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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2069
ANSWERED ON 13/03/2023

Establishment of National Digital Library/ E-Library System

2069. DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:
SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:
DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (RAJU BHAIYA):
SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:
SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to establish National Digital Library for children and adolescents, if so, the details thereof and also the objectives of setting up of such library;

(b) the details of quality of books available on Geography, Languages, Genres and Levels and Agnostic accessibility in the country;

(c) whether the Government is also proposing to implementing e-library System at the State level to raise the level of education in the country, if so, the details thereof and the number of States who have started e-Library;

(d) if not, the time by when the Government will implement this;

(e) whether the Government encourage the States to set up physical libraries at Panchayat and Ward levels, if so the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government for promotion of reading habits and to cover up the learning loss among childern caused by the pandemic?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): Union Budget 2023-24 in its para 33 and 34 has mentioned the setting up of National Digital library and promoting reading across the digital and physical mode for children and adolescents. Budget Speech (2023-24) of Hon'ble Finance Minister is available on the link given below: https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/doc/budget_speech.pdf

The primary objective of the proposed paras 33 and 34 is to generate curiosity and motivation for learning among students at all levels and make available enjoyable and inspirational books for holistic development. The aim of setting up of National digital library is to facilitate availability of quality books across geographies, languages, genres and levels, and device agnostic accessibility.

VidyaDaan platform of Ministry of Education is a platform for content sourcing that has been developed and designed for scale to create a warehouse of crowd sourced content from various sources after following a structured approach as per defined taxonomy (Board, medium, grade, subject, learning outcome etc.) and can be leveraged by Centre and States/UTs for various programs (https://diksha.gov.in/vidyadaan/). The curation committee scrutinizes the content and approved content is uploaded on DIKSHA. DIKSHA (https://diksha.gov.in/) an initiative of the Ministry of Education for digital online education, has QR coded textbooks and various specialized e-Contents for classes 1-12 and teachers in 33 Indian languages.

Guidelines on Reading Campaign (A nationwide initiative for creating a joyful reading experience for children) has been issued, which is available on the given link:
https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Guidelines_on_Reading_Campaign.pdf

The library grant component was introduced under Samagra Shiksha, in the year 2018-19. Guidelines for Library Grant and promoting reading in Schools for Building an inclusive and joyful reading culture has been issued, which is available on the given link:
https://samagra.education.gov.in/docs/revised_guidelines_for_promotion_Library_Reading%20.pdf

Ministry of Education conducted a survey related to online teaching learning during the pandemic; based on the survey and findings Learning Enhancement guidelines for continuous which focus on students with/without digital devices. The guidelines may be accessed at the following links: https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Learning_Enhancement_0.pdf

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