GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 176
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.09.2020

Standardisation of Online Education

176.   SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY:
         SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has released any recommendations on the standardisation of online education, taking into account that classes in many educational establishments have moved online;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether measures have been taken to change assessment and evaluation practices in a uniform manner across the country due to a change in class nature, If, so the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government plans to formulate long term digital education strategy for Secondary Education?

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

(a) & (b): With regard to standardisation of online education, University Grants Commission (UGC) had earlier notified UGC (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018 for offering online programmes at Certificate, Diploma, PG Diploma and degree programmes of Undergraduate and Postgraduate level for Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). However, recently UGC has further notified UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 on 4th September, 2020, a new sets of standards to maintain quality by HEIs in ODL and online, in the official Gazette of India superseding the earlier Regulation of 2018. These new Regulations have been uploaded on UGC's website at https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/221580.pdf

(c):   In view of the situation arisen due to COVID19 Pandemic, UGC has issued guidelines on examination and academic calendar for Universities in the country on 29.4.2020. Further, in continuation of these guidelines, Commission has also issued revised guidelines on 6.7.2020 consisting therewith the scope for alternative assessment measures etc. The same are available

on UGC's website at https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/6100894_UGC-Revised-Guidelines-on-Examinations-and-Academic-Calendar-for-the-Universities-in-view-of-COVID-19-Pandemic_06_07_2020.pdf

(d):   With regard to digital education strategy for secondary education, a comprehensive initiative called **PM eVIDYA** has been initiated which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education. The initiative includes:

- DIKSHA the nation's digital infrastructure for providing quality e-content for school education in states/UTs: and QR coded Energized Textbooks for all grades **(one nation, one digital platform)**

- One earmarked TV channel per class from 1 to 12 **(one class, one channel)**
- Extensive use of **Radio, Community radio and CBSE Podcast- Shiksha Vani**
- Special **e-content for visually and hearing impaired** developed on Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY) and in sign language on NIOS website/ YouTube

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