

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 193
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14th September, 2020**

ONLINE CLASSES

**193 : SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI:
 DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:
 DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
 SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:
 SHRI SUBBARAYAN K.:
 MS. DIYA KUMARI:
 SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:
 SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B.:
 SHRI JAYANT SINHA:
 SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
 DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
 SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
 SHRI UTTAM KUMAR REDDY NALAMADA:**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- a) whether due to Covid-19 pandemic online classes are being conducted for students by schools;
- b) if so, whether many of the students are deprived of education due to lack of access to device or the internet facility in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu;
- c) the measures, if any taken to ensure access to online learning and teaching methods and resources to students with no access to smartphones, feature phones, during the pandemic;
- d) whether the Government has asked States to map all such students to ensure that learning assistance can be made available to them amid the pandemic and if so, the response of the States in this regard especially Tamil Nadu; and
- e) whether the Government has taken steps to solve education problem of Children of migrant workers and if so, the details thereof;
- f) the details of steps taken by the government to prepare teachers for new modalities of online teaching;
- g) whether there has been a surge in the school drop out rates due to COVID 19 and if so, provide data along with the reasons for the drop out at both primary and secondary level, State-wise; and
- h) the Standard Operating Procedure of re-opening of schools post the COVID- 19 pandemic?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')

(a)to(c): Online classes are being conducted at the schools by employing various digital tools. Various efforts have been made for the creation of digital infrastructure which would not only be helpful in the current circumstances but would also be valuable asset for online learning in future in the form of DIKSHA portal (<https://diksha.gov.in/>), SWAYAM Portal (swayam.gov.in), SWAYAM Prabha, DD Channel, e-Pathshala (<https://epathshala.nic.in/>), NROER (National Repository of Open Educational Resources) portal (<https://nroer.gov.in/welcome>), radio, community radio and CBSE podcasts etc. The medium of TV, radio has been used for the students who do not have digital means.

Tamil Nadu has repositioned Kalvi TV, a TV channel exclusively for the learning needs of school children during this pandemic. The TV programmes have been widely publicized. New content has been created by SCERT for all classes and subjects and is being telecast around the clock every day.

The steps taken by all the states are shown in this report - India Report Digital Education June 2020

https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf

(d) In order to enable online education benefit to the children of every category and teachers, Learning Enhancement Guidelines have been issued.

https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Learning_Enhancement_0.pdf

The Learning Enhancement Guidelines has been released on 19 August 2020 during the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic. These have been prepared on the basis of the recommendations and reports of States/UTs which are as following:

- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students without digital devices.
- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students with limited access to digital devices.
- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students with digital devices.

(e) Tamil Nadu has prepared a detailed data collection form to assess the access to digital devices, communication and technology modes and internet facility of students and their families.

A letter was issued from Ministry on 13th July 2020, which has guidelines on how to deal with children of migrant labour. In order to ensure that there is no loss of learning or academic year for all such children, steps have been advised to the States and UTs.

(f) The Learning Enhancement Guidelines has been released on 19 August 2020 during the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic.

(g) The during COVID-19 is a matter of States and they have been made aware of this.

(h) The process of opening of the school after COVID-19 will be done according to the instructions from Home Ministry.
