

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1646
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2014
IMPLEMENTATION OF E EDUCATION
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to launch any scheme in regard to e-education for the people of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to make e-education as employment oriented programme;
- (c) whether necessary support and background for the purpose has been provided by the Government to the implementing agencies to run this scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (d): Major schemes supported by different ministries/ departments related to e-education are given as under: -

(i) Schemes supported by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD)

Department of School Education and Literacy (DSE&L), MHRD

DSE&L has informed that it has launched in Dec, 2004 a scheme of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to promote computer enabled learning and support use of ICT in teaching and learning, in government and government-aided secondary and higher secondary schools. The scheme was revised in 2010. As per report, around 88230 schools have been approved to be covered under the scheme. DSE&L has also brought out an ICT policy for school education, which aims at using ICT for preparing youth to compete globally and participate creatively in the establishment, sustenance and growth of a knowledge society.

Department of Higher Education (DHE), MHRD

DHE has informed that it has launched the National Mission through Education with Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) in 2009 particularly providing connectivity, creating e-content, and coming out with a low cost access device. 403 universities and over 20,887 colleges in the country have been connected under NMEICT. More than 1000 courses in various disciplines in engineering and science are available on-line under National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL). E-content for 77 Post Graduate (PG) subjects are being generated by UGC and 87 Under Graduate (UG) subjects are being generated by the Consortium of Educational Communication (CEC) in collaboration with its Media Centers. Over 125 virtual labs in 9 Engineering & Science disciplines, comprising about 770 experiments are currently ready for use and available. 1500 Spoken Tutorials are available on line. Various other projects pertaining to pedagogy and teacher empowerment are in progress. Action has been initiated to launch 50 Direct To Home (DTH) channels for broadcasting e-content generated so far, with the required approvals obtained recently.

The "National Library and information Services infrastructure for Scholarly Content (NLIST)", funded by NMEICT, provides for access to scholarly content to educational institutions. The programme provides access to more than 6000 e-journals and 97,000 e-books to all degree colleges except colleges imparting education in engineering, management, medical, nursing, pharmacy and dentistry.

(ii) Schemes supported by Department of Electronics and IT (DeitY)

DeitY supports R & D projects in the development of tools and technologies in the area of e-learning. As a part of this effort, several technologies have been developed and are used. Some of these are:

Brihaspati Learning Management System (LMS) has been developed by IIT Kanpur. It is an open source LMS. It is presently used by nearly 250 institutions.

e-Shikshak has been developed by C-DAC Hyderabad. E-Sikshak is a general purpose learning management system. It is presently used by nearly 14 institutions.

Online Labs (OLabs) developed by C-DAC Mumbai jointly with Amrita University, Kollam, is a virtual online laboratory for CBSE students. It covers experiments in Physics and Chemistry for class 9 and 10 based on the CBSE syllabus. For class 11 and 12 beside Physics and Chemistry, online labs for Biology, Mathematics are under development. In addition, the OLabs contents are being made available in Marathi, Hindi and Malayalam also.

NIELIT: National Institute of Electronics and IT (NIELIT) is an autonomous Institute under DeitY, has e-learning programs in Course on Computer Concepts (CCC), which is designed to aim at imparting a basic level IT skills. CCC certification has been specified as a pre-requisite for Government employment for Group B/C employees in several State Governments, such as Gujarat, Maharashtra, Nagaland etc. This course content is available on-line in 22 Indian languages.

In addition to ongoing programs, Government has announced a pan-India programme called 'Digital India'. This would include broadband connectivity at village level, improved access to services through IT enabled platforms. It would facilitate reach of e-education in the country.

IT Mass Literacy: Further, government has approved a scheme on digital literacy under which one person in every household in the country is to be e-literate. The scheme has an objective to provide IT training relevant to the need of the trainee, which enables the beneficiaries to use IT and related applications for their livelihood earning and employability. Initially, the scheme aims to train 10 lakh people.