

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:- 2334
ANSWERED ON-15/12/2025

Teacher Capacity Building Programme

2334. **Shri Ramasahayam Raghuram Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **EDUCATION** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the extent to which the introduction of teacher capacity building programmes such as National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA), impacted the education sector in the country;
- (b) the extent to which the implementation of digital teaching aids like Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA) help in improving pedagogical techniques; and
- (c) the details of collaboration with State Governments, educational institutions and international bodies to modernize the teaching and training curriculum for middle school teachers?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Department of School Education and Literacy has launched a National Mission to improve learning outcomes through an Integrated Teacher Training Programme called NISHTHA – National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha. NISHTHA online was launched using DIKSHA platform in October, 2020, which offers structured digital courses comprising videos, reading material, reflective activities and self-assessment tools, including modules related to the use of ICT in teaching, learning and assessment. The platform supports teachers in improving pedagogical techniques through access to on-demand digital content, lesson plans, interactive materials and dashboards. NISHTHA training has been extended to secondary stage teachers in 2021-22. NISHTHA also caters to Foundational Literacy and Numeracy and Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) for training of master trainers. Till date, cumulatively over 63 lakh teachers and school heads across all States/UTs and central organisations have undergone Continuous Professional Development through NISHTHA.

Under PM e-VIDYA programme, which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education, Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA) was launched in 2017 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). For teachers, DIKSHA contains lesson plans, worksheets and activities, to create enjoyable classroom experiences. Teachers have access to interactive and engaging teaching materials; can share best practices with other teachers to explain difficult concepts to students; join courses to further professional development, etc.

(c): Strengthening of teacher training/education programmes of States/UTs is supported under the centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha in alignment with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. These include strengthening of physical infrastructure in Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs); support to State Councils of Educational Research and Trainings (SCERTs) so that they can effectively and efficiently carry out quality teacher education, research and develop state-specific curriculum framework, as a follow up to the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF SE); capacity building of District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) functionaries; continuous academic support to schools through BRC/CRC etc.

Financial provision is also provided under this scheme as per state specific proposals for in-service training of teachers, school Heads, subject teachers, resource persons, master trainers, Education Administrators, Teachers Educators, key resource persons, induction training of newly recruited teachers including those in rural and remote areas at elementary and secondary levels through SCERTs and DIETs, as the nodal agencies.

The Government has decided to develop all functional District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) into Centers of Excellence under the centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha in a phased manner starting from FY 2023-24. Based on proposals submitted by States/UTs, so far the Government has approved upgradation of 125 DIETs for the FY 2023-24 and upgradation of 121 DIETs for the FY 2025-26.

Further, in terms of NEP, 2020, the Government has released a Guiding Document on the National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST) and Bluebook on the National Mission for Mentoring (NMM). NPST defines competencies of teachers at different stages/levels. The Bluebook on NMM contains the various modalities for mentoring of schoolteachers for enhancing their capacity building.

In terms of recommendations of NEP 2020, NCTE has notified ITEP, a 4-year integrated dual major bachelor degree in Education as well as a specialized subject in arts, science, physical education etc. The aim is to develop passionate, motivated, qualified, professionally trained, and well-prepared teachers. Admission for the ITEP is carried out by the National Testing Agency (NTA) through the National Common Entrance Test (NCET), which was last held on 29th April, 2025.
