

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:304

ANSWERED ON:18.03.2015

SKILL ORIENTED COURSES

Meena Shri Harish Chandra;Mohammed Shri Faizal P.P.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to start employment and skill oriented courses in colleges and universities and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government also proposes to review on-going University Grants Commission's (UGC) initiative that supports career oriented add-on courses in traditional universities and colleges and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether technical support of Philanthropic Foundations and the Indian Centres for Research and Development of Community Education (ICRDCE) is proposed to be taken to create a robust framework for skill-based education within the higher education sector in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the assessment of vocational skills and training provided by Community Colleges is being done in accordance with assessment protocols developed by sector skill councils and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 304 FOR 18.03.2015 ASKED BY MOHAMMED FAIZAL AND SHRI HARISH MEENA, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING SKILL ORIENTED COURSES

(a): Yes, Madam. The Government has notified the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) on 27th December, 2013 to enable a person to acquire desired competency levels, transit to the job market and at an opportune time, return for acquiring additional skills to further upgrade their competencies and ensure holistic development. To give further push to skill based vocations, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has revised its guidelines, in accordance with the National Skills Qualification Framework(NSQF), for integrating skill and vocational development with mainstream general education in Universities and Colleges. The UGC guidelines for Credit Framework for Skill Development(CFSD) are available at http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/6925009_SkillNSQF.pdf.

The UGC is providing grants to universities and colleges under the two schemes namely "Community Colleges" and "B.Voc degree programme" which offer employment oriented skill based vocational courses wherein an industry partner is essentially associated for curriculum development, delivery of courses and assessment of learners. A scheme of "Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhaya KAUSHAL Kendra" has also been approved by the Commission. The University Grants Commission(UGC) has decided to approve 100 KAUSHAL centres under this scheme in universities and colleges across the country during the XIIth plan period. These centres will impart skill based education from the certificate to post graduate level. The guidelines of the scheme are available at http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/1502196_KAUSHAL-GUIDELINES-13-Dec-2014.pdf.

These schemes provide financial support to meet operational expenditure including engagement of guest/ visiting faculty/ resource persons, hiring services, contractual lab staff etc. in creating skilled manpower.

(b): To encourage incorporation of skill oriented and value added, add-on-courses in the traditional higher education degree programmes in Colleges/ Universities, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has been implementing a Scheme entitled "Introduction of Career Oriented Courses (COCs). Under the scheme, UGC provides financial assistance to Universities/Colleges, eligible to receive grants from the UGC, for introduction of COCs at the level of Certificate / Diploma / Advance Diploma which run concurrently with the conventional degree like B.A./B.Com /B.Sc. The UGC has already reviewed the scheme and decided on its continuation during the XIIth Five Year Plan.

(c): The University Grants Commission has reported that it has no information to furnish on the matter.

(d) : As per the UGC guidelines for Credit Framework for Skill Development(CFSD) 60% weightage has been given to skill component in course curriculum of vocational courses. Further, the skill component of these courses is to be assessed and certified by the concerned Sector Skill Council(s), which is being recognized for award of Certificate, Diploma, Advance Diploma or a degree from the Colleges and Universities.