

Vidyalayas (KGBVs) residential schools for minorities are running exclusively for girls in the block of Sindhanur in Raichur district and Gangavathi in Koppal district.

The programmatic norms of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme (SSA) provide for sanction of residential schools to cover sparsely populated or hilly and densely forested areas with difficult geographical terrains and also to cover urban deprived children, homeless and street children in difficult circumstances without adult protection. Five residential schools were accordingly sanctioned to the State of Karnataka under SSA in the year 2010-11 in districts of Bangalore Urban, Dakshin Kannada, Dharwad, Mysore and Shimoga. All these residential schools are functional.

Promotion of online education

4407. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that several private online education providers are doing fairly good job in the field;

(b) if so, whether Government has any plan to encourage similar online education providers through DTH, Data and Radio service providers; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) In the field of Education, including Online Education, both Government and the Private Providers are playing a significant role. The Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD) has launched 'Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds' (SWAYAM) which is a Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) Platform that provide anyone, anywhere, anytime learning.

The Videos in the SWAYAM Courses are transmitted through 32 SWAYAM Prabha Direct-to-Home (DTH) Television Channels. The private providers are also running some Educational DTH Television Channels.

Examination Pattern in Higher Secondary and University Levels

4408. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the main reasons for Indian students not becoming world-class scientists and technologists is that majority of them reproduce the answers after mugging up the lessons in higher secondary, graduate and post-graduate levels without proper understanding of the subject;