

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1685
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2000
CLOSURE OF EVENING COLLEGES
VENKATA KRISHNAM RAJU UPPALAPATI

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bar Council of India has decided to close the evening colleges with effect from June, 2000 as reported in the Indian Express, dated November 6, 1999;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether this proposition is fraught with sthe stiff opposition from the students as well as the teaching community; and
- (d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALMNI):

(a)&(b) The Bar Council of India has recently amended Rules concerning three-year course after graduation (i.e. Rule 2(1) in Part IV Section-B, Bar Council of India Rules) to provide that all law colleges which are exclusively running evening sessions shall switch over to `Day` sessions during the academic year 2000-2001, failing which they will not be entitled to approval of affiliation by the Council. The main reason for this is to bring improvement in legal education which is possible only through full-time day colleges equipped with all necessary infrastructure and facilities. The details thereof are annexed

(c)&(d) There is some resistance from the management of some colleges in the State of Andhra Pradesh which have been denied approval of affiliation to evening law colleges by the Bar Council of India. Some of these colleges have gone to the High Court of Andhra Pradesh and obtained stay order. Further course of action will depend upon the Court's decision.

papers in practical training making a total of 28 subject in the LL.B.course. The evening colleges hardly function for two, to two and a half hour a day which is totally inadequate to impart legal education prescribed by the Bar Council of India under its rules.

(ii) The evening law colleges are mostly manned by part time teachers who are practising lawyers. These colleges do not have sufficient number of qualified full time teachers. Professional courses like LL.B. cannot be imparted through part-time teachers alone.

(iii) Evening law colleges are conducted in colleges which are imparting courses in other disciplines and independent buildings are not available to law colleges with adequate infrastructural facilities.

(iv) Since the practical training has been revised and includes court visits and other aspects of practical training, evening colleges can not do justice to such training as envisaged by the Bar Council of India.

(v) The majority of the students on the rolls of the evening colleges are employed persons who want to improve their qualifications for career advancement and want to enrol as advocate after retirement. Such students are not serious in their studies and this contribute to the lowering of standards of legal education. These are some of the reasons which prompted the Bar Council of India to ask the evening law colleges to convert themselves into full time day colleges.

(vi) Attendance requirement are rarely adhered to in the evening law colleges as majority of the students are employed.