

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5045  
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2014  
PROMOTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION  
Maadam Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to promote environmental education in the higher educational institutions;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to set up environmental education centres or expand the environmental engineering courses in the Government/aided institutions;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which these centres are likely to be set up?

**Answer**

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

(a) The University Grants Commission(UGC) has reported that as per directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the UGC has framed six months Core Module Syllabus for Environmental Studies for UG courses and circulated to the Universities and Deemed to be Universities for implementation and compliance. Development Grants have been stopped in those higher educational institutions which have not implemented the course.

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has designed model curriculum for its undergraduate Engineering and Technical Courses for addressing environmental concerns, namely: the protection of endangered environment and depleting energy sources; environment friendly solutions to engineering and technical problems; wealth generation using environmentally benign and energy efficient techniques; etc.

(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. There are 43 Government / aided institutions in the country that offer post graduate courses in environmental engineering leading to M.Tech/ M.E. programmes. AICTE has stated that its policy is to encourage institutions to start new courses including environmental engineering within the stipulated rules.

(d): No such time can be indicated as the matter of submission of new proposals is the prerogative of the concerned higher educational institution.