GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOKSABHA
UNSTARREDQUESTION NO.228
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.09.2020

Online Education

228.SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

    (a) Whether the Government has taken any emergency measures to facilitate and monitor the smooth conduct of online classes being conducted by various educational institutions in view of the continuing closure of physical conduct of the schools and colleges?

    (b) if so, the details thereof;

    (c) whether the Government has undertaken any study to determine the difficulties faced by and the extra costs that have to be borne by students and the educational institutions in implementing the online learning systems;

    (d) if so, the findings of such studies conducted;

    (e) whether the Government has fixed any guidelines regarding the fees to be charged by institutions for online teaching; and

    (f) whether the Government is making any efforts to provide any standardized online teaching and learning resources to students and teachers?

ANSWER

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

(a)   & (b) A comprehensive initiative called PM eVidya has been initiated which unifies all efforts related to digital/online, on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education. This will benefit students in schools and higher educational institutions. The initiative includes: -

    (i) Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) ranked in top 100 NIRF or NAAC score of 3.26 can offer online programme without prior approval of UGC. Institutions with NAAC score of 3.01 to 3.25 can offer online programme with prior approval of UGC.

    (ii) For conventional courses, the online content has been increased from up to 20% to 40% in regular degree programmes.

    (iii) DIKSHA. a digital infrastructure for providing quality e-content for school education in states/UTs and QR coded energized textbooks for all grades.

    (iv) One TV channel has been earmarked for each class from 1 to 12

    (v) Extensive use of Radio, Community radio and CBSE Podcast-Shiksha Vani

    (vi) Special e-content for visually and hearing impaired developed on Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY) and in sign language on NIOS website/YouTube.

(c) to(e) UGC has issued a regulation for online education which can be accessed on - https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/221580.pdf

A report on digital education has been prepared namely India report which can be accessed on following link: -
https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education 0.pdf

A guideline on Digital Education - PRAGYATA has been issued which can be accessed on https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines_0.pdf

(f) Ministry of Education through the MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) platform, 'Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds' (SWAYAM), offers online courses in all disciplines. All the courses are interactive and prepared by reputed teachers/institutions in the country. There is a provision of Credit Transfer for the successful completion of the course on SWAYAM portal. Till date more than 2000 courses have been developed and more than 4200 online courses have been offered. About 1.8 crore students have enrolled in these courses. For the July, 2020 semester, 656 courses have been offered on SWAYAM platform. Besides these, online resources are being provided through National Digital Library (NDL), DIKSHA,e-Pathshala, e-PG Pathshala, Virtual Labs, Free and Open Source Software (FOSSEE), Spoken Tutorials, etc.

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