

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1070
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26th JULY, 2021**

Digital Education

†1070. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the digital education has been very useful and effective during the covid-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the digital education can be an effective choice to make improvement in the level of education in rural areas also;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the effective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase digital education both in urban and rural areas equally?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) to (d) Yes, due to prevalence of COVID-19, educational institutions in large parts of India have been unable to conduct physical classes. In these circumstances efforts have been made to continue teaching-learning process in the form of online as well as offline mode.

A comprehensive initiative called **PM eVIDYA** has been initiated as part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan on 17th May, 2020, which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education. The initiative includes:

- DIKSHA (one nation, one digital platform) is the nation's digital infrastructure for providing quality e-content for school education in states/UTs and QR coded Energized Textbooks for all grades are available on it.

- One earmarked Swayam Prabha TV channel per class from 1 to 12 (one class, one channel).
- Extensive use of Radio, Community radio and CBSE Podcast- Shiksha Vani.
- Special e-content for visually and hearing impaired developed on Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY) and in sign language on NIOS website/ YouTube.

To reach out to those students who lack access to technology various innovative activities are being done at national, state or district level such as Gali-Gali Sim-Sim, Tili-Mili programme, Motor Eskool, Roving Teacher, Project SMILE (Social Media Interface for Learning Engagement), e-Kaksha, formation of Whatsap and other social media groups, Work Book Distribution at home, Teacher calling to maintain connects with students.

(e) Keeping in view the availability of digital infrastructure PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education have been issued. The guidelines brief 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, and offline mode that utilizes television and radio as a major medium of instruction of education. The guidelines can be accessed at:

https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines_0.pdf
