

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2524
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2015
EDUCATION THROUGH ONLINE AND DIGITAL CHANNELS
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to provide education through online and digital channels, particularly in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including funds allocated and the number of beneficiaries under the said schemes;
- (c) whether the Government has faced any challenges in imparting education through such channels in the rural areas and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has prepared any road map to improve the reach and outcomes under the said programme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b) Yes Madam. The Ministry is presently implementing the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) to leverage the potential of ICT, in teaching and learning process for the benefit of all the learners in Higher Education Institutions in any time any where mode. Under the Mission, more than 810 courses in various disciplines in engineering and science are available on-line under National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL). E-content for 8 undergraduate subjects has also been generated by the Consortium of Educational Communication (CEC) in collaboration with its Media Centers. Over 126 Virtual Labs in 9 Engineering & Science disciplines, comprising more than 770 experiments are currently ready for use and available. 1500 Spoken Tutorials are available on line. A large number of courses for design have also been created. Under the NMEICT scheme, utilization of Direct to Home (DTH) platform for beaming various educational lectures has been visualized. The Department of Space (DOS) has allocated two transponders on GSAT-8 to the Ministry for this. The details about NMEICT Mission are available at www.nmeict.ac.in.

During 12th Five Year Plan period, Rs. 4000 crores have been allocated for the Scheme. Since the e-content created under the Scheme is available online, any learner using computer infrastructure and connectivity, can access this content anytime.

(c) No such information is available in the Ministry.

(d) & (e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.