

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 373**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 03.01.2021

**DIGITAL LITERACY**

**373. SHRI PINAKI MISRA:**

Will the Minister of Electronics & Information Technology be pleased to state:-

- (a) the digital literacy rate in the country, urban and rural, and state/UT-wise;
- (b) the definition of 'digital literacy' in the National Digital Literacy Mission, Digital Saksharta Abhiyan and the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan schemes;
- (c) the total number of people covered under the aforementioned schemes, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether any steps are being taken by the Government to address the disparity in the progress of existing schemes across different states and UTs, and if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has any plans to expand the coverage of digital literacy schemes, and if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) whether any steps are being taken by the Government to improve the country's digital infrastructure of the Country, and if so, the details thereof ?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

(a): National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) had published the 71st Round Survey Report titled 'Social Consumption - Education Survey 2014', which inter-alia covers IT Literacy. As per this report, the proportion of households in the Country having computer was found to be around 14% (only 6% of rural households and 29% of urban households possessed computer). The State/UT-wise proportion of households having access to computer is at **Annexure-I**. Further, for the age 14 years and above, the ability to operate computer in rural and urban areas was reported as under:

Proportion (per 1000) of population (age 14 years and above and can operate computer) by types of ability to use a computer					
Rural			Urban		
Able to use computer word processing typing	Able to use internet for searching desired information	Able to use internet for sending e-mails	Able to use computer word processing typing	Able to use internet for searching desired information	Able to use internet for sending e-mails
<b>234</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>758</b>

(b): As per the National Digital Literacy Mission, Digital Saksharta Abhiyan and the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan schemes, the Digital Literacy is defined as "***Digital Literacy is the ability of individuals and communities to understand and use digital technologies for meaningful actions within life situations***".

(c): In the NDLM/DISHA schemes, **1,09,86,469** candidates were registered, **88,08,856** candidates were trained out of which **53,67,092** were duly certified. The State/UT-wise detail is at **Annexure-II**. Under the PMGDISHA scheme, as on 28.01.2021, **4,16,61,579** candidates have been registered, **3,40,20,338** candidates have been trained and out of which **2,47,31,689** have been duly certified. The details of State/UT-wise training details is given at **Annexure-III**.

(d) and (e): To address the disparity in the progress of existing schemes across different states and UTs, initiatives are taken up to scale up awareness on digital literacy through registration/ certification drives, online workshops, seminars and other activities by using e-learning, print and electronic media, etc. to cover various segments of the population in an all-inclusive manner.

In order to ensure equitable geographical reach to all the Gram Panchayats across the country, so far, 2,46,868 gram panchayats have been covered, under the PMGDISHA Scheme which is under implementation presently with a target to make six crore persons digitally literate in rural areas, covering around 40% of the rural population (one person per household) across States/UTs.

(f): Following steps are taken by the Ministry of Communications to improve digital infrastructure of the Country:

- National Digital Communications Policy-2018 was notified on 22nd October, 2018 with strategic objectives which inter-alia include broadband i.e. high speed internet for all
- National Broadband Mission (NBM) was launched on 17th December 2019 with objectives which inter-alia include Broadband access to all villages and facilitate universal & equitable access to broadband services across the country especially in rural and remote areas
- BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to connect all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) by broadband/high speed internet infrastructure in the country. As on 15.01.2021, a total of 1,51,504 GPs (including Block Headquarters) have been made service ready. Further, BharatNet is being extended to connect over 6 Lakh villages of the country on Optical fibre Cable.

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<b>State-wise proportion (per 1000) of households having access to computer</b>			
<i>[Source: 'NSS KI(71/25.2):Key Indicators of Social Consumption in India : Education']</i>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Rural</b>	<b>Urban</b>	<b>Rural + Urban</b>
Andhra Pradesh	25	232	91
Arunachal Pradesh	88	267	123
Assam	54	327	91
Bihar	23	207	42
Chhattisgarh	11	150	39
Delhi	296	342	341
Goa	464	529	503
Gujarat	71	311	175
Haryana	78	316	161
Himachal Pradesh	146	282	163
Jammu & Kashmir	67	255	109
Jharkhand	24	167	57
Karnataka	57	294	155
Kerala	257	379	313
Madhya Pradesh	32	256	91
Maharashtra	113	407	249
Manipur	60	184	102
Meghalaya	68	410	138
Mizoram	195	458	313
Nagaland	193	380	238
Odisha	21	207	55
Punjab	131	380	229
Rajasthan	86	301	144
Sikkim	193	470	262
Tamil Nadu	130	262	197
Telangana	30	224	103
Tripura	32	133	55
Uttar Pradesh	50	267	103
Uttarakhand	63	253	112
West Bengal	31	232	95
A & N Islands	186	279	222
Chandigarh	320	486	479
Dadra & N. Haveli	80	464	297
Daman & Diu	180	217	213
Lakshadweep	422	334	351
Puducherry	174	322	269
<b>All India</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>137</b>

## State-wise Status of NDLM/DISHA Schemes

State-wise Status of NDLM/DISHA Schemes				
S.N	State	Registered	Trained	Certified
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2,945	1,638	409
2	Andhra Pradesh	3,41,133	3,32,133	1,65,767
3	Arunachal Pradesh	12,940	3,500	2,139
4	Assam	2,07,111	66,566	51,473
5	Bihar	9,75,205	7,66,804	4,40,129
6	Chandigarh	35,142	22,847	13,646
7	Chhattisgarh	3,38,370	2,57,036	1,72,451
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	440	343	186
9	Daman & Diu	2,890	2,512	1,376
10	Delhi	1,54,373	1,40,633	81,836
11	Goa	4,960	4,390	1,278
12	Gujarat	6,32,923	5,72,955	3,34,584
13	Haryana	2,50,085	2,31,589	1,33,174
14	Himachal Pradesh	69,341	62,607	31,264
15	Jammu & Kashmir	2,81,445	2,22,244	1,21,802
16	Jharkhand	2,51,278	2,33,349	1,14,876
17	Karnataka	7,15,070	5,55,362	3,52,666
18	Kerala	1,18,727	1,09,535	49,357
19	Lakshadweep	135	97	20
20	Madhya Pradesh	8,63,799	6,51,416	3,65,629
21	Maharashtra	8,89,791	6,92,597	4,08,928
22	Manipur	59,007	49,865	31,023
23	Meghalaya	179	36	-
24	Mizoram	19,893	12,466	9,507
25	Nagaland	30,684	17,531	12,997
26	Odisha	2,30,532	2,21,060	1,21,099
27	Puducherry	41,882	40,452	19,048
28	Punjab	3,03,453	2,37,780	96,962
29	Rajasthan	9,37,076	6,99,428	3,72,376
30	Sikkim	25,552	17,758	10,625

31	Tamil Nadu	4,86,310	4,72,403	2,93,631
32	Telangana	3,42,586	2,27,247	1,85,853
33	Tripura	1,06,168	81,875	42,936
34	Uttar Pradesh	10,33,441	7,82,617	6,32,707
35	Uttarakhand	2,37,770	2,08,334	1,02,021
36	West Bengal	9,83,833	8,09,851	5,93,317
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1,09,86,469</b>	<b>88,08,856</b>	<b>53,67,092</b>

## Annexure-III

## State-wise Status under PMGDISHA scheme

State-wise data under PMGDISHA scheme				
S. N	State	Registered	Trained	Certified
1	Andaman & Nicobar Isl.	289	93	33
2	Andhra Pradesh	8,72,756	6,31,521	4,48,987
3	Arunachal Pradesh	3,109	1,039	729
4	Assam	19,62,875	16,30,978	12,64,004
5	Bihar	42,95,182	36,14,744	25,60,397
6	Chandigarh	-	-	-
7	Chhattisgarh	22,34,827	18,57,546	13,76,207
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1,193	369	256
9	Daman and Diu	999	489	316
10	Delhi	225	125	90
11	Goa	1,293	856	635
12	Gujarat	18,78,739	15,73,680	11,33,033
13	Haryana	15,50,188	12,87,924	9,59,133
14	Himachal Pradesh	2,36,767	1,57,786	1,14,040
15	Jammu And Kashmir	3,18,332	2,38,305	1,76,122
16	Jharkhand	18,29,808	14,23,608	10,16,480
17	Karnataka	7,12,793	5,48,654	3,67,270
18	Kerala	42,307	19,482	15,484
19	Lakshadweep	26	5	-
20	Madhya Pradesh	32,07,140	26,37,118	18,58,205
21	Maharashtra	25,58,609	20,26,106	14,47,915
22	Manipur	9,304	5,113	3,157

2 3	Meghalaya	73,034	51,109	32,534
2 4	Mizoram	7,443	5,299	3,074
2 5	Nagaland	5,010	3,644	2,693
2 6	Odisha	23,17,5 88	18,44,4 63	13,88,2 22
2 7	Puducherry	11,697	8,185	5,553
2 8	Punjab	11,31,2 23	9,44,78 1	7,14,19 1
2 9	Rajasthan	20,51,3 08	16,17,6 36	11,83,2 22
3 0	Sikkim	766	561	178
3 1	Tamil Nadu	7,36,29 5	5,96,45 5	4,26,81 9
3 2	Telangana	5,46,31 5	4,25,58 3	2,99,16 5
3 3	Tripura	1,41,16 5	92,820	69,240
3 4	Uttarakhand	4,25,15 1	3,34,91 4	2,49,35 9
3 5	Uttar Pradesh	1,10,34, 403	93,00,4 09	67,55,8 34
3 6	West Bengal	14,61,7 79	11,37,8 44	8,58,31 3
3 7	Ladakh	1,641	1,094	799
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>4,16,61, 579</b>	<b>3,40,20, 338</b>	<b>2,47,31, 689</b>

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