Shri Dharmendra Pradhan to launch PMeVIDYA DTH Channel for Indian Sign Language tomorrow

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Union Minister for Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, will launch the PM e-VIDYA DTH Channel No. 31 for Indian Sign Language (ISL) tomorrow (6 December,2024) in New Delhi. Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Minister of State for Education, Shri Jayant Chaudhary will also grace the event. The programme will witness participation from Hearing Impaired (HI) children, HI achievers, special educators, ISL certified interpreters and organisations working for mainstreaming the Hearing-Impaired community.

This critical initiative supports the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 which recommends promotion of Indian Sign Language to foster a more inclusive educational environment. Para 4.22 of NEP states that 'Indian Sign Language (ISL) will be standardized across the country, and National and State curriculum materials developed, for use by students with hearing impairment. Local sign languages will be respected and taught as well, where possible and relevant.'

An exclusive **PM e-Vidya channel** devoted to the promotion of the Indian Sign Language has been conceptualised to promote ISL as a language as well as a school subject, so that the larger population has access to learning the language. The Channel will disseminate learning content for school children (Central & State Curriculum), teachers, teacher educators and other stakeholders in the area of career guidance, skill training, mental health, class-wise curricular content, communication skills, as well as promotion of Sign Language as a language subject, just like verbal languages like Hindi, English etc., for all.

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