

LexQuest Foundation

Our policy recommendations led to the State government devising interventions in line with our recommendations on two of the most crucial aspects of school education amidst the pandemic, viz., Access to Learning without the internet & Assisting Teachers with Online Education. Read more to understand the current approach of the State of Delhi to ensure access to education without the internet and assisting teachers who are entirely new to the system of online education.

Ensuring Access to Education without the internet

Our Recommendation: Many students in the State who do not have access to online education remain unaccounted for. The State government should ensure the collection of data regarding students' addresses and guardians'/parents' contact details by tracing information of all students enrolled in government primary schools across the State of Delhi. Such data can be helpful to ensure that weekly worksheets are available to students even without the internet.

Government Action: In June 2021, the Delhi government's Directorate of Education (DOE) announced a <u>three-stage strategy</u> to minimize the learning loss due to the pandemic. The first step instructs all Delhi government schools to create a formal database of their students with smartphones, mobile phones, and no phones. This step will help in assessing how many students cannot access online education. The schools can prepare short notes and worksheets for such students, covering essential points taught during online classes. Parents can collect these from the school every week.

Assisting Teachers with Online Education

Our Recommendation: The Delhi government working with the District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) and the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), should initiate online workshops or videos as guides for teachers to conduct online classes.

Government Action: The Delhi government has recently <u>announced</u> the restructuring of the State Council of Educational Research And Training (SCERT) and District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) to improve the facilities for teacher training for online classes in the national capital. It aims to prepare teachers



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to take students' doubts and questions in online classrooms. This step will guide teachers to conduct effective and engaging online classes, especially as e-learning will continue due to the ongoing second wave.

We believe that our concerted efforts in the right direction would effectively address the resource gap in access to primary education. Going ahead, we will continue aiding and amplifying government efforts to ensure sustained policy interventions can fill all existing gaps that risk access and learning amidst a pandemic that has changed the narrative of school education in India.