

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4643  
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2001  
VIDHYA VAHINI  
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government propose to introduce a scheme known as `Vidhya Vahini` to provide information technological training in 60 thousand schools in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the States have been consulted in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MA

(a),(b) and (c): Ministry of Information Technology is in the process of developing a project - Vidya Vahini Network for setting up computer labs and providing Internet connectivity of 64/128 Kbps to the Government funded schools in the country. The project is envisaged to be implemented in two phases. In the first phase, it is proposed to set up labs and provide internet connectivity to 60,000 Government funded Senior Secondary Schools. The rest of the schools are proposed to be covered in the second phase. The project also envisaged Teacher Empowerment Programme through training of teachers in use of computers, effective teaching techniques, creating lessons, building teaching tools and usage of technology in the classroom. The project would be implemented in association with the State Governments.