

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4726

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2005

EDUCATION THROUGH OPEN SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES

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

:

(a) whether education is being universalised in the country through open schools and Universities;

(b) if so, the details of the said universities;

(c) whether the educational programmes of such schools are benefitting the backward people living in the remote areas of the country; and

(d) the concrete strategy of the Government to ensure that the benefits of these programmes percolate down to the backward and unprivileged people?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): A list of 11 Open Universities operating in the country is annexed.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has prepared a Vision Document for its Open Schooling programme. Among other things, the Vision Document envisages the following to ensure that the benefit of the open schooling programme may percolate down to the backward and under privileged people.

1. NIOS will act mainly as a Resource Organisation in Open Schooling at national as well as international level with its usual programme delivery role.

2. The State Open Schools in India will assume major responsibility for expansion of open schooling since the prospective students will prefer opting regional languages as media for the courses of study.

3. An NIOS envisages moderate increase in enrolment in the following Courses of study:

- Open Basic Education Programme
- Secondary and Senior Secondary Courses
- About 10% increase in enrolment every year after 2010.

4. Special attention will be paid towards the first generation learners, differently able children and youth, and other disadvantage population groups.

5. NIOS to network with Ministry of Human Resource Development, State Education Departments, and other apex organizations in Education and related sectors for planning and implementation of the open schooling programme.

- The Study Centres will be opened up to Block level
- Special drive for admission
- Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to be used in a big way to provide access to open schooling programmes, particularly in difficult contexts and for disadvantage population in general.

- Provision of scholarships or fees waiver for needy students.

The Open Universities have generally adopted an integrated multi-media instructional strategy consisting of print materials, audio-

video aids, teleconferencing, supported by Counseling session at a network of Study Centers throughout the country.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN RESPECT OF PART (B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.4726 ASKED BY S/SHRI ANANDRAO V . ADSUL, BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY AND SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.04.2005.

LIST OF OPEN UNIVERSITIES

1. Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi
2. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad
3. Vardhaman Mahaveer Open University, Kota
4. Nalanda Open University, Patna
5. Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University, Nashik
6. M.P. Bhoj Open University, Bhopal
- 7 Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, Ahmedabad
8. Karnataka State Open University, Mysore
9. Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata
10. U.P. Rajarshi Tandon Open University, Allahabad
11. Tamil Nadu Open University, Chennai