

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5837
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2015
ENVIRONMENT AND EARTH SCIENCE COURSES .
Sundaram Shri P.R.

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is no course in Environmental and Earth Sciences in the Indian Universities;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has contemplated any proposal to introduce study/course in environment and Earth Sciences;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

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

(a) : No, Madam. It is not a fact that there is no course in Environmental and Earth Sciences in Indian Universities. Twenty seven Central Universities have introduced course in Environmental Sciences and five in Earth Sciences at different level of course of studies. Eight deemed to be Universities are running courses in Environmental Sciences. Further, 126 State Universites and Higher Educational Institutions are also offering such courses.

(b) & (c): Universities are autonomous bodies, governed by their Statutes and Ordinances, and have full authority to introduce a course with the approval of their statutory bodies and in accordance with rules and regulations laid down by the UGC/ Regulatory Council. Further, as per directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition 860 of 1991 (M.C. Mehta vs Union of India and others), the UGC has framed a core module syllabus for environmental studies, of six months duration, for undergraduate courses and circulated it to the universities/ institutes for implementation and compliance.

(d): In view of above does not arise.