABANDH portal, till date, a total of 10,084 ICT Labs have been approved for the State of Odisha.

A comprehensive initiative called PM e-Vidya was launched as part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan on 17th May, 2020, which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education across the country including the State of Odisha. Out of 200 PM e-Vidya DTH TV Channels, the State of Odisha has been allocated 5 channels (Ch No. 138 to 142) to offer high quality education content in Odia language.

Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya is a Free Digital Library for Children and Adolescents and is accessible online on iOS, Android, and Web to ensure maximum reach on Pan-India basis including the State of Odisha. The initiative envisions fostering a lifelong love for reading among young readers across all age groups. The platform currently hosts a collection of over 2,100 non-academic books in 22 Indian languages and English, spanning 13 diverse genres.
