

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2447**  
ANSWERED ON 18/12/2023

**Internet Access in Government Schools**

**2447. SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of Government schools that have access to functional internet connection since 2019, State/year-wise;
- (b) whether there is any scheme to improve access of internet in Government School;
- (c) if so, the progress made so far and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether there is any scheme of the Government to provide financial assistance for digital education; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): State/UT-wise percentage of Government schools having internet connectivity as per UDISE+ from 2019-20 to 2021-22 is given at **Annexure**.

(b) & (c): Education is in the Concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the administrative control of respective State Government and UT Administration. An advisory has been issued by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Government of India to all the States and UTs to enter into an MoU/ Agreement with BSNL and provide FTTH Internet connection to all the Government Schools which have computing devices. States/ UTs have been advised that the Internet Charges can be met from the following:

- For ICT Labs / Smart Class rooms sanctioned under Samagra Shiksha, internet charges can be met from the recurring charges being released under Samagra Shiksha.

- For Schools in which ICT / Smart Class room are not sanctioned under Samagra Shiksha and which have computing devices, internet Charges can be met from the Management monitoring Evaluation and Research (MMER) funds being released under Samagra Shiksha or can be met from any other State/UT Government funds.

(d) & (e): ICT and Digital Initiatives component of centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha covers Government and Aided Schools having classes VI to XII. Under this component, the non-recurring/recurring grant under 'ICT and Digital Initiatives' for schools will be available to the State and UTs for following two options:

(i) 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. The scheme offers step-wise funding based on school enrolment, for enrolments < 100, 100 – 250 and 250 – 700, the capex being 2.5, 4.5 and 6.4 (in lakhs) respectively. For schools with more than 700 students, the scheme will consider allocation of additional funds. For example, schools with enrolment of 1,400 could receive 2 units of fund allocation for both types of expenditures.

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

Recurring Expenditure for ICT lab remains at Rs 2.4 lakh per school for school sizes of 700 students and below.

For Smart Classrooms, the Non-recurring and Recurring envelope stands at Rs. 2.4 lakhs and 0.38 lakhs for a maximum of 2 smart classrooms per school.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2447 FOR REPLY ON 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023 ASKED BY SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING INTERNET ACCESS IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS**

**Statement showing State/UT-wise percentage of Government schools with Internet connection/facilities**

States/UTs	2019-20 (%)	2020-21 (%)	2021-22 (%)
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS	19.9	26.6	38.9
ANDHRA PRADESH	9.1	8.8	45.0
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	3.4	3.8	15.3
ASSAM	4.3	4.8	10.3
BIHAR	2.1	2.2	5.9
CHANDIGARH	100.0	100.0	100.0
CHHATTISGARH	3.4	8.5	33.8
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	14.7	27.0	50.0
DAMAN & DIU	70.6		
DELHI	88.2	89.8	100.0
GOA	8.5	8.5	36.7
GUJARAT	66.9	72.4	94.2
HARYANA	19.9	21.2	29.8
HIMACHAL PRADESH	14.0	14.2	27.1
JAMMU & KASHMIR	5.2	5.3	22.3
JHARKHAND	30.3	28.8	33.6
KARNATAKA	7.7	6.1	10.7
KERALA	87.6	87.2	94.6
LADAKH	1.9	56.7	40.8
LAKSHADWEEP	93.3	93.3	97.4
MADHYA PRADESH	3.8	4.1	17.8
MAHARASHTRA	10.9	11.8	28.2
MANIPUR	2.4	2.8	11.8
MEGHALAYA	1.3	1.3	14.3
MIZORAM	2.4	4.3	6.0
NAGALAND	3.0	3.5	43.4
ODISHA	2.7	2.8	8.1
PUDUCHERRY	42.7	94.8	100.0
PUNJAB	35.2	99.6	46.8
RAJASTHAN	24.1	28.0	53.5
SIKKIM	13.2	13.6	26.7
TAMIL NADU	18.0	18.0	24.7
TELANGANA	8.0	8.2	9.2
TRIPURA	1.6	2.8	16.0
UTTAR PRADESH	2.9	3.0	8.8
UTTARAKHAND	6.4	6.3	15.6
WEST BENGAL	9.7	10.3	15.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>24.2</b>

Source: UDISE+