institutions wherein the cost of the project is met to the extent of 50% by the Ministry of Education and the remaining 50% by the Participating Ministry/ Department. UAY promotes industry sponsored, outcome-oriented research projects. The projects cost under UAY is met to the extent of 50% by the Ministry of Education and 25% each by the industry and the participating Ministry/ Department.

## Issues relating to coaching institutes for vocational courses

†533. SHRI NEERAJ DANGI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by Government to give relief to general public from reckless loot by coaching centres for entrance in vocational education courses;
- (b) the steps taken by Government for making this sector more transparent, accountable and student friendly to stop exploitation of students and guardians;
- (c) whether Government is taking any steps to prescribe fees for such institutions;
- (d) whether any mechanism is being developed to tackle such irregularities and to immediately redress such complaints;
  - (e) if so, the details thereof; and
  - (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):
(a) There are ample provisions under the Consumer Protection Act for the students to seek redressal in case of grievance from any private coaching center.

(b) to (f) This Ministry has issued directions to all State Governments to take steps for effective regulation of such centres. Besides this, in the interest of students, Government has launched Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM), through which the teachers of reputed colleges of India offers free online courses. The study material and online discussion with teachers for clearing doubts for students is also available under Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM), Similarly, another initiative namely IIT-Professor Assisted Learning †Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(IIT-PAL) has been started in which the teachers of IITs offer free education for the students of class XI and XII (those are willing to take admission in IITs and other institutes). Apart from this, the video contents for Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics have been prepared by the teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas. This material is available on IITPAL as well as on dedicated channels of SWAYAM PRABHA free of cost.

The government has also introduced various reforms in the Higher Education Sector in the shape of continuous updation of curriculum, semesters system, capacity building of teachers, raising the barriers for entry into the teaching profession, attractive pay package and other service conditions, which are likely to improve the quality of college education and reduce the dependence of the college students on pre-examination coaching centers. There are also schemes of University Grants Commission (UGC) to provide coaching facilities to students to weaker sections preparing for technical/professional examination and jobs.

## Plan to improve ranking of Indian educational institutions

†534. SHRI NEERAJ DANGI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) details of special action plan formulated by Government to improve ranking of India at international level and encourage research and development work in educational institutions in the country;
- (b) whether teachers engaged in research work under these schemes are to be encouraged financially;
- (c) measures taken to implement research schemes in private educational institutions; and
  - (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) Government of India is committed to the nation to empower Higher Educational Institutions to help them become world class teaching and research institutions. In this context, Institutions of Eminence (IoE) scheme has been launched in the year 2017

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.