Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is difficult to make education accessible to all in a country like India with huge population and high dropout rate;

(b) whether the Government is considering to promote the system of e-learning through electronic means along with Open School, University Institutions and correspondence courses;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the State-wise details of the total amount spent on e-learning during the last three year; and

(e) whether the Government is considering to start e-learning in all Universities and Open Schools across the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SMT ANNAPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (c) To facilitate the online learning by all students a comprehensive initiative called PM eVIDYA has been initiated as part of AtmaNirbhar 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 the nation’s digital infrastructure for providing quality e-content for school education in states/UTs and QR coded Energized Textbooks for all grades (one nation, one digital platform).
- 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.

All the schemes combined can benefit nearly 25 crore school going children across the country.

(d) School Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and the state governments have been advised to act based on the situation prevailing at every place to meet the demands of all students for providing them with the digital access required for learning digitally. Depending on the states’ requirement the Ministry of Education provides Rs.6.40 Lakh for setting up computer labs and Rs.2.40 Lakh for smart classroom.

(e) The ‘Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds' (SWAYAM) is a programme initiated by Government of India and designed to achieve the three cardinal principles of Education Policy viz., access, equity and quality. In order to promote Online education, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020, which facilitates the Universities to offer full-fledged Online Program.

Also, online coaching is provided through IIT PAL channel under SWAYAM Prabha and also through E-Abhyas App for preparation.