

Colleges/Universities to establish Equal Opportunity Centres. The aim and objective of this Scheme is to oversee the effective implementation of policies and programmes for disadvantaged groups, to provide guidance and counselling with respect to academic, financial, social and other matters and to enhance the diversity within the campus.

UGC has also approved establishment of 126 SC/ST cells in various Universities with a view to safeguard the interests of SC/ST students. Other initiatives include provision of Anti Discriminatory faculty advisors for SC/ST students who look into their problems and advise accordingly, appointment of Student Counsellors to address personal, academic, psychological and family related problems, providing sports and extra curricular activities, setting up counselling centres, provision of anxiety helpline, and setting up disciplinary action committee to take urgent action in case of any complaints of reported ragging, discrimination based on caste, creed, religion and gender etc.

Recruitment of staff for Asha project

2169. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data of recruitment of staff for the Asha project during the last one year;
- (b) whether Government is aware that Asha staff are being replaced without any notice in the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS); and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) As far as National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) is concerned, the details of recruitment of staff for ASHA Project for the last one year are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) No Sir, ASHA staff are not being replaced without notice in NIOS. However NIOS engages staff for ASHA Project, if vacancy arises due to resignation or discontinuation of staff abruptly.

Status of ASHA Project

Sl. No.	Name of Region Centre	Name of Candidates	Designation	Present engagement w.e.f.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Gangtok (Sikkim)	Ms. Yashoda Adhikari	State Consultant	27-06-2017
		Ms. Geeta Chettri	Project Assistant cum D.E.O.	27-06-2017
2.	Raipur (Chhattisgarh)	Dr. Omnarayan Tiwari	State Consultant	03-07-2017
		Ms. Ranjana Bunde	Project Assistant cum D.E.O.	03-07-2017
3.	Gandhi Nagar (Gujarat)	Dr. Rujuta D. Bhatpuria	State Consultant	22-05-2017
4.	Agartala (Tripura)	Sh. Manab Karmakar	State Consultant	12-06-2017
		Sh. S. Sekhar Shil	Project Assistant cum D.E.O.	12-06-2017
5.	Dehradun (Uttarakhand)	Ms. Sumedha Attri	State Consultant	10-04-2017
		Sh. Pramod Rawat	Project Assistant cum D.E.O.	03-04-2017
6.	Kolkata (West Bengal)	Sh. Arnab Mandal	State Consultant	12-04-2017
		Sh. Pokhraj Dey	Project Assistant cum D.E.O.	12-04-2017
7.	Delhi	Sh. Anurag Sharma	State Consultant	01-06-2017

1	2	3	4	5
		Sh. Mohit Sharma	Project Assistant cum D.E.O.	03-04-2017
8.	Ranchi (Jharkhand)	Sh. Sant Kumar Pathak	State Consultant	22-05-2017
		Sh. Kunal Kumar Singh	Project Assistant cum D.E.O.	13-04-2017
9.	Chandigarh (Punjab)	Dr. Shivani Sharma	State Consultant	15-05-2017
		Sh. Vikas Kondal	Project Assistant cum D.E.O.	16-06-2017
10.	Guwahati (Assam)	Mr. Apurba Berzuah	State Consultant	01-06-2017
		Ms. Marijjina Rahman	Project Assistant cum D.E.O.	29-05-2017

Regional staff in NIOS

2170. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N.VEGAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data about the recruitment of regional staff in the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) in State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the details of rules related to recruitment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the details about the regional staff located across States, in the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) are given in the Statement.