

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2331**  
ANSWERED ON 01.08.2022

**Internet Connection in Government Schools**

2331. COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Government schools across the country having access to internet, State-wise, particularly district level for Rajasthan;
- (b) whether the Government has any plans to use the National Broadband Mission or the BSNL network to connect the Government schools that are yet to be connected with internet facilities and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government schools have an option to continue hybrid learning post the pandemic for students who have to travel from remote areas and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is planning on using 5G data for such students from remote areas as it is a higher degree of wireless connectivity and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government is collaborating with any private sector bodies for providing internet facilities and computer hardware as part of CSR activities, or via donations, or any other means and if so, the details thereof during the last five years?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): The State/UT wise details of Government schools having access to internet is at **Annexure-I**. The District-wise details of Government schools having access to internet in the State of Rajasthan is at **Annexure-II**.

(b): Education is in the concurrent list & majority of the school are under to domain of respective State & UT Governments. BSNL has come forward to provide FTTH (fibre to the home) connections to the Government Schools and based on the request of BSNL, an advisory has been issued to the States/UTs by the Ministry to sign an MoU with BSNL for securing FTTH connections to Government Schools which have computing devices.

(c) & (d): In order to ensure that every student including those residing in rural and educationally backward districts of the country, gets continuous access to education, a multi-pronged approach has been adopted by the Dept. of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education.

A comprehensive initiative called PM e-Vidya has been started as part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan 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 the following components:

- 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

Where the digital facility (mobile device/DTH television) is not available, Ministry of Education has taken many initiatives like Community Radio Stations and a podcast called Shiksha Vani of CBSE, Textbooks, worksheet supplied to residence of learners, Handbook on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills and community/mohalla classes are organized. Innovation Funds of the Department are used to set up mobile school, virtual studios, virtual class rooms in schools. Continuous Learning Plan (CLP) for states/UTs has been initiated in all States/UTs, pre-loaded tablets in various states and UTs are effectively used in remote rural areas where online classes are difficult.

Further, an Alternate Academic Calendar has been prepared for learning solutions including self-assessment for grade 1 to 12 for both children with and without device. Bridge Course Modules have also been developed for bridging the learning gaps of Out of School children studying in special training centres (STC) under the provisions of RTE Act, 2009. Also, PRAGYATA guidelines were issued to the States/UTs to facilitate continued education through various modes. The guidelines inter-alia include situation where internet connectivity is not available or available with very less bandwidth, resources are shared through various platforms like television, radio etc. that do not depend on internet. Similarly, Students Learning Enhancement Guidelines were released in 2020 to support learning of children during COVID-19. Guidelines for parent participation in Home-based learning during school closure and beyond have also been released in 2021.

Department of School Education and Literacy has launched the Samagra Shiksha – an Integrated Scheme for School Education from 2018-19. It envisages the 'school' as a continuum from pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to Senior Secondary levels. It is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education. Samagra Shiksha is implemented in partnership with all the States and UTs and financial assistance is provided to all States and UTs for various components including strengthening of ICT infrastructure in schools. Under Samagra Shiksha, ICT component envisages covering all Government and Aided schools from classes VI to XII and Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs), subject to the availability of budgetary provision. As on date, ICT Labs are approved in 120614 schools and Smart classrooms are approved in 82120 schools. Total 1482565 TABs have been sanctioned to the teachers dealing primary classes.

(e): Vidyanjali (<https://vidyanjali.education.gov.in>) is an initiative taken by the Ministry of Education, Government of India in 2021, with the aim to strengthen Schools through community and private sector involvement in schools across the country. This initiative would connect schools with varied volunteers from the Indian diaspora namely, young professionals, retired teachers, retired Government officials, retired professionals, NGOs, Private Sector and Public Sector Companies, Corporate Institutions and many others. Through Vidyanjali volunteer can support and strengthen the government and government aided schools by offering voluntary services and also contributing Assets/Material/Equipment. 18 requests received on the Vidyanjali Portal since inception pertaining to Digital Infrastructure have been fulfilled so far.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2331 ANSWERED ON 01.08.2022 ASKED BY HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE REGARDING INTERNET CONNECTION IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS**

**Statement showing State/UT-wise details of Government schools having access to internet**

<b>S. No</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Number of Government Schools with Internet connection</b>
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	91
2	Andhra Pradesh	3987
3	Arunachal Pradesh	116
4	Assam	2260
5	Bihar	1664
6	Chandigarh	121
7	Chhattisgarh	4116
8	Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar	110
9	Delhi	2470
10	Goa	70
11	Gujarat	25301
12	Haryana	3093
13	Himachal Pradesh	2186
14	Jammu & Kashmir	1237
15	Jharkhand	10334
16	Karnataka	3031
17	Kerala	4378
18	Ladakh	519
19	Lakshadweep	42
20	Madhya Pradesh	4020
21	Maharashtra	7770
22	Manipur	82
23	Meghalaya	104
24	Mizoram	110
25	Nagaland	70
26	Odisha	1428
27	Puducherry	400
28	Punjab	19260
29	Rajasthan	19255
30	Sikkim	116
31	Tamil Nadu	6767
32	Telangana	2460
33	Tripura	119
34	Uttar Pradesh	4062
35	Uttarakhand	1046
36	West Bengal	8550
	<b>Total</b>	<b>140745</b>

Source: UDISE 2020-21

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<b>S.No.</b>	<b>District Name</b>	<b>Number of Government Schools having Internet connection</b>
1	AJMER	667
2	ALWAR	982
3	BANSWARA	601
4	BARAN	230
5	BARMER	1208
6	BHARATPUR	488
7	BHILWARA	923
8	BIKANER	552
9	BUNDI	339
10	CHITTAURGARH	626
11	CHURU	535
12	DAUSA	361
13	DHAULPUR	309
14	DUNGARPUR	622
15	GANGANAGAR	653
16	HANUMANGARH	469
17	JAIPUR	1197
18	JAISALMER	415
19	JALOR	604
20	JHALAWAR	345
21	JHUNJHUNU	534
22	JODHPUR	899
23	KARAULI	409
24	KOTA	339
25	NAGPUR	946
26	PALI	628
27	PRATAPGARH (RAJ.)	355
28	RAJSAMAND	514
29	SAWAI MADHOPUR	286
30	SIKAR	644
31	SIROHI	279
32	TONK	404
33	UDAIPUR	892
	<b>Total</b>	<b>19255</b>

Source: UDISE 2020-21