



## OPEN SCHOOLS NOW: END EDUCATION EXCLUSION

UNESCO estimates that about 140 million students in primary and 130 million in secondary have been affected by the lockdown in India (UNESCO,2020).

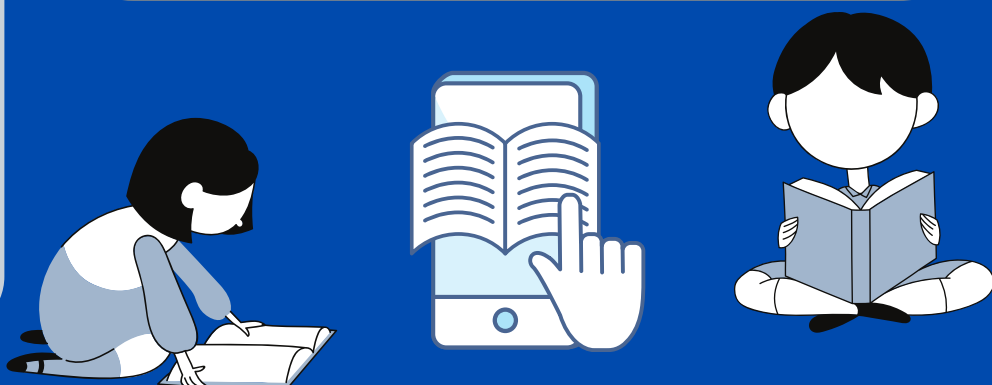
### THE DIGITAL DIVIDE STRONGLY INTERSECTS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DIVIDE IN THE COUNTRY.

- As per NSSO – only 4% students in rural areas have access to essential digital infrastructure – more than 80 % students in urban areas do not have access to essential digital infrastructure
- Only 2 % of students from the lowest income quintile reported having essential digital infrastructure.
- Only 4 % of SC and STs, 8 % of Muslims and 7 % of OBC students had access.

### WOMEN AND LEARNERS FROM MOST MARGINALISED SECTIONS ARE LEAST LIKELY TO ACCESS ONLINE EDUCATION.

A recent survey of 3176 households across four Indian states conducted by the Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (Ghatak et al., 2020) found:

- In more than 70 per cent of the households, the phone belonged to a male member
- Only 26 % of the girls who responded to the survey said that they had unhindered access to phones at home.
- Girls spent a disproportionate amount of time on chores and care work and less time on education.



### WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES OF ONLINE PEDAGOGY?

- 80% of parents in govt schools (100% in Bihar) and 60 % in private schools felt that education was not delivered.
- More than half of teachers surveyed perceive remote learning materials and methods to be less effective than classroom teaching
- 50% of urban teachers and 40% of rural teachers were in touch with students through WhatsApp and phone calls.