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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 157 ANSWERED ON 3rd February, 2025

Outcomes of RTE Act

157. Shri E T Mohammed Basheer:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has evaluated the outcome of the implementation of Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, if so, the details of the achievement made by the Government till date; and
- (b) whether the Government has any plan to expand digital literacy programmes in the rural regions of the country, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

- (a): Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of schools are under the jurisdiction of the respective State Government and Union Territory Administration which are the appropriate Government for implementation of the provision of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing an Integrated Centrally Sponsored Scheme for School Education- Samagra Shiksha w.e.f. 2018-19. The monitoring system under Samagra Shiksha consists of:
 - Regular meeting under Education Secretaries/SPDs
 - Visits to States and UTs
 - National Workshop/Review Meeting on Physical and Financial progress.
 - Monitoring through PRABANDH system
 - Review of UTs by Hon'ble Home Minister with Lt. Governors and Administrators
 - Social Audit
 - UDISE+: Data bank of Education Indicators, Linkages with School GIS portal
 - Monitoring through Public Financial Management System (PFMS)

To monitor the impact of its umbrella schemes, Samagra Shiksha, the Department of School Education and Literacy developed a Management Information System, Unified District Information System for Education Plus(UDISE+) starting from the reference year 2018-2019. To further revolutionize the school data collection mechanism and to monitor learning outcome and track dropped—out students, starting from 2022-2023 UDISE+ was revitalized to collect individual student—wise data. Similarly, individual teacher-wise data is also being collected and maintained to promote Good Governance. This Department has made the UDISE+ 2023-2024 report available in public domain and the same may be accessed at "https://udiseplus.gov.in/#/en/page/publications".

- (b): To ensure equitable digital access across rural areas, a comprehensive initiative called PM e-VIDYA is underway which unifies all efforts related to e-education including digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education. The key components of this initiative are:-
 - 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). DIKSHA currently hosts 7,080+ textbooks energized with QR codes, including 374 NCERT textbooks and ETBs.
 - To promote, crucial and critical thinking skill, a vertical on Virtual Labs has also been created on DIKSHA platform. 280 Virtual Labs for Science and Mathematics for subjects Class 6th to 12th have been made available. Training on Virtual labs has been conducted through PM eVidya DTH TV channels for teachers and teacher educators across the country.
 - DTH TV Channels As per the Union Budget announcement for Financial Year 2022-23, the 12 DTH Channels have been expanded to 200 PM eVidya DTH TV Channels to enable all States/UTs to provide supplementary education in various Indian languages for classes 1-12. The channels have been allocated to the States/UTs and Autonomous bodies under MoE and other ministries and are operational.
 - 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. This is available on NIOS website/ YouTube.
 - Under Samagra Shiksha, under the ICT and Digital Initiatives financial assistance is provided for establishing ICT Lab and Smart Classrooms in schools.