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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1324
ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025

Artificial Intelligence in Rural Government Schools

1324. Dr. M P Abdussamad Samadani:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated a national framework or curriculum guidelines for introducing Artificial Intelligence (AI) education at the school level under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020;
(b) if so, the details of modules, learning outcomes and teacher-training components proposed for Classes 6–12;
(c) whether the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and other school boards have been directed to include AI literacy, ethical use of AI and foundational computational thinking in their syllabi, if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether the Government proposes to collaborate with research institutions to develop age-appropriate AI learning tools and digital resources for schools in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure equitable access to AI education for students in rural, tribal, and Government schools including availability of devices, teachers and digital infrastructure in the country?

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

(a) to (e): The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has emphasized the importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its role in school curriculum. Under “Curricular Integration of Essential Subjects, Skills, and Capacities” the policy mentions at para 4.24 that concerted curricular and pedagogical initiatives, including the introduction of contemporary subjects such as Artificial Intelligence, Design Thinking, Holistic Health, Organic Living, Environmental Education, Global Citizenship Education (GCED), etc. at relevant stages will be undertaken to develop these various important skills in students at all levels.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has constituted two

committees - one for developing syllabus and textbooks for Computer Science and the other for Foundations and Methods of Artificial Intelligence for Grades 11 and 12 with the membership from Indian Institute of Technology **(**IITs), Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), and relevant Research institutions and Universities at the national and international level.

The existing NCERT textbooks of Computer Science class XI (Chapter 3) (https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?kecs1=ps-11) and Informatics Practices class XI (Chapter 2) (https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?keip1=ps-8) talk about AI, Internet of Things (IoT) and other emerging technologies. NCERT has also included a project on Animation and Games in the vocational education textbook for Grade 6. Moreover, NCERT collaborates with EdTech companies and other such organizations to strengthen the digital learning ecosystem on DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing). The schools affiliated to CBSE follows NCERT textbooks and model syllabus. CBSE offers a skill module on Artificial Intelligence for classes VI–VIII and as an optional skill-based subject in classes IX–XII.

The Government of India has launched the SOAR (Skilling for AI Readiness), a national initiative in alignment with the objectives of NEP 2020, the National Programme on AI (NPAI) Skilling Framework and Viksit Bharat 2047 vision of digital empowerment and inclusive growth. SOAR is aimed at embedding AI awareness and foundational competencies among school students (Classes 6–12) and building AI literacy among educators. The programme seeks to bridge the digital divide by ensuring equitable access to AI education across geographies, thereby supporting the national agenda of inclusive, future-ready skilling. The SOAR curriculum comprises four progressive National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF)-aligned modules. For students of classes 6 to 12, three distinct micro-credentials: (i) AI to be Aware, (ii) AI to Acquire, and (iii) AI to Aspire, are offered, each of 15 hours duration, amounting to 45 hours in total. These cover fundamental AI concepts, practical programming, ethical and responsible AI usage, and career opportunities in technology. For educators, one 45-hour module titled AI for Educators provides comprehensive training in AI concepts, pedagogical strategies, and practical classroom application.

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs), mostly are located in rural areas, have established smart classrooms, along with reliable internet connectivity with each Navodaya Vidyalaya having a minimum of 40 desktop computers to support Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enabled education. The posts of TGT & PGT Computer Science have also been sanctioned for Navodaya Vidyalayas.

The National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) has introduced Artificial Intelligence (AI) education at the school level in alignment with the CBSE curriculum for Classes IX to XII. NESTS is taking multiple steps to ensure AI literacy, ethical use of AI, and foundational computational thinking among students in Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS). These steps include integration of AI & emerging technologies as vocational subjects to strengthen digital readiness among tribal students; establishing of 400 Skill Labs under Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP)

programme in 200 EMRS campuses; introduction of AI as a sixth skill subject; smart classrooms are set up in partnership with ERNET, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

Further, the Ministry of Education, Government of India implements ICT and Digital initiatives under Samagra Shiksha, aligned with NEP 2020. These initiatives aim to enhance the quality of education by integrating technology into learning and teaching processes. Under Samagra Shiksha, funding is provided for setting up of ICT labs in Schools and Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs). To facilitate online learning for all, a comprehensive initiative called 'PM eVidya' was initiated as part of 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan' on 17th May, 2020, which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education across the country. It includes 200 DTH TV Channels allotted to States/Union Territories (UTs)/Autonomous Organizations (ABs)/other Ministries and 400 Radio channels to provide supplementary education as per requirement in various Indian languages for classes 1-12. DIKSHA is the Nation's digital platform for providing quality e-content for school education in States/UTs along with QR coded Energised Textbooks (ETBs) for all grades (One Nation, One Digital platform). As a participant in DIKSHA, States/UTs/ABs have generated and contributed over 3.69 lakh+ content in local/regional languages.

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