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Q63

'SWAYAM', an initiative of the Government of India, aims at (a) Promoting the Self Help Groups in rural areas (b) Providing financial and technical assistance to young start-up entrepreneurs (c) Promoting the education and health of adolescent girls (d) Providing affordable and quality education to the citizens for free Official key: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2016 · General Studies · 2 marks · Current Affairs and GK
Current events, government schemes, miscellaneous GK - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a)**

Promoting Self Help Groups in rural areas is the terrain of NRLM/DAY-NRLM and related livelihood missions, not SWAYAM. This option is not the key.

(b)

Financial and technical assistance to start-up entrepreneurs describes Start-up India, SIDBI funds or incubation schemes, not SWAYAM. This option is wrong.

(c)

Education and health of adolescent girls is the space of schemes such as SABLA/RKSK, not the SWAYAM platform. This option is not the key.

(d) Official key

SWAYAM (**Study Webs of Active** Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) is the Government of India's **MOOC** platform to provide affordable, quality education online, including free access to courses from school to postgraduate level. That is why (d) is the official key.

Summary

Official key is (d) providing affordable and quality education to the citizens for free. SWAYAM hosts online courses with video, reading, tests and discussion, and credit transfer is provided for under UGC/AICTE regulations. It is not an SHG, start-up-finance or adolescent-girl scheme. The name is an education-technology brand under the Ministry of Education. Only (d) matches the initiative.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

National coordinators

NPTEL, UGC, CEC, NCERT, NIOS, IGNOU, IIM Bangalore, AICTE, NITTTR

SWAYAM Prabha

DTH channels for educational content, a related but distinct project

MOOC

Massive Open Online Course

Credit framework

UGC (Credit Framework for Online Learning Courses through SWAYAM) Regulations

Digital India

SWAYAM sits in the digital-education pillar of that programme

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