

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2668

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2016

Values in Colleges/Universities

Azad Shri Kirti (JHA);Bansode Shri Sharad;Karadi Shri Sanganna Amarappa;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao

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

- (a) whether the Government has noticed that there is deterioration of learning atmosphere in reputed Universities/ Colleges in the country and discriminatory and undemocratic values and behaviour among students studying there;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is also aware of the violent politics that exists in the name of backwards/forwards/ minorities/perceived injustice, on caste lines which has made Universities a hotbed of politics and hate;
- (d) if so, whether the Government is planning to ban political activities and elections in colleges/universities to restore order and teaching atmosphere there and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government is planning to rename colleges/universities after great thinkers and inspirational freedom fighters/ soldiers to lend credibility to those institutions and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The Central Government is committed to facilitating a healthy learning atmosphere in Universities and Colleges in the country. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken several steps for promoting education on human values in Universities and Colleges. In addition, the UGC has advised Universities and Colleges to promote equity in their campuses and prevent and eradicate discrimination on the basis of caste, gender, ethnicity, class etc. The UGC has informed that circulars have been issued to Vice Chancellors of all Universities and Deemed to be Universities in this regard; the latest circular having been issued on 1st March, 2016 requesting officials/faculty members in Universities to desist from any act of discrimination against SC/ST students on the ground of their social origin. The UGC has further advised Universities and Colleges to develop a page on its Website for lodging such complaints of caste discrimination against SCs/STs and also place a complaint register in the Registrar/Principal office for this purpose. If any such incident comes to the notice of authorities, action should be taken against the erring official/faculty members. The letter of the UGC is at http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/7666883_Caste-based-discrimination-in-HEIs.pdf.

(d): The University Grants Commission has advised, in accordance with Lyngdoh Committee recommendations, Universities and Colleges in the country to ordinarily conduct elections, in the prescribed manner/ conforming to prescribed standards, for the appointment of students to student representative bodies. These elections may be conducted in the manner prescribed herein, or in a manner that conforms to the standards prescribed herein. Further, where the atmosphere of the university campus is adverse to the conduct of peaceful, free and fair elections, the university, its constituent colleges and departments are advised to initiate a system of student representation based on nominations, especially where elections are being held at present. In cases where elections are not being held, or where the nomination model prevails, the nomination model should be allowed to continue for a limited period of time. The details of the recommendations of the Lyngdoh Committee are at http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/2892831_Recommendation-of-the-Committee-accepted-by-the-Honble-Supreme-Court.pdf.

(e): No, Madam. There is no such proposal at present.
