

Government has already decided to set up 2500 Model Schools and 300 Polytechnics under Public Private Partnership mode during 11th Plan period. A proposal for setting up of 20 new Indian Institutes of Information Technology in various parts of the country under PPP mode is also under consideration.

Interest among children towards schools

†2688. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of punishing and torturing of young children by teachers have been increasing continuously;

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government so far to prevent such incidents and by when the outcome of the same is likely to be achieved; and

(c) whether Government would take steps to maintain interest towards school among the young children and to shorten the distance between their school and homes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir. However, there have been reports about sporadic incidents of teachers punishing children.

(b) This Ministry has issued advisories to the State/UT Governments, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and Council for Indian School Certificate Examination, etc. to prohibit corporal punishment and cruelty to students and to create an atmosphere free from fear. Corporal punishment has been strictly prohibited in schools run by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti and also by schools affiliated to CBSE.

(c) Such steps include facilitating joyful and stress free learning, enabling holistic learning, life skill programs, health and wellness programs, physical education programs, alternative to home work, no school bag for classes 1 and 2, etc.

Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, efforts have been made to provide access to a primary school within 1 km of most of the habitations.

Reservation of native students in Central Universities

2689. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has examined the suggestions coming from the public that unless Central Universities reserve a certain percentage of seats to the people of the State where such universities are established, the main purpose of giving benefit to the people of the State cannot be realized; and

(b) if so, the details of steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.