

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 341
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026

AI in New Curriculum

341. Smt. Malvika Devi:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by the Government to incorporate new technology such as AI in the new curriculum;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government along with the schemes used to promote latest techniques and technology in schools and colleges in backward and aspirational districts of the country; and
- (c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to monitor students mental health and the extent to which improving it?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): 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 Government of India recognizes the importance of innovative subjects and new age technologies and, therefore, has advised CBSE and NCERT to develop curriculum and resource material on Computational Thinking, Artificial Intelligence, Computer Application, etc. through a graded and integrated approach. This initiative is in alignment with NEP 2020 and National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF SE) 2023 and aims to equip students with 21st century skills like logical reasoning, problem solving, data literacy, etc.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has constituted two committees - one for development of 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).

Further, CBSE offers a skill module on Artificial Intelligence for classes VI-VIII and an optional skill-based subject on Artificial Intelligence for classes IX- XII. In addition, the board has introduced AI Inspire- a short (12-hour) introductory program for Class VIII students, designed to build foundational understanding and readiness for Artificial Intelligence. CBSE has collaborated with several organizations such as Intel, IBM, Microsoft, Private Schools, etc. for the curriculum and textbook material of the Subject.

The Government has undertaken multiple initiatives and schemes to promote the adoption of latest techniques and technologies, including AI as follows:

- i. Teacher Training and Capacity Building: Implementation of large-scale teacher training programmes focusing on digital pedagogy, online teaching-learning tools, and exposure to emerging technologies, including AI.
- ii. National Digital Learning Platforms: Deployment of national digital education platforms like DIKSHA, SWAYAM MOOCs, eJaadui Pitara platform providing free and universal access to quality e-content, virtual laboratories, assessments, and teacher professional development resources.

The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has taken focused steps to promote the adoption of the latest techniques and technology in schools. These measures include systematic upgradation of ICT laboratories, Saturation of e-Classrooms, establishment of Atal Tinkering Labs to foster innovation and hands-on learning, provision of high-speed internet connectivity of 300 MBPS or more through BSNL and creation of digital Library encourage experiential learning, and enhance access to modern educational technologies for all its students, including those in backward and aspirational districts.

The Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs), mostly 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.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has enabled interdisciplinary and technology-integrated curricula, promotion of computational thinking, digital literacy and data-driven learning, and encouragement to Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) to introduce AI-related courses, modules and skill components. Accordingly, UGC has notified Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes and all HEIs have been asked to adopt the framework vide UGC letter dated 12.12.2022. The curricular content for UG programmes includes value added courses (6-8 credits). The digital and technological solutions under value added courses include courses in cutting-edge areas that are fast gaining prominences, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), 3-D machining, big data analysis, machine learning, drone technologies, and Deep learning with important applications to health, environment, and sustainable living that will be woven into undergraduate education, for enhancing the employability of the youth.

Further, UGC has invited Expressions of Interest (EoI) for the development of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) for the SWAYAM Platform in 20 courses.

In order to provide Psychosocial Support for Mental Health & Well Being of Students during the COVID Outbreak and beyond, the Manodarpan initiative has been launched by the Ministry of Education. The Manodarpan initiative was launched on July 21, 2020 along with a National Toll-free Helpline (8448440632). A dedicated Manodarpan Cell was set up in the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) to carry out the activities of the Manodarpan initiative as envisaged.

A webpage named 'Manodarpan - Psychosocial Support for Mental Health and Well-being during the COVID Outbreak and Beyond' (<https://manodarpan.education.gov.in>) has been created on the website of the Ministry of Education. The webpage contains advisory, practical tips, posters, videos, do's and don'ts for psycho-social support, and FAQs. A National Toll-free Helpline (8448440632) has also been set up. This unique helpline is manned by a pool of experienced Counselors/Psychologists and other mental health professionals and being continued beyond the COVID-19 situation. Through this helpline, tele-counselling is being provided to the students to address their mental health and psychosocial issues. About 350 experienced counsellors have been enrolled to manage the National Helpline. Webinars and Live discussion forums are being held regularly in collaboration with CIET-NCERT on PM eVIDYA channels and the 'NCERT Official' YouTube channel, with the purpose to sensitize and supporting the stakeholders. The initiative provides psychological support, counselling services and digital resources to students, parents and teachers, strengthening mental health support mechanisms. Under this initiative, 245 webinar sessions have been transmitted on PM eVidya channels #6 and #11 covering 366.5 hours. Till date, 87,052 calls have been received on IVRS calls and callers have been tele-counseled. Under SAHYOG-Guidance and counseling for mental health and wellbeing of children, about 1,463 live sessions have been transmitted live covering 30 minutes each and have been telecast based on class-based channels (6 & 12) about 02:30 hours.

In line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, Clause 2.4.12.1 of the CBSE Affiliation Bye-Laws stipulates that every CBSE-affiliated school shall appoint one Counselling and Wellness Teacher (Socio-Emotional Counsellor) for up to every 500 students enrolled, thereby maintaining a counsellor-to-student ratio of 1:500.

The schools are advised to adopt the CBSE Counselling Hub-and-Spoke School Model to provide counselling and well-being support services to students. CBSE also undertakes various initiatives to

promote students' mental health and well-being, including the annual observance of Mental Health Week from 4th to 10th October and implementation of the Adolescent Peer Educators Leadership Programme. The Board has also developed and disseminated a Mental Health and Well-Being Manual for teachers to enhance awareness and sensitization.

Further, CBSE provides round-the-clock mental health support through a 24×7 toll-free Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) and offers live tele-counselling services through 73 trained professionals on working days. In addition, the Board maintains digital resources on its official website to support students in stress management and emotional well-being.

Additionally, Counsellors are appointed on contractual basis in the Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs). They organize regular guidance and counselling sessions, life-skills education, and awareness programmes on stress management, emotional well-being and positive behavior. The KVS also promotes yoga, meditation, sports, and co-curricular activities to address the issue of stress among students.

Furthermore, UGC has formulated the Guidelines for Promotion of Physical Fitness, Sports, Students' Health, Welfare, Psychological and Emotional Well-Being at Higher Educational Institutions with an objective to ensure equitable access to quality mental health services to all the students enrolled in HEIs with special emphasis on (1) promoting physical fitness and sports activities for students; (2) creating safeguards against academic pressure, peer pressure, behavioral issues, stress, career concerns, depression and other issues on the mental health of students; (3) to teach positive thinking & emotions in the student community, and (4) to promote a positive and supportive network for students. All HEIs are advised/directed to make or amend their ordinances, regulatory provisions, and other rules accordingly to ensure that the directions given in these guidelines are implemented in the best interest of students.

Additionally, UGC had issued an advisory to HEIs on 20.07.2020 to participate in the 'Manodarpan' initiative and had also issued an advisory to HEIs on 06.01.2023 regarding the National Suicide Prevention Strategy framed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
