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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 665 ANSWERED ON 06/02/2023

AI in Education Sector

665. SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any comprehensive policy for integrating AI in the education sector and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government plans to collaborate with private sector players to increase the adoption of AI in primary and secondary school education across schools especially in Odisha; and
- (c) the details of funds allocated towards promotion of AI in education sector in Odisha?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (c): The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has recommended introducing contemporary subjects like Artificial Intelligence (AI) in curriculum, at relevant stages. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has introduced Artificial Intelligence as a subject in class IX from session 2019-2020 and in Class-XI from session 2020-2021 in their affiliated schools.

NDEAR (National Digital Education Architecture) is a key enabler of NEP 2020 and act as a super connector to cross leverage ecosystem capabilities and catalyse innovation in education. NDEAR Ecosystem Policy and Open Standards & Specifications were released on 11th Nov 2022 and the same may be accessed at https://www.ndear.gov.in/

To facilitate online education, a comprehensive initiative called **PM eVIDYA** has been initiated as part of AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan on 17th May, 2020, which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education. The initiative includes:

- DIKSHA (one nation, one digital platform) is the nation's digital infrastructure for providing quality e-content for school education in states/UTs and QR coded Energized Textbooks for all grades are available on it.
- 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.

As part of ICT and Digital Initiatives component of Samagra Shiksha, ICT Labs and Smart Class rooms are sanctioned in the Government Schools having classes VI to XII. For setting up ICT Lab, non-recurring grant of up to Rs. 6.40 lakh per school and recurring grant of up to Rs. 2.40 lakh per school per annum for a period of 5 years is sanctioned. For setting up Smart Class rooms, non-recurring grant of Rs. 2.40 lakh per school and recurring grant of Rs. 0.38 lakh is sanctioned.

As on date 1,20,614 ICT Labs and 82,894 Smart Class rooms have been sanctioned in all the States and UTs. In the State of Odisha 8,317 ICT Labs and 6,974 Smart Class rooms have been sanctioned.
