

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:403
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2014
BROADBAND INTERNET FACILITY
Dubey Shri Nishikant

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any programme for promoting Education through Information Communication Technology (ICT) and provide broadband internet connections to various educational institutions including Colleges/Universities;
- (b) if so, the details of various components of the mission/scheme along with the funds allocated and utilized for this purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the number of institutions/universities/colleges where such broadband networks has been provided and those proposed in the near future; and
- (d) the present status of the scheme/mission and the time by which all the educational institutions/universities/ colleges are likely to be linked by the broadband network?

Answer

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

Part (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 403 ASKED BY SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING BROADBAND INTERNET FACILITY.

(a) Yes, Madam. The National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) aims to leverage the potential of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in teaching and learning process. The Mission also aims to provide 20 Broadband connections of 512 Kbps speed to over 25,000 colleges & 2000 polytechnics and 1 Gbps optical fiber connectivity to 419 universities/ university level institutions in the country which includes internet facility.

(b) The NMEICT scheme has three major components viz.

- (i) content generation;
(ii) providing connectivity to universities and colleges c) Research and development of low cost access device.

Under the NMEICT scheme, no central assistance has been provided by the Central Government directly to States to implement the scheme/ project. However, as provided in the Mission document, funds have been released to universities/university level institutions of the country for various projects. For connectivity to universities and colleges, central share of 75% of the cost is directly released to the BSNL/ MTNL (implementing agency) with the stipulation that the balance 25% of the cost (10% in case of institution of North East Region) would be deposited by the concerned institution directly to BSNL/ MTNL.

The details of the fund allocated and utilized under NMEICT scheme during last three years and the current year is as follows:

(Rs. in crores)		
Year	Fund Allocated	Actual Expenditure
2011-12	400.00	380.04
2012-13	222.00	191.85
2013-14	125.00	120.55
2014-15	180.00	37.57
	(till 31.07.2014)	
Total	927.00	730.01

(c) & (d) Under the NMEICT scheme, the activity of providing connectivity to 419 Universities/ University level Institutions and all colleges including polytechnics is in progress. So far connectivity to 403 Universities/ University level institutions and 21,026 colleges in the country has been provided.