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Online learning and lessons to continue in 2021 – 2nd January, 2021

Level 4

The year 2020 has been difficult for hundreds of thousands of teachers. They have had to deliver lessons using online platforms. Millions of students have had lessons on websites like Zoom. This has caused a major transformation in education. The quality of education differs according to Internet speeds, the levels of teacher preparedness and teachers' competence in using technology. Many students had no lessons because they had no computer.

Malaysia has started a new programme to help underprivileged children. Eligible students will get a device so they can have online lessons. Malaysia wants to help students and schools in need and find the best methods to expand the programme. There are plans to improve educational TV shows for students with no Internet access. Malaysia will also employ sign language interpreters to help the hard of hearing. It wants to focus on students' needs.

Level 5

The year 2020 has been difficult for hundreds of thousands of teachers across the globe. They have had to learn to deliver their lessons using online platforms. Millions of students have done their lessons via websites like Zoom. This has caused a major transformation in education as technology has taken centre stage. The quality of education differs according to Internet speeds, and the levels of teacher preparedness and teachers' competence in using technology. It also depends on the devices students have. Many students had no lessons because they had no computer.

The Education Ministry in Malaysia has started a new initiative to help underprivileged children. Around 150,000 eligible pupils will receive a device so they can participate in online lessons. Malaysia hopes to build on the success of this to expand the programme. It wants to assist pupils and schools in need and find the best implementation method to expand it. There are plans to enhance educational TV shows for students with no Internet access. Malaysia will also employ sign language interpreters to help the hard of hearing. It wants to focus on students' needs.

Level 6

The year 2020 has been a tumultuous one for educators. Hundreds of thousands of teachers across the globe had to get to grips with online platforms to deliver their lessons. Millions of students were stuck at home doing their lessons via websites like Zoom. This has created an unprecedented transformation in education as technology has taken centre stage. The quality of education differed around the world according to the quality of Internet connections, the level of preparedness of teachers and their competence in engaging with the technology. It also depended on what kind of devices students had at home. Many students were deprived of lessons because they had no computer, tablet or smartphone.

The Education Ministry in Malaysia has rolled out a new initiative to help underprivileged children. Around 150,000 eligible pupils from 500 schools will receive a device to enable them to participate in online lessons. The Education Minister hopes to build on the success of this initial rollout to expand the programme. He said: "Apart from assisting pupils and schools in need, this pilot project is to find the best implementation method before it is proposed for expansion." The plans include enhancing educational television programming for students with no Internet access, and employing sign language interpreters to help the hard of hearing. A teacher said she was happy her government was prioritizing students' needs.