

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4083
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2014
CANCELLATION OF RECOGNITION
Dias Dr. Charles

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

- (a) whether the educational institutions including community colleges opened/recognised by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) in the country especially in the North Eastern States have been cancelled in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the IGNOU has closed/reduced some of the distance education programmes during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government intends to conduct an enquiry about the functioning of the IGNOU in view of the complaints received in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) to (d) As per the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), based on the report of a High Powered Committee, the university has discontinued/kept in abeyance some of its programmes including community colleges offered through face-to-face mode and also programmes running in collaboration with other institutions in the country from the academic cycle commencing July, 2012. The State-wise details of such institutions are being collected from the University.

The University is now exploring the possibility of offering these programmes through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode, i.e. the mandate for which IGNOU was established. IGNOU did not close any academic programme imparted through the distance learning mode of education during the last three years. In so far as the North-Eastern States are concerned, IGNOU has informed that the following four centres have been merged with the respective IGNOU Regional Centres and not cancelled:

- i) Institute for Vocational Education & Training (IVET), Shillong,
- ii) IGNOU's Institute of Professional Competence and Advancement of Teachers (IIPCAT), Guwahati,
- iii) North East Centre for Research and Development (NECRD), Guwahati and
- iv) IGNOU Centre for ODL in Research and Training in Agriculture (ICRTA), Agartala.

(e) The Central Bureau Investigation (CBI) is already inquiring into the matter.