

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3047  
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2009  
CENTRES FOR DISABLE STUDENTS IN UNIVERSITIES  
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Government has directed the University Grants Commission (UGC) to extend support to Universities and Colleges in setting up special departments or centres for disabled students and also institute a Rajiv Gandhi Chair in Disability Studies in each Central University;
- (b) if so, the steps taken so far by the University Grants Commission (UGC);
- (c) whether UGC has started the first stage of constituting model curriculum development Committee; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The Government has advised University Grants Commission (UGC) to extend support to Central Universities and at least one State university in each State to have a Department of Disabilities Studies, which should address all issues relating to persons with disabilities – specially human rights, rehabilitation, education etc.

The University Grants Commission has written to all universities to consider setting up of Department of Disabilities Studies. As informed by UGC, there is no scheme of Rajiv Gandhi Chair in Disability Studies in Central Universities.

(c) & (d): A Committee has been constituted by the UGC under the Chairmanship of Prof. Yash Pal, former Chairman UGC for preparation of curriculum framework as part of Action Plan of XI Plan. The report of the Committee is awaited.