

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2311**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 21.12.2022

**PMGDISHA CENTRES**

**2311. KUMARI AGATHA K. SANGMA:**

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of PMGDISHA centres currently operational all over the country, State/UT-wise particularly village-wise distribution in North Eastern Region;
- (b) the number of classes held since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and the protocols in place, if any, to resume the regular training at these centres and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the employment opportunities arising out of these class/training?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a): India over the last 7 years has become a prominent nation in deploying technologies for the benefit and transforming the lives of its citizens. Keeping this in view, the Government is focusing on providing digital literacy to citizens across the country, especially in rural areas. In line with this, the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) was approved in February 2017 to usher in digital literacy in rural India with a target to cover 6 crore rural households (one person per household). To ensure equitable geographical coverage across the country, a Gram Panchayat centric approach has been adopted under the scheme. Hence, the targets are assigned and monitored for each of the Gram Panchayats in the country and not at village level. Under the scheme, more than 4.24 lakh training centers are currently operational at the Gram Panchayat level. The State-wise details of these centers including the centers available in the North Eastern Region are at **Annexure**.

(b): During the peak of Covid-19 pandemic, the Training Centres were not operational in line with the guidelines/directives issued by the respective Central/State/District Administration. In line with the relaxation provided by these authorities in the lockdown conditions, the Centres have been made operational in a graded fashion by the implementing agency.

Following measures were taken by the Implementing Agency to resume the training:

- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in-line with the Covid-19 protocols were created and shared with all Training Centres for training and examination.
- Virtual sessions and workshops were conducted with the Training Centres to motivate them to re-start their activities
- Refresher trainings were provided to registered/ trained candidates, who were unable to appear for training and/or certification.
- A Chatbot was created with basic information on PMGDISHA portal which was made available in both in Hindi and English languages.
- Training Centres were encouraged to join groups on popular social media platforms and share relevant training material through these groups.
- PMGDISHA content was uploaded on the DigiShala channel so that candidates could refer to these on their own and become ready for registration and assessment after minor training/revision.

(c): The scheme is aimed at imparting basic digital literacy skills to the digitally illiterate population in rural India through a 20 hour training programme. The trained persons are expected to be able to operate computers/digital access devices (like tablets, smart-phones, etc.), send and receive emails,

browse the internet, access Government Services, search for information, undertake cashless transactions, etc. However, as the Scheme is aimed at providing digital literacy to the rural citizens, it enables them for further employment opportunities especially for the younger beneficiaries.

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### Annexure

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Operational Training Centres under PMGDISHA as on 15.12.2022</b>
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	101
2	Andhra Pradesh	18,082
3	Arunachal Pradesh	285
4	Assam	13,754
5	Bihar	35,870
6	Chandigarh	102
7	Chhattisgarh	14,104
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	54
9	Daman and Diu	35
10	Delhi	81
11	Goa	350
12	Gujarat	18,879
13	Haryana	11,115
14	Himachal Pradesh	4,623
15	Jammu and Kashmir	5,084
16	Jharkhand	10,660
17	Karnataka	14,163
18	Kerala	1,855
19	Lakshadweep	5
20	Madhya Pradesh	33,929
21	Maharashtra	53,032
22	Manipur	409
23	Meghalaya	1,851
24	Mizoram	432
25	Nagaland	260
26	Odisha	12,834
27	Puducherry	231
28	Punjab	17,305
29	Rajasthan	20,727
30	Sikkim	132
31	Tamil Nadu	16,203
32	Telangana	9,266
33	Tripura	1,413
34	Uttarakhand	10,622
35	Uttar Pradesh	87,427
36	West Bengal	8,858
37	Ladakh	219
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,24,352</b>

\*Chandigarh and Delhi are in Urban agglomeration, hence not covered under the Scheme.

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