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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1124
ANSWERED ON 29/07/2024

Set up of Smart Classrooms in Government Schools

1124.   Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde:
        Shri Naresh Ganpat Mhaske:
        Shri Hanuman Beniwal:
        Shri Praveen Patel:
        Smt. Daggubati Purandeswari:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the current status and the progress of the implementation of smart classrooms in Government schools across the country especially in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, district-wise;

(b) the criteria for selection of schools to receive smart classroom facilities, including regional distribution and prioritization;

(c)   the budget allocated and utilized for the development of smart classrooms in the last fiscal year, and the sources of funds for these projects;

(d) the impact assessment of smart classrooms on the quality of education, student engagement, and learning outcomes in Government schools;

(e) whether there is any mechanism in place for upgradation of teaching skills of teachers in Rajasthan and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the Government is making any new initiative for increasing knowledge level of the students and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a):   Smart classrooms have been approved in 1,26,881 schools in the country. The details of Smart Classrooms approved district wise all States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan are available on https://www.education.gov.in/parl_ques.

(b) to (d):   ICT and Digital Initiatives component of Samagra Shiksha covers Government and Aided Schools having classes VI to XII across the country. Under this component financial assistance is provided for establishing ICT Lab and Smart Classrooms in schools. The non- recurring/recurring grant under 'ICT and Digital Initiatives' is available to the States and UTs for following two options:

(i) **Option I:** Under this option schools which have not availed the ICT facility earlier can either opt for ICT or smart classrooms as per their requirement and need. In case of more than 700 enrolment, an additional ICT lab can also be considered. States/UTs have flexibility to procure hardware such as tablets/ laptops/notebooks/ integrated teaching learning devices and open source operating system as well as Hardware, Software, training and resource support. This would include support for digital boards, smart classrooms, virtual classrooms and DTH channels on pro-rata basis for number of schools approved.

(ii) **Option II**: Under this option schools which have already availed the ICT facility earlier can avail smart classrooms/tablets as per the norms of the scheme.

Financial Provisions:

- **ICT Lab:** a non-recurring grant of up to Rs. 6.40 lakh per school and recurring grant of upto Rs. 2.40 lakh per school per annum for a period of 5 years.

  From 2023-24, the scheme also offers step-wise funding based on school enrolment. (Strength < 100 : Rs. 2.5 Lakhs, Strength between 100 – 250 : Rs. 4.5 Lakhs, Strength between 250 – 700 : Rs. 6.4 Lakhs)

- **Smart Classrooms:** The non-recurring grant for Smart Class rooms (2 smart classrooms per school) is of Rs. 2.40 lakh and the recurring grant is Rs. 38,000/- (including E Content and Digital Resources, Charges for Electricity.

The component wise outlay of expenditure is prepared by State Government as per their requirement of funds for expenditure under the scheme and submitted before the Project Approval Board to consider their proposal for release of funds under the scheme. The Project Approval Board then reviews the component wise outlay of expenditure submitted by the State Government. The Government of India provides the financial support to the States/UTs for all interventions as per the programmatic and financial norms of Samagra Shiksha and there is no provision for release of funds activity-wise.

The digital initiatives of Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL) especially Smart Classrooms in schools provide basic facility to the students and transform the classroom into tech-driven classroom. The students increase engagement with multimedia content and interactive activities, while offering a wider range of resources. This supports deeper understanding, collaboration, and digital literacy for students, enriching their overall educational experience.

The budget allocated for the development of smart classrooms in the past fiscal year is at Annexure.

(e) The DoSEL has launched a National Mission to improve learning outcomes at the elementary level 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 in 2019-20. NISHTHA is a capacity building programme for "Improving Quality of School Education through Integrated Teacher Training".

NISHTHA training has been extended to secondary stage teachers in 2021-22 and also to Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) and Early Childhood Care and Education

(ECCE) for training of master trainers. The details of teachers trained under NISHTHA in Rajasthan is as follows:

State	NISHTHA Elementary (Face-to-Face)	NISHTHA Elementary	NISHTHA Secondary	NISHTHA FLN	NISHTHA ECCE
Rajasthan	232638	173265	103908	133633	42891

Source: NCERT

(f)   Samagra Shiksha scheme is an integrated scheme for school education covering the entire gamut from pre-school to class XII as a continuum. The scheme not only provides support for the implementation of the RTE Act but has also been aligned with the recommendations of NEP 2020 to ensure that all children have access to quality education with an equitable and inclusive classroom environment which should take care of their diverse background, multilingual needs, different academic abilities and make them active participants in the learning process.

The major interventions, across all levels of school education, under the Samagra Shiksha scheme are: (i) Early Childhood Care and Education (ii) Foundational Literacy and Numeracy   (iii) Universal Access including Infrastructure Development and Retention; (iv) RTE Entitlements including uniforms, textbooks etc. (v) Quality and Innovation (vi) Financial support for Teacher Salary (vii) Appointment of language Teachers (viii) Gender and Equity (ix) Inclusive Education (x) Strengthening of Teacher Education Institutions and Training (xi) Vocational Education (xii) ICT and Digital Initiatives (xiii) Sports and Physical Education (xiv) Monitoring and Programme Management and (xv) National Component.

Education being in the concurrent list with majority of the schools under the domain of the State and UTs, the primary responsibility of providing accessible, affordable, equitable, inclusive and quality education lies with the State/UT Governments.

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ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) to (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1124 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024 ASKED BY DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE, SHRI NARESH GANPAT MHASKE, SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL, SHRI PRAVEEN PATEL, SMT. DAGGUBATI PURANDESWARI REGARDING "SET UP OF SMART CLASSROOMS IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS".

The state wise details of the budget allocated for the development of smart classrooms in the past fiscal year:

		Amount in Lakhs
S.No	**State**	**Year**
		2023-2024
1.	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	0
2.	ANDHRA PRADESH	7552.8
3.	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	244.8
4.	ASSAM	4082.4
5.	BIHAR	4754.4
6.	CHANDIGARH	2.4
7.	CHHATTISGARH	1245.6
8.	DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI	24
9.	DELHI	1350
10.	DND - DNH	19.2
11.	GOA	0
12.	GUJARAT	1072.8
13.	HARYANA	1046.71
14.	HIMACHAL PRADESH	0
15.	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	892.8
16.	JHARKHAND	820.8
17.	KARNATAKA	735
18.	KERALA	276
19.	LADAKH	48
20.	LAKSHADWEEP	0
21.	MADHYA PRADESH	7807.2
22.	MAHARASHTRA	501.6
23.	MANIPUR	136.8
24.	MEGHALAYA	0
25.	MIZORAM	0
26.	NAGALAND	31.2
27.	ODISHA	0
28.	PUDUCHERRY	0
29.	PUNJAB	720
30.	RAJASTHAN	8208
31.	SIKKIM	0
32.	TAMIL NADU	0
33.	TELANGANA	1672.8
34.	TRIPURA	100.8
35.	UTTAR PRADESH	10149.6
36.	UTTARAKHAND	234
37.	WEST BENGAL	0

Source: PRABANDH