

MD AWES DISPATCH No 1/APR 2020 DATED 12 APR 2020

To,
AWES HQ Comds (through MG-ic Adm and Dirs Comd Cells)
All Chairmen, APSs (through O/o BoA).
All Principals, APSs

**STRATEGIC ORIENTATION TO SCHOOLS; ENSURING EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT
BY APSs DURING PROLONGED LOCKDOWN PERIOD**

1. **General Guidelines.** It has been heartening to see the reports that are being received bringing out the various means being adopted by the schools to ensure that online education support is provided to the students during the lock down period. The feedback indicates that **the penetration of technology is more than expected** and that majority of students are equipped to switch to e-learning in this sudden period of school closure. The following guidelines may be followed for uniformity: -

- (a) Teachers to down load e-content / prepare e content for first **two/three chapters**. This would be uploaded on to Digicampus which could be accessed by the students in their own time.
- (b) Besides the content, the teachers could pass assignments through the Document Management System available in every teacher login in Digicampus and any document sent by the teacher can be accessed by the student.
- (c) Students be informed that these chapters would not be covered again once the schools reopen. Weak students may be put through extra classes.
- (d) The online tutorials be focussed on only **two/ three chapters**, and will not incl pry cls.
- (e) The MHRD had planned and designed the Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) platform by the name **SWAYAM**. Content for the Secondary as well Senior Secondary students has been put in 4 Quadrant - text, audio/video, self-check exercises and live interaction. Students may be asked to log in to www.swayam.gov.in/nios and choose the courses they want to study. Teachers/course coordinators also provide answers to the queries of the students.
- (f) Similarly, the MHRD had launched a bouquet of 32 Direct to Home (DTH) Television channels by the name **Swayam Prabha**. These are available through the DD Dish but the Ministry of I&B has put the School Channels on the commercial service providers.

(g) The NIOS in collaboration with the CBSE and the NCERT has started live class for Secondary and Senior Secondary students. Students can watch the broadcast of the recorded programs on **Tata Sky Channel no. 756 On Dish TV Channel no. 946, 947, 949 and 950; Airtel TV Channel no. 437, 438 and 439; on Videocon Channel no. 475, 476 and 477**. Students may be asked to watch the programs.

2. From the news on National media, it can safely be assumed that the schools are likely to remain locked down till 01 May 2020. It is not sure if the lock down will be extended still further or summer vacations are announced from that date. Since CBSE class XII exams in some subjects are still to be held and Class X board exam papers are yet to be fully evaluated, the results are not likely to be announced before the end of May 2020. CBSE would be issuing more guidelines on managing the school education for the current Academic session 2020-21. It would be prudent to wait for the CBSE guidelines which can be expected in the third week of Apr 2020. Notwithstanding, the strategy to be employed by all APSs for imparting education for the period prior to the commencement of Summer vacations is given in succeeding Paras.

3. **Primary Classes.** The e-content for all subjects has been provided to the schools to overcome the condition that some students would not have procured the books due to the timings of the lockdown. In two subjects the content is pertaining to **two chapters only**. Please ensure that the students are provided with the e content and some assignments which the **child should be able to complete in their notebooks through parental support**. **FDRRC is developing some Inquiry Based Learning (IBL) pedagogy** and content, which would be shared on Digi-campus in due course. Course of action recommended to be followed for primary edn is as under: -

(a) The **e content of first 3-4 lessons** be **shared with the parents**. FDRRC has also tasked some select gp to create content for these lessons (IBL and being uploaded on digi campus). This process of adding chapters can continue throughout the lockdown period.

(b) Teachers to share with **parents, who in turn will drive edn** of their **children without any online txn**.

(c) on opening of schools, children will be put through an ex to check **comprehension of the syllabus** covered during lockdown period and weak children can be put through extra cls, post school timings.

4. **Middle School (Classes VI-VIII).** For these classes, prescribed Books are primarily of NCERT origin and available as e books on NCERT website. Therefore, it is not a matter of major concern if the student was unable to procure books before the commencement of the academic session. Please continue to provide notes and assignments which the student is expected to read on his/her own effort, and answer given assignments in their notebooks. They **should have access to communicate with teachers for clarifying their doubts**. It should be conveyed to the students that the **syllabus so covered shall not be repeated once the schools re-open**. This would induce a more sincere effort on the part of the students to study during the lock down period.

5. **Secondary School (Classes IX-X)**. Schools should make the **best of learning apps freely available** for learning at this level. AWES has provided the information to all schools about the Free Apps like **ExtraMarks, SteppApp**, and online classes like **Good Ed Classes, Mind Spark, etc.** It is likely that **ByJus** may also provide free education to APS students during the **lock down period**. Students should be guided and motivated to use these apps and platforms to make the best of this time and opportunity. **A library of e-content is also being collated on the Digi-campus platform.** Some content has been uploaded and some more shall be uploaded soon. More shall depend on teacher collaboration. Students should be informed of the same and helped in understanding their lessons.

6. **Sr Secondary School (Classes XI-XII)**. These are the most important years of school education and all out efforts should be made to support the students in all possible ways. In addition to the education support measures spelt out above for Classes IX and X, platforms like **Microsoft Teams** is being used by many Schools for conducting live classes. These should be planned through a proper timetable of e-classes which should be evolved and classes conducted regularly. **Direct interaction** and daily on line connect is always better than self-study through whichever means a student may take.

7. Please ensure that the portion of syllabus which is usually covered in the first month of the academic session in normal school is also covered in the changed circumstances of school lockdown. Please keep this office informed about the progress and of problems faced if any. AWES continues to be in touch with e-platform providers to find a way ahead, during and post lockdown period, which may include the financials. An **objective feedback from the environment** on these content providers will help shortlist such platforms and help in strategizing the concept of e- learning.

Best Wishes

Maj Gen R K Raina (Retd)
MD AWES

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