

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4776
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 24.03.2021

PROMOTION OF IT BASED EDUCATION

4776. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote and ramp up information technology based education, especially in the background of extended shutdown of schools, colleges and other educational institutions; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to ensure efficient access to plans/programmes/schemes promoting IT based education by poor and marginalized citizens?

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

(a) and (b): In the background of extended shutdown of schools, colleges and other educational institutions due to COVID-19 pandemic the Government has taken following steps to promote the IT based education in the country.

I. A comprehensive initiative called PM eVIDYA has been initiated by Ministry of Education which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education. The initiative includes:

- i) Online classes are being conducted 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>).
- ii) For the students do not have digital means, the medium of TV, radio has been used to promote IT based education. The learning programmes have 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 steps taken by all the states are shown in report entitled “India Report Digital Education June 2020” and the same is available at given below URL:

https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf

II. Internet access under BHARATNET scheme has been made available to Government institutions. To improve the internet connectivity in rural areas the CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd (CSC-SPV) 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.

III. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) is implementing a project “**Online Labs (OLabs) for school experiments**”. The Olabs project is the online web based portal where Laboratory

experiments are accessible by the students and teachers across the country. Online Labs (Olabs) is available for public access at www.olabs.edu.in. Under the OLabs project a total of 173 experiments are available in the portal with interactive simulators and videos (i.e Physics -54; chemistry -46; Biology -36; Maths -25; English -12). The Content are aligned with NCERT/CBSE and State Board Syllabus from Class 9 to Class 12.
