

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF VIRTUAL LABORATORY TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN THE BACKWARD TALUKS OF KARNATAKA

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Budget : 120 Lakhs
Funded by : KSTePS, DST-GOK

Background:

Under the Special Development Programme (SDP) of Government of Karnataka, Department of Planning Karnataka Science and Technology Promotion Society (K-STePS), Department of Science and Technology, Government of Karnataka (DST-GOK) and Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology (KSCST), Bangalore are jointly implemented Virtual / Class Rooms in 10 high schools as a pilot-study in the backward talukas of Karnataka. The objectives of these laboratories are to improve the quality and effectiveness of education by collaborative learning and teaching process through IT gadgets. The students will learn science experiments, inculcate scientific attitude and spread the same with their neighbourhood. KSTePS, Department of Science and Technology, Government of Karnataka has sanctioned Rs. 120 lakhs to implement the above programme.

Progress:

In consultation with the Director, DSERT and DDPI's of districts, KSCST has already established Virtual Laboratories in 10 high schools in the backward taluks of Karnataka as per the Dr. D. M. Nanjundappa's report.

The Virtual Laboratory high schools are successfully utilising the digital contents provided by KSCST. KSCST has made all the necessary steps to provide digital experiments and communication English language package by beginning of reopening of schools (June 2015). KSCST has organised content review / interaction meeting for the VL high schools at Government Girls High School, Chennapatna, Ramanager District on 21-22 February 2015.

KSCST is seeking permission from DST, GOK for naming all VL by the name "Sir. C. V. Raman Virtual Lab (Vijnana E-Kalika Kendra)" and planning to inaugurate these VL's during June 2015 by inviting eminent Scientists/ Technologists/ Administrators and others.

KSCST is also interacting with the Commissioner of Public Instructions, Dept. of Education, Government of Karnataka and respective DDPI's for successful utilisation of the programme. The local NGO's / engineering colleges will be involved for the further technical guidance and to take over the project to the masses and involvement of teacher community to support this programme.