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India Report on Digital Education, 2020

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Why in News

Recently, the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has launched **India Report on Digital Education, 2020**.

Recently the MHRD has been **renamed as the Ministry of Education**.

Key Points

- **The Report:**
 - It has been prepared by the **digital education division of MHRD** in consultation with education departments of the states and union territories.
 - It **elaborates the innovative methods** adopted by the MHRD, for **ensuring accessible and inclusive education** to children at home and reducing learning gaps during the **Covid-19 pandemic**.
- **MHRD Initiatives:**
 - It has initiated many projects to assist teachers, scholars and students in their pursuit of learning like **DIKSHA platform, Swayam Prabha TV Channel, On Air - Shiksha Vani, e-PathShala** and telecast through TV channels.
 - It also released **guidelines on digital education** called '**PRAGYATA**'.

- **State Initiatives:**

- States and Union Territories have provided digital education at the doorstep of the students. Some of them are:
 - **Social Media Interface for Learning Engagement (SMILE)** in Rajasthan.
 - **Project Home Classes** in Jammu.
 - **Padhai Tunhar Duvaar** (Education at your doorstep) in Chhattisgarh.
 - **Unnayan Initiatives** in Bihar.
 - **Mission Buniyaad** in NCT of Delhi.
 - **Kerala's own educational TV channel (KITE VICTERS)**.
 - **E-scholar portal** as well as free online courses for teachers in Meghalaya.
- They **used social media tools** like WhatsApp Group, Online classes through YouTube channel and Google meet to connect to the students.
- Some of the states/UTs like Lakshadweep, Nagaland and Jammu & Kashmir have also **distributed tablets, DVDs and pendrives, equipped with e-content**s to students.
- They have **also distributed textbooks at children's doorsteps to ensure inclusive learning** in remote areas where internet connectivity and electricity is poor.
- Several states have also focussed on the **mental well-being of the children e.g Delhi conducted happiness classes**.
 - MHRD has also launched the **'Manodarpan' initiative**, which aims to provide psychosocial support to students, family members and teachers for their mental health and well-being during the times of Covid-19.

Way Forward

- The report will serve the purpose of cross-learning, adapting and adopting best practices across the country.
- While the education is moving towards blended learning through online and offline mode, it shall be the endeavour of all the stakeholders in the field of education to ensure that no student is left behind for want of affordability and accessibility of quality education.

Source: PIB