LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2828
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST MARCH, 2022

Impact of Online Education

2828. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the post-pandemic crisis in schooling and higher education portends a grim future for India's students;

(b) whether the Government under its administrative control have tried to gauge the impact of online education on the learning levels and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that the damage, pedagogic and psychological, caused by prolonged online learning is likely to emerge over time;

(d) whether the Government is aware that the shadow education and coaching industry has seen exponential growth in the last one year;

(e) if so, the steps being taken to provide remedial education; and

(f) the stance of the Government on coaching industry?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (c)   To facilitate online education, 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.

Education being in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools, colleges and university are under the domain of respective State and UT Governments. The Central Government is constantly advising States/UTs through guidelines and meeting with respect to interventions for reducing impact of pandemic on education. The guidelines issued so far are as follows:

- Guidelines For Children of Migrant Labourers:
  https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Migrant%20labour%20guideline.pdf

- Guidelines For out of School Children and Mitigation of Loss of Learning:
  https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/guidelines_oosc.pdf.

- PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education:
  https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines_0.pdf

- Learning Enhancement Guidelines for Continuous Learning:
  https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/announcement/Learning_%20Enhancement_Guidelines.pdf

- Covid initiative report:
  https://dsel.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/update/covid_initiatives.pdf

- Continuous Learning Plan (CLP)
  (https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/announcement/Learning_%20Enhancement_Guidelines.pdf)

- Guidelines for Parents for Home based Learning
  (https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/document-reports/MoE_Home_Learning_Guidelines.pdf)

(d) to (f)   In order to safeguard against the exploitative practices of ed-tech companies, the Government has issued advisory which includes do's and don'ts for the stakeholders. It has also reiterated legal provisions for e-commerce firms for information to citizens who are consumers of ed-tech services. The details may be seen at:

https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1784582

The Government of India through National Testing Agency (NTA) has launched a Mobile App 'National Test Abhyas' with the help of this app students get access to high quality online mock tests for NEET (UG) and JEE (Main) entrance examination. Government has launched SWAYAM Portal, which offers interactive course content and online discussion forum for clearing doubts for students from Class 9 to Post-Graduation.

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