Directorate Of School Education Kashmir

Remote Teaching: Recommendations

Thereof

(Innovation cell DSEK, Srinagar)

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In view of the lockdown due to Covid-19 global pandemic, teachers and educators all across the valley in particular and throughout the country in general are putting in their best efforts to reach-out to the students. In this regard, Directorate Of School Education Kashmir made efforts to facilitate that reach-out by suggesting some online platforms which can be used by teachers and students alike to make as many learning interactions as are possible within the social distancing restrictions forced on us by this global health emergency that Covid-19 is. Responding to this emergency, the directorate of school education has opened up and recommended various ways through which students and teachers can remain in touch with relevant educational content, emulating the global example. Some of the ways recommended are a pointed out as follows:

With regard to content, the following <u>online</u> platforms of MHRD and other reputed governmental organisations are recommended:

https://swayamprabha.gov.in/

An initiative of MHRD, it provides online content for secondary and higher secondary classes in various streams in the form of video lectures on YouTube, the links to which can be found within the website itself.

https://diksha.gov.in/

Digital Initiative For Knowledge Sharing, is a knowledge sharing platform in which videos and other educational material can be had, by scanning the QR code found on the text books as prescribed by JKBOSE. DIKSHA mobile app can be downloaded from the play store.

http://epathshala.nic.in/

An initiative of NCERT, New Delhi which provides relevant, high quality content for most of the grades and can be of massive use in case access to a tutor is not readily available. Epathshala mobile app can also be downloaded from the play store.

- https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/,
- ▶ The national digital library of India has educational material available for users ranging from primary to postgraduate levels.
- https://nroer.gov.in/,
- The national repository of open educational resources has the most wide ranging e-content for all categories of learners that is available in public domain.

- Apart from this, a few international platforms are also in vogue right now which will hopefully be of use to students and teachers alike. Some of them are as follows:
- www.worldbank.org/en/topic/edutech/brief/edtech-covid-19
- This link provides access and suggestions to a vast array of both online and offline educational tools which will prove beneficial for learners in the wake of Covid-19 epidemic.
- https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/solutions
- Again, this URL contains the broadest possible array of offline and online learning tools which may prove very useful for all categories of learners.

Teleclasses (TV Based Classes)

- Besides this, for all those with access to nothing but a television, Swayamprabha, an MHRD initiative, provides an assortment of 32 free-to-air DTH channels which are available on every DTH platform and have educational content for all categories of learners.. The above given link to swayamprabha is the online iteration of these TV channels. Learners may use whatever platform they are comfortable with and have access to. The DTH Channels shall cover the following:
- a). Higher Education: Curriculum-based course contents at post-graduate and an undergraduate level covering diverse disciplines such as arts, science, commerce, performing arts, social sciences, and humanities, engineering, technology, law, medicine, agriculture, etc.
- b). School education (9-12 levels): modules for teacher's training as well as teaching and learning aids for children of India to help them understand the subjects better and also help them in preparing for competitive examinations for admissions to professional degree programs.
- c). Curriculum-based courses that can meet the needs of life-long learners of Indian citizens in India and abroad.
- d). Assist students (class 11th & 12th) to prepare for competitive exams.

- Moreover, Aawo Padhein, centralised repository of Voice PPTs & Videos has been made available topic-wise for Unit I and Unit II with proper indexing and sequence on our website http://www.dsek.nic.in/dsek/DSEK/Aawo.html. The PPT and Video lessons have been prepared by our Key subject experts. More of it is on it's way.
- Further, talks are on with local cable operators to conduct tele-classes via local cable channels, timings and carriers of which will be communicated separately from time to time.
- Attempts have been made to provide tele-classes on Doordarshan Kashir by Key Resource Persons and Teachers at 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm daily
- With regard to online, one-on-one interaction of learners with teachers, The Directorate has found the following free and free-mium platforms which can be used by the teachers to reach out to prospective learners:
- Zoom cloud meetings.
- Google Classrooms.

- Microsoft Teams.
- Skype Meet Now.
- Google Hangouts.
- With regard to usage, teachers and learners are free to choose the kind of platform they are most comfortable with. However, the Directorate feels the need to alert the users to exercise necessary caution while using them which includes using the latest versions of the platforms as well as using Antivirus security softwares, which prevents against hijacking of online sessions by unscrupulous elements. If the users do not have access to paid versions of antivirus softwares, Kaspersky free can be used as it provides decent protection free of cost.
- This lockdown has thrown many challenges of mental health on students. To counter this, an intervention called *Reach Out Programme* has been launched for Counselling of students on Mental health and Career options. A link for this programme is available on our website www.deek.nic.in with Help desk, WhatsApp link, E-mail ID and Phone call option.
- An on line Grievance & Complaint redressal portal has been launched for registering grievances and the link is available on our website www.dsek.nic.in

- Finally, of the above options that are being provided to users, since Zoom is being most widely used, and in view of the recent privacy and security issues that plagued this platform, the directorate feels the need that users should thoroughly go through the following blog so as to make their teaching-learning sessions more secure:
- https://blog.zoom.us/wordpress/2020/03/20/keep-uninvited-guests-out-of-your-zoom-event/