

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2668
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 04.12.2019

PMGDISHA

**2668. SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE;
DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL;
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:**

Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of rural villages which have registered under the “Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan” (PMGDISHA) to usher in digital literacy in rural areas, State/UT-wise along with the details thereof;
- (b) the basic definition of “Digital Literacy” under this programme;
- (c) the target population of this Abhiyan;
- (d) whether the Government has allocated any fund under the said programme to improve the basic computer infrastructure in villages and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the manner in which Government plans to accomplish the digital literacy mission through PMGDISHA when a significant number of people in the country are illiterate, as per the last Censuses?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

- (a): Under the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) Scheme; so far, total number of 1,86,175 Gram Panchayats are covered. The State-wise details of Gram Panchayats covered under the PMGDISHA Scheme is at **Annexure**.
- (b): Under the PMGDISHA Scheme; Digital Literacy has been defined as the ability of individuals and communities to understand and use digital technologies for meaningful actions within life situations. Any individual who can operate computer/laptop/tablet/smart phone and use other IT related tools is being considered as digitally literate.
- (c): The PMGDISHA Scheme is targeted to make six crore persons digitally literate in rural areas, covering around 40% of the rural population (one person per household) across States/UTs. Under the Scheme, as on 29.11.2019, more than 3.00 crore beneficiaries have been enrolled, 2.37 crore beneficiaries have been trained, out of which 1.74 crore beneficiaries have been certified by duly certified by 3rd party Certifying Agencies.
- (d): No separate fund is allocated in PMGDISHA Scheme for setting up of basic computer infrastructure in the villages. The training is provided through Training Centres duly affiliated to CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, the implementing agency of the Scheme. These Training Centres are mandated to have requisite infrastructure for imparting training under the Scheme.

(e): To ensure equitable geographical coverage across the country, a Gram Panchayat centric approach is adopted with targets being assigned for each Gram Panchayats. On an average a target of 200-300 beneficiaries per Gram Panchayat is envisaged. The content developed for digital literacy training is made available in multimedia format (including audio/ video) in 22 scheduled languages of India apart from English. This facilitates the target population including the illiterate to grasp the content in their choice of language.

Annexure

State-wise count of number of Gram Panchayats covered under PMGDISHA

S.No	State Name	No. of Gram Panchayats covered
1	Uttar Pradesh	43595
2	Maharashtra	20711
3	Madhya Pradesh	18496
4	Gujarat	11712
5	Rajasthan	9423
6	Chhattisgarh	8512
7	Tamil Nadu	8437
8	Bihar	8341
9	Odisha	7663
10	Andhra Pradesh	6848
11	Punjab	6624
12	Haryana	6273
13	Karnataka	5796
14	Jharkhand	4438
15	Telangana	3561
16	West Bengal	3057
17	Uttarakhand	2633
18	Assam	2597
19	Himachal Pradesh	2319
20	Jammu And Kashmir	2215
21	Kerala	757
22	Tripura	734
23	Meghalaya	465
24	Arunachal Pradesh	222
25	Manipur	197
26	Mizoram	113
27	Puducherry	97
28	Nagaland	89
29	Delhi	72
30	Goa	59
31	Sikkim	44

32	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	40
33	Dadra And Nagar Haveli	14
34	Chandigarh	12
35	Daman And Diu	7
36	Lakshadweep	2
Total		1,86,175
