

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3392
ANSWERED ON 16/12/2024

ICT Labs, Smart Classrooms and Digital Empowerment

3392. Ms. Bansuri Swaraj:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms in Government/Aided Schools since its inception; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to bridge the digital divide due to lack of connectivity and to provide the same during this period?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SH. JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a): 1,42,745 ICT Labs and 1,30,536 Smart Classrooms have been approved in the Government and Government Aided Schools since its inception.

(b): Education is in the Concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the administrative control of respective State Government and UT Administration. The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing Samagra Shiksha – an Integrated Scheme for School Education from 2018-19. For internet connectivity, an advisory has been issued by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Government of India to all the States and UTs to enter into an MoU/ Agreement with BSNL and provide FTTH Internet connection to all the Government Schools which have computing devices.

To achieve the objectives of NEP 2020, a comprehensive initiative called PM e-VIDYA is in place which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education, with a target to benefit nearly 25 crore school going children across the country. The key components of this initiative are DIKSHA - the nation's digital infrastructure, 200 PM e-VIDYA DTH TV Channels to provide supplementary education in various Indian languages for classes 1-12, ePathshala initiative to disseminate Digital Books and eContents, a vertical on Virtual Labs created on DIKSHA platform where 280 Virtual Labs for Science and Mathematics for subjects Class 6th to 12th have been made available.

The above digital initiatives of Department of School Education & Literacy especially “ICT and Smart Classroom component” provide basic infrastructure to the students and transform the classroom into tech-driven class. The students increase engagement with multimedia content and interactive activities, while availing wider range of resources. This fosters deeper understanding, collaboration, and digital literacy for students, enriching their overall educational experience.
