

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1399
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2011
PROGRAMMES FOR DIASPORA YOUTH
Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is running some programmes for the Diaspora youth to know India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up a Person of Indian Origin (PIO) University for the Diaspora; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached at Annexure.

(c)&(d) No, Sir. There was a proposal to set up NRI/PIO Universities in the country through an Act of Parliament. However, in the meantime the Ministry of Human Resource Development has drafted an Innovation Universities Bill. This contains similar provisions as those of the proposed PIO University Bill. Therefore it has been decided that the PIO University would be established under the Innovation University Act (once it is approved by the Parliament).