

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4180  
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009  
DISTANCE LEARNING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS  
Chaudhary Shri Jayant

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce any regulatory framework for distance learning educational institutions in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaint of malpractices by such institutions;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government has any database on distance learning universities operating in India and the students on their rolls;
- (f) if so, whether any Committee has been set up for this purpose; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The Central Government has drafted a new policy on Distance Education. The same has been uploaded on the website of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education for seeking views/comments of the stake holders, including general public. In the draft policy, Distance Education Council (DEC) has been assigned the role of determining the standards of delivery of courses/programmes through distance mode.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Certain complaints related to malpractices allegedly committed by some of the educational institutions have been received by the Government and forwarded to UGC for appropriate action. The Government has also conducted an enquiry into running of unauthorised study centres by one of the such institutions.

(e) to (g): As per the information provided by Indira Gandhi National Open University(IGNOU), the Distance Education Council (DEC) has published data base on distance education in India by the name-Information Base on the Distance Education in India.