

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2180
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.12.2018**

SCIENTIFIC THINKING OF STUDENTS

†2180. SHRI ARVIND SAWANT:

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

- (a) the useful steps taken by the Government to encourage scientific thinking of students;
- (b) whether the department of education has started a new partnership by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research;
- (c) if so, the prominent features of the said MoU;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to include the students of other State level schools under the same apart from the students of Kendriya Vidyalaya;
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

(a): The Government has launched Rashtriya Aavishkar Abhiyan (RAA) programme on 9.7.2015, to motivate and engage children of the age group from 6-18 years in Science, Mathematics and Technology through observation, experimentation, inference drawing, model building, etc. both through inside and outside classroom activities.

The Council for Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Department of Scientific and Industrial Research has institutionalized 'JIGYASA' – a school connect programme targeting scientists- students interaction. The aim and objective of JIGYASA programme is to connect 38 CSIR institutes and its scientists with the students of Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) to develop scientific temper in the young minds.

Atal Tinkering labs have been created in nearly 3000 schools across the country with a view to introducing the culture of innovation at the school level. Under this initiative, students from classes VI to XII can work on projects such as 3-D printing, robotics, artificial intelligence etc. Science Olympiads are also conducted every year with the objective of promoting science talent among the students.

(b): CSIR and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) have signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 6.7.2017 for implementing the 'JIGYASA' programme in the KVs.

(c): The MoU envisages some of the following models of engagement:-

- Student Apprentice ship programme
- Summer Vacation Programme
- Projects of National Children's Science Congress
- Scientists as Teachers and Teachers as Scientists
- Teachers' Workshop
- Student Residential programme
- Popular Lecture Series
- Visits of Scientists to Schools
- Lab specific activities/ Onsite experiments
- Science and Maths Club and many more

(d): No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(e): Does not arise.

(f): The target schools/ institutions under the RAA already include the students of State/ UT Government and Local Body schools besides the students of KVs, Navodaya Vidyalayas and other Central Government schools.
