

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2134

TO BE ANSWERED ON 02ND AUGUST, 2021

Effects of Digital Education

2134. SHRI HIBI EDEN:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has observed a large digital divide in our schools and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any study has been conducted to assess the advantages and disadvantages of online learning /education and if so, the details thereof and if not, the details regarding the sources from which the Ministry obtains feedback of online classes;

(c) whether the Government has any data which shows the total number of school students, along with the students equipped with instruments for online classes and the number of school students who are not equipped for online classes; and

(d) whether the Government has formulated any action plan to control and minimise the adverse effects of digital divide and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) and (b) 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. These guidelines provide a roadmap or pointers for carrying forward enhanced quality online education. The guidelines are useful for a diverse set of stakeholders including school heads, teachers, parents, teacher educators and students. It also outlines the support to be provided to students with

special needs. Main emphasis is on balanced online and offline activities keeping the screen time as an essential parameter according to the level of students.

The guidelines can be accessed at:

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

(c) The state-wise data on number of schools having internet facility is placed at Annexure-A.

(d) Learning programmes have also been 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.

In order to enable online education benefit to the children of every category and teachers, Learning Enhancement Guidelines have been issued. These have been prepared on the basis of the recommendations and reports of States/UTs which are as following:

- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students without digital devices.
- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students with limited access to digital devices.
- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students with digital devices.

https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/announcement/Learning_%20Enhancement_Guidelines.pdf

NCERT has also developed an Alternative Academic Calendar for all the stages of school education. In this calendar the themes/topics have been selected from syllabus and are linked with the learning outcomes. Guidelines have been developed for conducting interesting activities based on these learning outcomes.

ANNEXURE-A**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2134 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2021 ASKED BY SHRI HIBI EDEN, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING 'EFFECTS OF DIGITAL EDUCATION'**

Number of Schools with Internet Facility	
State/UT	Government
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	68
Andhra Pradesh	4104
Arunachal Pradesh	105
Assam	2037
Bihar	1492
Chandigarh	121
Chhattisgarh	1627
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	44
Daman & Diu	77
Delhi	2440
Goa	70
Gujarat	23434
Haryana	2879
Himachal Pradesh	2153
Jammu & Kashmir	1201
Jharkhand	10891
Karnataka	3862
Kerala	4393
Ladakh	17
Lakshadweep	42
Madhya Pradesh	3792
Maharashtra	7149
Manipur	68
Meghalaya	99
Mizoram	60
Nagaland	61
Odisha	1450
Puducherry	180
Punjab	6830
Rajasthan	16332
Sikkim	112
Tamilnadu	6746
Telangana	2408
Tripura	69
Uttar Pradesh	4042
Uttarakhand	1071
West Bengal	8055
India	119581