

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:259

ANSWERED ON:22.07.2015

Development of e-Skills

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

Will the Minister of Communications & Information Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of IT has aware about importance of providing support for development of e-skills and knowledge network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken and fund allocation by the Government thereon;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether General Service Centre and e-district mission mode project under the National e-governance has yet to be implemented in the Dahod district of Gujarat; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

ANSWER

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

(a), (b) and (c): Yes, Madam & Sir. The Department of Electronics and IT supports R&D projects for the development of tools and technologies in the area of e-learning. For example one of the technologies that have been developed include Online Labs (OLabs) for School Laboratory Experiments. It is an innovative, interactive simulation and e-Learning initiative jointly developed by CDAC, Mumbai and Amrita University, Kollam. It is a virtual online laboratory experiment, which provides students with the ease and convenience of conducting experiments over the internet. OLabs content are aligned to the CBSE syllabus for class 9, 10, 11 and 12 for Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics and English.

In March, 2010 the Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure (CCI) approved the establishment of the National Knowledge Network (NKN) with an outlay of Rs. 5990 Cr. to be implemented by National Informatics Centre (NIC) over a period of 10 years.

The Objective of the NKN is to inter-connect all knowledge institutions across the country through high speed data communication network to encourage sharing of resources and collaborative research. These would cover about 1500 Institutions comprising of all Universities, Institutions of Higher Learning, and Research.

1437 Institutes have so far been connected to NKN and 66 Virtual Classrooms have been set up

(d) and (e): Government of Gujarat has informed that they have implemented 459 eGram Centres (Common Services Centre) and 8 Aapna Taluka Vibrant Taluka (ATVT) Centres in the District Dahod.

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