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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1201
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19th September, 2020

Guidelines for Online Classes

1201. SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of guidelines finalized by the Government for digital education in schools;

(b) whether the Government is of the view that just 2 hours in a week class will help the students to learn things and teachers to complete the syllabus;

(c) whether it is a fact that excess exposure to digital screens will harm mental and physical health of students;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to address the issue; and

(e) the innovative and different strategies that the Government is planning to include in the learning process, particularly for Secondary and Senior Secondary as they are the important segments of schooling?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')

(a) to (d) Ministry of Education released PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital/Online Education. The guidelines provide a roadmap or pointers for carrying forward enhanced quality online education. The guidelines also recommend screen time for different categories of students such as – Pre Primary, Classes 1 to 12, Classes 1 to 8 and Classes 9 to 12. The guidelines is useful for a diverse set of stakeholders including school heads, teachers, parents, teacher educators and students. Physical health and mental wellness is stressed across the guidelines so that children do not get overly stretched or stressed, or get affected negatively owing to prolonged use of digital devices. Also it provides sufficient Do's and Don'ts regarding ergonomics and cyber safety.

The guidelines can be accessed at:

https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines_0.pdf

(e) Online classes are being conducted at the schools by employing various digital tools. Various efforts have been made for the creation of digital infrastructure which would not only be helpful in the current circumstances but would also be valuable asset for online learning in future.

All the steps taken by all the states are shown in this report - India Report Digital Education June 2020
https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf

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