

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.

The Scheme of the Community College (CC) of IGNOU was started during the year 2009. 620 Community Colleges across the country were registered under the Community College Scheme of IGNOU through MoUs. 88 out of these CCs were deregistered in 2011 as they were inactive. Out of the remaining 532 CCs, 253 were the active CCs wherein 1,42,333 students were enrolled. IGNOU *vide* its letter dated 14.10.2014 has informed that university has already taken action with regard to declaration of result of 165 Community Colleges. Out of the 59,860 students appeared in the examination conducted by Community Colleges, 39,012 students successfully completed the programme and their grade card and provisional certificates have already been issued by the university.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is already inquiring into the matter. In addition, with the approval of the visitor of the University, a one man inquiry under Prof. Syed A. Bari, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Gujarat has been instituted to look into the various shortfalls, irregularities and excessive action committed by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) between 20.10.2011 onwards till date.

Pupil-teacher ratio in colleges and universities

830. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the present pupil-teacher ratio (PTR) in colleges and universities in the country *vis-a-vis* PTR necessary at UG level as per UGC norms;
- (b) the reasons for acute faculty shortage in colleges and universities; and
- (c) the remedial measures taken by Government to improve PTR in higher education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) As per the All India Survey on Higher Education for 2012-13 (provisional report), the student-teacher ratio is 1:20 for regular mode of teaching whereas the prescribed student-teacher ratio is, upon averaging across different streams, 1:15 for undergraduate level teaching in higher educational institutions in the country (for post graduate and research students the prescribed ratio is 1:12).

(b) and (c) The main reasons for shortage in the teaching posts are sanction of additional teaching posts in view of the expansion in the Eleventh plan period and increase in intake capacity of students, non-availability of suitable candidates for recruitment in senior teaching positions due to the shortage in the feeder cadres, etc. New and old institutions are logically expected to have a substantial difference in the % filled

posts of teachers. The Ministry of Human Resource Development and the University Grants Commission (UGC) are continually reviewing the faculty shortage in Central Educational Institutions and taking remedial measures. Para 12.2 of the UGC Regulations on minimum qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education 2010 clearly mentions that all the sanctioned/approved posts in the university system shall be filled up on an urgent basis. The UGC has asked the Vice-Chancellors/Directors of UGC funded Central Universities, State Universities and Deemed to be Universities to fill all vacant teaching positions before the start of the next academic session. The age of superannuation for teachers in Central Educational Institutions has been enhanced to sixty five years and the conditions governing mobility of academic staff have been relaxed to enable retention of teachers in these institutions.

UGC has also launched “Operation Faculty Recharge Programme” for augmenting the research and teaching resources of universities to tackle the faculty shortage in university system.

Faculty shortages are more acute in the State universities and colleges. Many States have actually imposed ban on recruitment of regular faculty. In order to address this critical issue along with other issues pertaining to state university system, the Central Government has recently approved Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) with an outlay of ₹22,855 crores. A total of 5000 new faculty positions will be supported under RUSA during Twelfth Five Year Plan.

Setting up of model schools

831. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up 6,000 model schools in educationally backward blocks across the country under the Model School Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of blocks identified for the purpose in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) the number of model schools to be opened in the first phase;

(d) the number of proposals received for setting up model schools under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode under the scheme; and

(e) the steps taken by Government for early implementation of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) The Model School Scheme launched in 2009-10 envisages