

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2785
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2002
CENTRAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES OF IT TRAINING
VIRENDRA KUMAR

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

- (a) whether central assistance is being extended to the State Governments for imparting information technology training to the school and college students;
- (b) if so, the details of the assistance given to Madhya Pradesh for the above purpose during the last three years; and
- (c) the norms prescribed for imparting computer training to the students in the schools and colleges in various States?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P MAHAJAN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): The Department of Secondary and Higher Education under Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has recently launched a revised Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) scheme. Under CLASS, an amount of Rs.1950 lakhs has been sanctioned as 75% of Union Government Share. The Government of Madhya Pradesh would contribute remaining 25% of the funds required for the scheme. An amount of Rs.975 lakhs (50%) is being released as 1st installment to the State Government. The norms prescribed under the CLASS Scheme are given at Annexure.

Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS)

CLASS Project was initially introduced as a pilot project during the year 1984-85 in the wake of the British Aid of BBC Microcomputers. A total of 12,000 such computers were received and distributed to Secondary and Senior Secondary Schools through State Governments. The Project was subsequently adopted as a Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme during VIII Plan (1993-1998). During the Eight year Plan the scheme was widened to provide financial grants to institutions, which were provided BBC Micros and also coverage of new Government Aided Secondary/Senior Secondary Schools. In all around 5,000 schools including Kendriya Vidyalayas have been covered under this scheme upto the end of 8th Plan Period.

2 In a meeting held on 11.09.1997 between the Secretary (Expenditure) and Secretary (Education) it was decided that the CLASS be phased out in its existing form owing to the fact that the very nature of the scheme was 'supply driven' and there was little involvement of teachers and students with the scheme and the progress of the scheme remained slow. It is now proposed to introduce the revised CLASS scheme in a modified form during 2001-2002. A provision of Rs.74.00 crores has been made for implementation of the revised scheme during 2001-2002 i.e. the last year of the 9th Plan Period. Thereafter the scheme will be evaluated.

3 The scheme has been approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) at its meeting held on 18th December, 2001. The features of the revised scheme are as under:

- (i) Each State/UT would formulate a Computer Education Plan (CEP). The CEP would indicate the steps already taken by the State Government/UTs and the assistance, which they now require.
- (ii) The Department of Secondary and Higher Education has set up a Project Monitoring and Evaluation Group under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Secondary and Higher Education) at the national level which would consider the CEPs. Funds are being allocated on the recommendations of the Project Monitoring and Evaluation Group.
- (iii) The State Government would contribute a minimum of 25% of the funds required for the scheme. The scheme also provides for contribution of 25% of funds from the MPLADs in addition or as an alternative to State Government contribution.
- (iv) The assistance of the Government of India would be for following items and upto the limits indicated against each item:
- PC/Printer/CTV not exceeding Rs.60,000/- per set.
 - Software/Curriculum/CDs not exceeding Rs.25,000/- per school per annum.

- Furniture (1 time) not exceeding Rs.10,000/- per school.
- Computer stationery not exceeding Rs.20,000/- per school per annum.
- Maintenance-50% of the cost of the annual maintenance contract (after the period of warranty is over).
- Internet connectivity, not exceeding Rs.5,000/- per annum.
- Teacher`s Training not exceeding Rs.10,000/- per school per year (for teachers teaching in such schools for which the grants are agreed to be given)

An amount of Rs.1 crore would be kept aside for the Department of secondary and Higher Education for development of software, teaching tools, designing training models, evaluation, monitoring and other contingent expenditure.

(v) Only such schools which have computer education as an elective subject at the secondary stage would be eligible for the grants under the scheme. However, the scheme could be in English/Hindi or the regional language.

(vi) (a): KVS and NVS would convert one schools per State/UT into a SMART school subject to availability of funds. A grant of not more than Rs.25 lakhs would be given per SMART school.

(b): Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas would be given funds at the rate of Rs.15,000/- per neighbourhood schools to impart computer literacy to not more than ten neighbourhood schools to cover 10,000 such schools over 3 years.

(vii) The scheme would be implemented for one year during 2001-2002 (i.e. last year of the 9th Plan) and would thereafter be reviewed.

(viii) Outstanding dues of States for the Old CLASS scheme may be cleared with the provisio as stipulated by EFC.

STATE-WISE ALLOCATION MADE UNDER THE CLASS SCHEME DURING 2001-2002

Sl.No. Name of the State/UT Amount sanctioned Amount being No.of School
as 75% Union Govts. released as
Share (Rs. in Lakhs) 1st Installment
(Rs. in Lakhs)
50%

1	Maharashtra	900.00	450.00	180
2	Chattisgarh	500.00	250.00	100
3	D & N haveli	70.00	35.00	14
4	Haryana	500.00	250.00	100
5	West Bengal	1114.7625	557.38125	300
6	Punjab	997.50	498.75	200
7	Andhra Pradesh	1401.1875	700.59375	500
8	Tamil Nadu	1000.00	500.00	200
9	Manipur	250.00	125.00	50
10	Goa	250.00	125.00	50
11	Uttar Pradesh	1500.00	750.00	300
12	Himachal Pradesh	500.00	250.00	100
13	Sikkim	145.00	72.5	29
14	Madhya Pradesh	1950.00	975.00	390
15	Gujarat	1500.00	750.00	300
16	Meghalaya	295.00	147.5	59

Total 13323.45 6661.725 2962