

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3448
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2002
F.M. RADIO STATION FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

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

- (a) whether the Government has directed the IGNOU to run FM Radio Station for educational purposes; (if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated/provided to IGNOU for the purpose;
- (c) the number of broadcasting hours likely every month;
- (d) whether the IGNOU will be able to provide sufficient contents for the station to make it popular among students; and
- (e) the details of any outside agencies, if any likely to help in developing the material and content for such FM radio station?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) to (c): The Central Government has, under the aegis of Indira Gandhi National Open University, started FM Radio Stations which are presently running educational programmes for 8 hours each day and which is likely to be raised to 24 hours in due course. During the year 2001-2002, the Government had provided a sum of Rs. 15.10 crores for the purpose, and for the current financial year Rs.23.00 crores has been earmarked.

(d) & (e): According to the information furnished by IGNOU, the University will be able to provide sufficient contents for the Radio Stations in which it is being helped by Ministries and Departments, educational institutions, NGOs and partner institutions such as National Council of Educational Research and Training, Consortium on Educational Communication, University Grants Commission, National Open School, State Open Universities and National Literacy Mission, etc.