

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-4183
ANSWERED ON 27/03/2023

High Dropout Rates due to Switch Over to Collaborative and Technology Learning

4183. SHRI NATARAJAN P.R.:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the education in the country is driven by a teacher centred approach for the past decades;
- (b) if so, expecting the students to switch over to collaborative and technology enabled learning would give much stress to the students and will result to higher rate of dropouts; and
- (c) if not, the decision of the Government?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, empowers teachers and places them at the heart of the learning process through quality teacher education, recruitment, continuous professional development and positive working environment while ensuring accountability. As per NEP, 2020, National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has introduced four year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), on pilot basis, to equip teachers with enhanced curriculum and pedagogical knowledge. Similarly, National Professional Standard for Teachers (NPST) for enhancing capabilities of teachers and National Mentoring Mission (NMM) for individual mentoring of school teachers by senior and retired teachers are at pilot study stage.

The Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an integrated Teacher Training Programme called NISHTHA – National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers Holistic Advancement, on the DIKSHA platform, to improve learning outcomes at the elementary level. Module 6 of NISHTHA Elementary is Integration of ICT in Teaching Learning and Assessment which discusses the concept of ICT and its potentials in teaching-learning. The module aims at preparing a teacher to critically analyse the content, context, method of teaching learning and to identify appropriate ICT. It also enables to effectively plan the integration strategies. The NISHTHA programme has been further expanded to NISHTHA 2.0 for secondary/senior secondary level teachers and NISHTHA 3.0 – Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) for teachers and school heads from pre-primary to class V.

Para 4.6 of NEP 2020 envisages that in all stages, experiential learning is to be adopted, including hands-on learning, arts-integrated and sports-integrated education, story-telling-based pedagogy, among others, as standard pedagogy within each subject, and with explorations of relations among different subjects. Para 24.4. of NEP 2020 recommends key initiatives for leveraging technology for teaching-learning at all levels from school to higher education.

To facilitate the online learning by all students a comprehensive initiative called PM eVIDYA has been initiated as part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multimode access to education. The initiative includes DIKSHA (one nation, one digital platform), one earmarked Swayam Prabha TV channel per class from 1 to 12 (one class, one channel), Extensive use of Radio, Community radio and CBSE Podcast- Shiksha Vani, Special e-content for visually and hearing impaired developed on Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY) and in sign language on NIOS website/ YouTube. It is pertinent to mention that during COVID pandemic online NISHTHA and PM eVIDYA have ensured the continuum of Teaching-Learning process. National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage and Jaadui Pitara (A Collection of Learning-Teaching Material) have been undertaken to implement perspectives of the NEP 2020 with regard to experiential learning.

Further, Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of the schools come under the purview of the respective State and UT Governments. State/UT governments have been advised to act based on the situation prevailing at every place to meet the demands of all students for providing them with the digital access required for learning digitally. Depending on the states' requirement the Ministry of Education provides financial assistance under Samagra Shiksha for setting up ICT labs and smart classrooms.
