

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 61
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th November, 2021**

Paperless Working in Education Ministry

† **61. SHRI BASANTA KUMAR PANDA:**

Will the **Minister of Education** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to make the education and training paperless in schools; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Under Samagra Shiksha, an Integrated Centrally Sponsored Scheme for school education, financial assistance is provided to states/UTs for various ICT and digital initiatives for setting up of ICT labs, smart classrooms including support for digital boards, virtual classrooms and DTH channels.

Ministry of Education has taken various steps for providing continued access to education to each category of students irrespective of their region or economic standard. A comprehensive initiative called PM e-Vidya has been started which aims to unify all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education. The initiative includes all forms of digital modes to provide wide access- DIKSHA (online), SWAYAM (online), SWAYAM PRABHA (TV), other TV Channels including use of Doordarshan and AIR Networks.

In view of the COVID-19 challenges and in order to provide continuous professional development opportunities to the teachers at the elementary level, this Department launched the NISHTHA online training programme using DIKSHA platform in October 2020. NISHTHA online for elementary level covered 18 modules in 11 languages, including use of ICT in teaching-learning. Around 24 lakh teachers completed NISHTHA online training at elementary level by June, 2021. Further, NISHTHA online training has also been initiated for secondary teachers and teachers teaching at foundational level.
