

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2204
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8th March, 2021

Digital Learning

2204. SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B.:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal with the Government regarding launching of digital learning particularly for rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether there are several oppositions raised against online class / digital learning as it is likely to invoke health impacts; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the stand of the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')

(a) to (c) 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), 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 being started in the form of offline learning tools in the form of radio, community radio and 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 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

Internet access under BHARAT NET scheme has been made available to Government 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.

The Ministry of Education has launched the 'Manodarpan' initiative under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. It is aimed to provide psychosocial support to students, family members and teachers for their mental health and well-being during the times of Covid-19 and beyond. <http://manodarpan.mhrd.gov.in/>

Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has launched a 'Cyber Security Handbook' to ensure safe and healthy digital habits among students. The 'Cyber Security Handbook' can be accessed at this link:
http://cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/Manuals/Cyber_Safety_Manual.pdf.
