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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5140 TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH APRIL, 2022

DIKSHA Website

5140. SHRI M.V.V. SATYANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government takes serious cognizance of the fact that the DIKSHA website platform has certain issues when accessed a screen reader displaying children with visual disabilities:
- (b) if so, what steps has the Government taken to improve this; and
- (c) whether the Government is working to ensure that all e-books are available in an appropriate format to these children and if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) DIKSHA is the platform for providing quality e-content for school education in States/UTs and QR coded Energized Textbooks for all grades (one nation, one digital platform). DIKSHA complies with World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 level AA. This enables people with visual impairments to access the website using assistive technologies, such as screen readers.

Special e-content for visually and hearing impaired developed on Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY) and in sign language on NIOS website/YouTube. DAISY is the emerging world standard for digital talking books for people who are visually impaired or have a print disability. DAISY books have "embedded navigation" that enables readers to instantly jump to any part of a work- the same way a sighted person can turn to any page. With DAISY, the text is delineated with tags, such as part,

chapter, page, paragraph, etc., and synced with the audio files. Readers can navigate through this hierarchy using the tab key or other player control.

In all 2,031 textbook based ISL videos have been recorded. Out of these 541 textbook based on ISL videos are uploaded on DIKSHA. A 10,000 word ISL dictionary has been uploaded on DIKSHA. **3,345** audio books chapters are also uploaded on DIKSHA.
