

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:294
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009
LEGAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Sugumar Shri K.

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to introduce academic legal education in schools and colleges in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes a major overhaul in the legal education in the country to meet the changing scenario in the economy and technology;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action plan chalked out by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.294 FOR 9.12.2009, ASKED BY SHRI SUGUMAR K. AND SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAI SI, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, REGARDING LEGAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

(a) to (e): As legal education serves various purposes besides professional practice, the possibility of imparting mass legal education for raising awareness, knowledge and understanding of rights and legal issues in educational curricula in schools and colleges is being deliberated by a 'Round Table on Legal Education' constituted by the Government.

The Round Table would also deliberate on aspects of legal education with a multidisciplinary outlook, such as curriculum design and delivery as well as the examination system, so that graduating students are equipped with knowledge and confidence to fit in a wide range of roles vis-à-vis diverse traditional and emerging opportunities outside professional practice. It would also counsel the Government on the measures required to inculcate a tradition of research in law in higher education.