

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3940
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2014
COMPUTER EDUCATION
Chautala Shri Dushyant

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal for a computer literacy project for about 50 lakh people in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the budgetary allocations proposed therefor;
- (c) the criterion fixed to select the people for the said purpose;
- (d) whether people from some select districts are only likely to be given such computer literacy in the initial phase and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the extent to which this will benefit the common man?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): As per the information provided by the Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DietY), they have approved the following two Schemes for providing Digital Literacy to the masses:

(i) Scheme for IT Mass Literacy (National Digital Literacy Mission):

In line with the objective of the 'National Policy on Information Technology 2012' to make one person in every household in the country e-literate, a scheme for IT Mass Literacy (now renamed as National Digital Literacy Mission) has been approved on 04.3.2014 with a total outlay of Rs. 97.02 crore over a period of 18 months. The Scheme aims to train 10 lakh persons at two levels of literacy, one in every eligible household in selected Blocks in each State/ UT of the Country. Out of this, 1 Lakh candidates are to be trained by Industry, NGOs and others through their own resources/ under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and remaining 9 lakh candidates would be supported by Government. The Scheme has been launched on 21.8.2014 by Hon'ble Prime Minister in Ranchi, Jharkhand.

(ii) Scheme for 'Digital Saksharta Abhiyan' (DISHA) under 'Digital India' A scheme entitled 'Digital Saksharta Abhiyan' (DISHA) to make 42.5 lakh persons digitally literate in selected households throughout the country with a total budget outlay of 380 crore over a period of 4 years has been approved on 09.12.2014 under Digital India. Out of the total target, 4 Lakh candidates are to be trained by Industry, NGOs and others through their own resources/ under CSR and remaining 38.5 lakh candidates would be supported by Government.

The objectives of both the Schemes is to provide digital literacy training at two levels, relevant to the need of the trainee, which enables the beneficiaries to use IT and related applications for their livelihood earning and employability. The two Levels of Digital Literacy training would have following broad objectives:

Level of Digital Literacy Training	L1 - Appreciation of Digital Literacy	L2 - Basics of Digital Literacy
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Broad Objectives	To make a person digitally literate, so that he can operate a computer/ Digital access devices (like tablets, etc), send and receive e-mails and for information, etc. being offered to the citizen search internet by the Government and others.	Besides digital literacy at a higher level, the citizen would also be trained to effectively access the various e-governance services
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Entry Criteria	Non IT literate - Illiterate and upto 7th standard passed	Non IT literate with at least 8th standard pass
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Training Duration ~20 Hrs ~40 hrs.

Out of the total target of candidates to be supported by Government, 50% seats would be reserved for SC/ST and BPL categories for which 100% training cost would be borne by Government. For the remaining 50 % seats, 75% of the training cost would be borne by Government. All the candidates trained under the Scheme would need to undergo a certification examination by an agency identified by the Government. The Certification fee for all the targeted candidates trained would be reimbursed to the Certification Agency.

Both the above Schemes are to be implemented concurrently. All the States and UTs are categorised into three broad categories based on population of States / UTs. The implementation of the scheme is to be carried out in the identified/selected districts/blocks. The selection of district(s)/ block(s) would be done by respective States/ UTs. Efforts would be made to cover the entire Block, which is selected under the schemes, so that the same could be declared as 100% digitally literate. A house hold survey to identify the beneficiaries would be carried out in each selected block. The person to be trained would be decided by the family concerned. The person selected for training would be in the age group of 14-60 years.