

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1966  
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014  
CANCELLATION OF ONGOING PROGRAMMES COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) is unexpectedly cancelling many of its ongoing programmes including community colleges;
- (b) if so, the details of the programmes and community colleges closed/cancelled by the IGNOU during the last two years and the current year, year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaint in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether enrolment of students in IGNOU and its community colleges has decreased drastically during the above period and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has constituted any Committee to examine the problems faced by IGNOU and its community colleges and if so, the major findings thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has informed that its Board of Management (BoM), based on the findings of a Review committee, decided to discontinue programmes offered, on face to face basis, by Partner Institutions (PIs) including Community Colleges during 2007-2011. The main reasons were that the courses offered were neither in accordance with the university's Statutes nor the University had domain knowledge, and subject expertise in their curriculum design and delivery.

(b): Details of programmes and Community Colleges discontinued by the IGNOU are given at Annexures 1 and 2, respectively.

(c): Yes Madam. The Ministry has received complaints regarding the closure/ discontinuation and non-declaration of the results of the various programmes/courses run by the university during last 2-3 years. Some of the complainants are Gandhian Studies and Research (University of Calicut), All India Society for Electronics & Computer Technology (AISECT), Sri Angla Parmeshvari Educational Trust (SAPET) and Indian Institute of Aeronautical Engineering and Information Technology (AERO) etc.

(d): No Madam. The enrolment of the students in the programmes offered by IGNOU has increased during the last two admission cycles, i.e. July 2012 - January 2013 and July 2013 - January 2014. The session-wise details for last three sessions are given below:

(I) July 2011 - January 2012 - 6,62,364

(II) July 2012 - January 2013 - 6,96,860

(III) July 2013 - January 2014 - 7,31,965

As stated above, the Scheme of Community College has been discontinued, as such the question of decrease of enrolment does not arise.

(e) & (f): The Ministry has constituted a three member Committee to enquire into the functioning of the university from 2006 onwards. The Committee has been asked to submit its report by December 2014.