

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2245
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010
FREE EDUCATION TO SC/ST/MINORITY COMMUNITIES
Dhanaplan Shri K. P.

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

- (a) whether Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) proposes to offer free education to the youth belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL)/SC/ST/Minority Communities in the country;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the programme; and
- (c) the funds allocated by IGNOU for this purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (c): As per information provided by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), the University offers skill development programmes in the areas of Security Services, Telecom and BPO under the skill development programme & vocational education and training of the University in collaboration with the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY). The University has not allocated any funds in this regard, however, the Ministry of Rural Development has sanctioned a grant of Rs.38 crores under the project to the University to train about 45,500 beneficiaries of Rural BPL youth belonging to SC/ST and Minority for suitable employment.