

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1703**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2021**

**ONLINE CLASSES FACILITY FOR MINORITY STUDENTS**

**1703. SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH:**

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any online classes facility was provided to the needy minority students by the Government during the worldwide pandemic;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Haryana;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any scheme for making smart library and classes at village level for minority students has been launched by the Government and if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) whether there is no need to start smart library/ class keeping in view the current situation by the Government and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)**

(a) to (f): Online classes are being conducted at the schools by employing various digital tools in the form of DIKSHA portal (<https://diksha.gov.in/>), SWAYAM Portal ([swayam.gov.in](http://swayam.gov.in)), SWAYAM Prabha, DD Channel, e-Pathshala (<https://epathshala.nic.in/>), NROER (National Repository of Open Educational Resources) portal (<https://nroer.gov.in/welcome>).

Learning programmes have also been started in the form of offline learning tools radio, community radio, CBSE podcasts, toll free numbers, missed call, SMS based requests for audio content, localized radio content for edutainment etc. The medium of TV, radio has been used for the students who do not have digital means.

The state governments have also been directed to act based on the situation prevailing at every place to meet the demands of all students including economically weaker students and tribes especially for providing them with the digital access required for learning digitally.

The steps taken by all the states are shown in this report - India Report Digital Education June 2020 which is available at: [https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/India\\_Report\\_Digital\\_Education\\_0.pdf](https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf).

Education is a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, and the matter relating to education pertains to Central as well as the State Government concerned.

PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education: Keeping in view the availability of digital infrastructure, guideline briefs are available on various modes of digital education including online mode that depends more on availability of internet, partially online mode that utilizes the blended approach of digital technology and other offline activities, partial and offline mode that utilizes television and radio as a major medium of instruction of education. The guidelines can be accessed at: [https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines\\_0.pdf](https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines_0.pdf)

Internet access under BHARAT NET scheme has been made available to Govt institutions and to improve the internet connectivity in rural areas the CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd (CSC-SPV) of MEITY has been assigned the task of providing Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connectivity to the Government Institutions, including schools. This project is for providing Internet connection to Government schools in respective Gram Panchayats.

Further, the Ministry implements Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram in identified Minority Concentration Areas (MCAs) of the country with the objective to develop socio-economic assets and basic amenities for improving quality of life of the people in these areas. Under the scheme projects in priority sectors including education, are sanctioned. The projects for installation of Smart Classes, Computer Labs etc are amongst such projects. Till date, projects for installation of 8453 units of Smart Classes at the total cost of Rs 23511.77 lakh and 279 projects for computer/computer labs at the total cost of Rs.4194.4 lakh have been sanctioned under the scheme. The further details of the projects are available at <http://minorityaffairs.gov.in>.

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