

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *211
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 21.12.2022

RURAL HOUSEHOLDS COVERED UNDER THE PMGDISHA

***211. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH:**

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of features of the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) that aims to improve digital literacy in rural households of the country;
- (b) the details of the progress made under the said scheme including the impact of the same thereon, State/UT-wise, gender-wise; and
- (c) the details of other such measures being taken by the Government to improve digital literacy rates in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *211
FOR 21.12.2022 REGARDING RURAL HOUSEHOLDS COVERED UNDER THE PMGDISHA**

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(a): To enhance digital adoption, Government is focusing on providing digital literacy to the citizens across the country especially in the rural areas. In line with this, the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) was approved in February 2017 to usher in digital literacy in rural India. The main features of the PMGDISHA scheme are as under:

- The scheme is being implemented only in rural areas i.e. Gram Panchayat/Village to cover 6 crore rural households (one person per household).
- The beneficiaries are provided with 20 hours of training consisting of 5 modules namely (i) Introduction to Digital Devices, (ii) Operating Digital Devices, (iii) Introduction to the Internet, (iv) Communications using the Internet, (v) Application of the Internet (includes Citizen centric services) and use of financial tools for undertaking digital cashless transactions.
- The training content is made available in 22 scheduled languages and English. This content is made available on both online and offline mode. *In addition, keeping in view the thrust of the government on promoting cashless transactions through mobile phones, the content on digital wallets, mobile banking, Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD), Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS), and PoS has also been included.*
- After training of the candidate, a third party Assessment of the trained candidates is carried out through online mode remotely proctored examination conducted by recognized Certifying Agencies namely National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC), Haryana Knowledge Corporation Limited (HKCL) and ICT Academy of Tamil Nadu (ICTACT). Digitally Signed Certificates are issued for all successful candidates and directly uploaded in their Digi-Locker accounts.
- For authorised Training Centres, a minimum Physical IT infrastructure along with a faculty at the training centre has been prescribed. Geo-tagging of the training centres have been implemented. Physical verification/inspection of the training centre is part of the process for training centre approval.
- State Level and District level committees are set up for effective evaluation and monitoring at the State & District levels.
- Dashboard access to Central/ State Govt./State Implementing Agency/District Administration have been provided for effective management and reporting.
- Grievances/Complaints Redressal Mechanism have been put in place.

(b): As on 15-12-2022, around 6.62 crore candidates have been enrolled and 5.68 crore have been trained, out of which 4.22 crore candidates have been certified under the PMGDISHA Scheme. The State/UT-wise and Gender-wise details are given at **Annexure-I**.

The PMGDISHA scheme has been assessed by three agencies till date namely IIT Delhi, Council for Social Development (CSD) and Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA). The last Impact Assessment study of the PMGDISHA scheme has been conducted by the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA). The findings of the IIPA impact evaluation report of the PMGDISHA Scheme are at **Annexure-II**.

(c): In addition to PMGDISHA Scheme, National Institute of Electronics & information Technology (NIELIT), a skill development agency of MeitY, is also conducting training in various digital literacy courses of different durations through its 47 centres and 4178 facilitation centres. In the last 10 years, more than 75 lakh candidates have been trained/assessed in such courses.

State/UT wise status under PMGDISHA scheme				
S.N.	State	Registered	Trained	Certified
1	Andaman & Nicobar Isl.	3,872	1,769	1,002
2	Andhra Pradesh	18,49,896	14,80,939	10,44,064
3	Arunachal Pradesh	7,357	5,031	3,317
4	Assam	26,69,088	23,20,423	18,46,571
5	Bihar	72,10,212	63,78,337	46,57,885
6	Chhattisgarh	25,20,462	21,70,624	16,37,669
7	Dadra And Nagar Haveli	5,851	4,078	2,890
8	Daman And Diu	4,000	3,224	2,439
9	Delhi	7,028	5,648	3,988
10	Goa	55,837	50,721	37,377
11	Gujarat	27,62,587	24,16,473	17,74,737
12	Haryana	18,70,129	15,87,779	11,99,270
13	Himachal Pradesh	4,82,964	3,63,524	2,65,696
14	Jammu And Kashmir	7,01,385	5,47,550	3,95,751
15	Jharkhand	24,67,451	20,02,277	14,65,641
16	Karnataka	12,70,400	9,51,706	6,16,924
17	Kerala	56,448	27,153	21,418
18	Lakshadweep	136	35	-
19	Madhya Pradesh	55,30,748	48,98,827	36,21,753
20	Maharashtra	55,86,975	47,82,195	34,42,143
21	Manipur	19,415	9,003	5,660
22	Meghalaya	1,45,789	1,00,733	67,557
23	Mizoram	26,832	20,161	12,326
24	Nagaland	6,624	4,614	3,187
25	Odisha	32,22,299	26,85,398	20,27,683
26	Puducherry	17,732	11,814	7,867
27	Punjab	16,84,286	14,49,583	11,11,147
28	Rajasthan	38,87,394	33,49,142	24,44,090
29	Sikkim	24,589	21,256	15,629
30	Tamil Nadu	14,16,049	11,28,107	8,22,761
31	Telangana	10,87,847	8,60,890	5,84,986
32	Tripura	3,25,000	2,64,762	2,15,688
33	Uttarakhand	7,56,000	6,40,848	4,75,243
34	Uttar Pradesh	1,60,48,688	1,42,53,557	1,07,80,708
35	West Bengal	24,67,194	20,35,832	15,83,015
36	Ladakh	24,669	21,888	17,316
Total		6,62,23,233	5,68,55,901	4,22,15,398

Gender-wise certified candidates status under PMGDISHA scheme				
S.N.	State	Female	Male	Transgender
1	Andaman & Nicobar Isl.	560	442	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	8,00,476	2,43,562	26
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1,885	1,432	0
4	Assam	9,53,122	8,93,094	355
5	Bihar	28,88,915	17,68,963	7
6	Chhattisgarh	9,03,922	7,33,745	2
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1,587	1,303	0
8	Daman & Diu	1,487	952	0
9	Delhi	1,876	2,112	0
10	Goa	23,453	13,924	0
11	Gujarat	8,68,700	9,06,035	2
12	Haryana	6,03,538	5,95,730	2
13	Himachal Pradesh	1,49,528	1,16,167	1
14	Jammu And Kashmir	2,07,743	1,88,007	1
15	Jharkhand	9,15,317	5,50,319	5
16	Karnataka	3,30,337	2,86,585	2
17	Kerala	16,166	5,251	1
18	Ladakh	3,288	14,028	0
19	Lakshadweep	-	-	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	18,09,246	18,12,502	6
21	Maharashtra	18,50,591	15,91,531	22
22	Manipur	3,043	2,617	0
23	Meghalaya	34,283	33,269	5
24	Mizoram	7,130	5,194	2
25	Nagaland	1,611	1,576	0
26	Odisha	12,19,589	8,08,061	32
27	Puducherry	4,829	3,038	0
28	Punjab	6,14,383	4,96,750	14
29	Rajasthan	12,79,993	11,64,092	5
30	Sikkim	9,918	5,711	0
31	Tamil Nadu	6,09,239	2,13,486	35
32	Telangana	3,46,946	2,38,033	7
33	Tripura	1,21,201	94,480	7
34	Uttar Pradesh	60,04,546	47,76,140	22
35	Uttarakhand	2,63,876	2,11,365	2
36	West Bengal	10,27,548	5,55,448	19
	Total	2,38,79,872	1,83,34,944	582

PMGDISHA Scheme: The findings of IIPA impact evaluation report are given below:

- PMGDISHA is an unique scheme due to its mass scale and use of remotely proctored examination.
- 18% fund used in SCSP, 12% for TSP and 11% for NER have made sure the empowerment of weaker sections.
- Women participation is very large and their inclusion at the rural level will open up the path for the learning of the whole family.
- More than 55% of respondents cited a direct benefit to their livelihoods after PMGDISHA training.
- Almost 50% respondents stated that PMGDISHA helped them get a better Job.
- More than 40% of respondents empowered 1-5 people, 22.8% were able to help 6-10 people, 12.9% were able to help 10-20 people with the knowledge from PMGDISHA.
- PMGDISHA training has had a formidable impact on the use of ICT and other forms of digital media.
- PMGDISHA has served the beneficiaries by facilitating their access to a wide range of information points and services for multitude of purposes. It has helped to decrease the overall digital divide in the country.
- COVID 19 has put an unprecedented situation of uncertainty even in rural India. Digital initiatives have made a lot of things function even in the time of complete lockdown. Right from the banking systems, e-governance systems and PDS were aided immensely because of the availability of online processes. People in the rural areas have continued with their livelihood with the help of digital systems helping procure their produce, doorstep financial services, information gathering among other thing using digital technologies. The need of programs like PMGDISHA has become a necessity in times of such paradigm shifts in new environments. Understanding digital tools & ICT and using them effectively is the need of the hour and has proved as the saviour for the current crisis in supporting economic and social activities.
