GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1129
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2021

Re-opening of Schools

1129. SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:

DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:

SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:

DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the schools in many parts of the country have reopened after closure due to Corona Virus pandemic and if so, the details thereof State/UT-wise;

(b) whether the Government has issued any guidelines/SOP to States in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether online teaching of students due to Covid 19 pandemic has been successful and if so, the details there;

(d) whether the Government has made any assessment to study the impact of online teaching on students and parents if so, the details of findings of the assessments; and

(e) whether the Government has directed other States to reopen schools at least for students of class 9 to 12 considering their academic career and if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

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

(a) & (b) Ministry of home Affairs (MHA) vide their order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated 30th September, 2020 has stated that State/UT Governments may take a decision in respect of re-opening of schools and coaching institutions, after 15th October, 2020, in a graded manner, The decision shall be taken in consultation with the respective school/institution management, based on their assessment of the situation.

The Department of School Education and Literacy has issued detailed SOP/guidelines regarding health and safety precautions for reopening of schools after issue of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) guidelines for unlock-5, on 5th October, 2020. Part I of these guidelines refers to the health and safety aspects for reopening schools. These are based on the prevailing instructions of Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Education with regard to health and safety protocols, and are to be implemented by adopting/adapting in accordance with the local situation in all states/UTs. Part-II of the Guidelines refers to learning with physical/social distancing and the academic aspects that are to be taken care of with regard to the delivery of education, such as, curriculum transactions, instructional load, timetables, assessment, etc. after schools reopen. These guidelines can be accessed at:

https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/SOP_Guidelines_for_reopening_schools_0.pdf

The State-UT wise status of re-opening of schools after closure due to Corona pandemic is at Annexure.

(c) & (d) The Ministry of Education through National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) had conducted a survey related to online teaching learning in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan(KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti(NVS) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) schools. As per the survey, the findings revealed that about 60-70% of the participants (students, teachers, parents and school principals across KVS, NVS and CBSE shared that teaching and learning during COVID-19 period was joyful and satisfactory. About 20-30% stakeholders shared that they had difficult experience and about 10-20% said that it was burdensome for them. The details of the survey and findings are given in Chapter – 3 of the Learning Enhancement guidelines, which may be accessed at the following links:

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

2. https://seshagun.gov.in/sites/default/files/update/Learning_Enhancement.pdf

3. https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/announcement/Learning_%20Enhancement_Guidelines.pdf

 (e)   It is for the concerned State and UT Government to decide about the re-opening of schools after COVID pandemic, based on their assessment of the situation as per MHA guidelines.

The following corrective steps have been taken by the Ministry of Education with a view to addressing the issues related to gaps and/or loss of learning among students, during and after the lockdown, NCERT has prepared 'Alternative Academic Calendar' and 'Students' Learning Enhancement Guidelines' with a focus on learning outcome. The guidelines suggest models for the following three types of scenarios:-

I.   Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students without digital devices.

II. Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students with limited accessibility to digital devices.

III. Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students with digital devices.

A multi-pronged approach has been adopted leveraging technology to reach the students. Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA), Study Webs of Active-learning for Young Aspiring Minds(SWAYAM), SWAYAM PRABHA, MANODARPAN for psychological support, PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education, e-textbooks etc. are used by schools, colleges and universities to provide learning facilities. Where the internet facility is not available, SWAYAM PRABHA is used to impart education through TV. Community Radio Stations and a podcast called Shiksha Vani of CBSE is also effectively used in remote areas where online classes are difficult.

The Ministry has also issued the guidelines dated 13th July, 2020 for continuing education of children of migrant labourers to prevent loss of learning or academic year. Further, for Rationalisation of Syllabus for Summative Examinations, CBSE has reduced the syllabi only for the purpose of examinations to the extent of thirty percent. This has been done in view of change in the mode of conduct of classroom transaction which is new both for parents and teachers.

*****

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (a) & (b) OF THE REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1129 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2021 ASKED BY SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE, SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE, DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE, DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE, SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA and DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S. REGARDING RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS

State /UT-wise status of Re-opening of Schools (as on 04.02.2021)

S. No.	States and UTs	Whether Schools are reopening / reopened	Remarks
1	Andaman &Nicobar Islands	Yes	10th to 12th
2	Andhra Pradesh	Yes	7th to 12th
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Yes	8th to 12th
4	Assam	Yes	6th to 12th
5	Bihar	Yes	9th to 12th
6	Chandigarh	Yes	9th to 12th
7	Chhattisgarh	No	-
8	Delhi	Yes	9th to 12th (9th and 11th will resume from 5th February)
9	Dnd - Dnh	Yes	9th to 12th
10	Goa	Yes	10th & 12th
11	Gujarat	Yes	9th to 12th
12	Haryana	Yes	9th to 12th
13	Himachal Pradesh	Yes	5th, 8th to 12th from 1st Feb 2021(Summer Closing schools) From 15th Feb (Winter Closing schools)
14	Jammu and Kashmir	Yes	1st to 12th
15	Jharkhand	No	-
16	Karnataka	Yes	10th & 12th
17	Kerala	Yes	10th & 12th
18	Ladakh	Yes	9th to 12th
19	Lakshadweep	Yes	1st to 12th
20	Madhya Pradesh	Yes	9th to 12th
21	Maharashtra	Yes	9th to 12th
22	Manipur	Yes	9th to 12th
23	Meghalaya	Yes	6th to 12th
24	Mizoram	Yes	10th & 12th
25	Nagaland	Yes	9th – 12th (Partial)
26	Odisha	No	-
27	Puducherry	Yes	9th to 12th
28	Punjab	Yes	1st to 12th
29	Rajasthan	Yes	9th to 12th
30	Sikkim	Yes	9th to 12th
31	Tamil Nadu	Yes	9th to 12th
32	Telangana	No	-
33	Tripura	Yes	5th to 12th
34	Uttar Pradesh	Yes	9th to 12th
35	Uttarakhand	Yes	6th to 12th (Opening from 08th Feb 2021)
36	West Bengal	Yes	9th to 12th(Opening from 12th Feb,2021)

Dnd – Dnh- Daman and Diu- Dadar and Nagar Haveli
Source-information provided by States/UTs Government