GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5110
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.04.2022

NEAT Programme for Public-Private Partnership

5110.   SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has been running National Educational Alliance for Technology (NEAT) programme as a Public-Private Partnership, where EdTech platforms also offer courses and scholarships and if so, whether the Government has data about total number of beneficiaries under NEAT and number of private EdTech companies offer their courses;

(b) whether existing EdTech companies help the Government in setting-up and running the digital university smoothly; and

(c) whether Government has any plan to open SWAYAM Portal for courses being offered by private content providers and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) Yes, National Educational Alliance for Technology (NEAT) is being implemented as a Public-Private partnership model between the AICTE and Education Technology Companies in India. Under the Scheme, students of economically and socially weaker sections across the country benefit from NEAT courses/schemes, as 25% of the coupons have been provisioned for them free of cost. 58 Ed-Tech companies with 100 courses are listed on the NEAT Portal.

(b) Government of India in its Budget 2022-2023 has announced for Establishment of Digital University, to provide access to students across the country for world-class quality universal education with personalized learning experience at their doorsteps in different Indian languages and ICT formats. The Department of Higher Education, in consultation with UGC, AICTE and other stakeholders has initiated the process to ensure the early start of this digital university.

(c) SWAYAM Portal has a vertical for offering degree programme by Higher Educational Institutions. Decisions regarding offering of courses on SWAYAM portal is taken by the SWAYAM Board which consist of representatives from MoE, UGC, AICTE and reputed institutions like IITs/IIMs.

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