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Irani unveils plan to help parents monitor kids in KVs

Instant connect | To strike a chord with the audiences, human resource development minister shares her experience of being a mother

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New Delhi: Much against her usual arrogant and pretentious self, Human Resource Development Minister Smriti Irani on Friday for a change shed her stereotyped cast. She was all an image of humility and modesty, while talking to school children, their parents and teachers. The occasion was launching of e-governance program Shala Darpan for the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS).

Shala Darpan is an online portal meant to maintain an online data base of each student. From attendance to examination papers, study material, medical conditions and health challenges, everything will be recorded in the software for any reference. The portal, developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC) will also provide a parent-teacher interface and also help parents to regularly monitor their wards. They will also receive routine progress reports of their wards, besides the conduct during school hours.

Using satire and at times emotions, reminding audience she was also mother of two children, she was at best to connect with the audience. Referring to the software Shala Darpan helping the parents to monitor their wards on real time basis, she said her own children were too happy not studying in the Kendriya Vidhyalaya. "I can understand how important it is for a parent to get timely first hand information about performance of the child. Parents of these students will not have to wait for the parent teachers meeting day," she added.

But the minister was quick enough to put a word of caution for the parents, asking them to remind their own childhood, "I know what it means when a teacher writes a note in the dairy. The child wants to hide it first from the mother and then from the father. If the note has to be signed by the parent, many here might have tried to copy the signatures of our parents," she added.

The minister advised

parents to take feedback in the positive spirit.