

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1403
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.03.2018**

Engineering Degrees from Correspondence

1403. SHRI KUNDARIYA MOHAN BHAI KALYANJI BHAI:

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

- (a)** whether the Government has taken note of a recent decision of the Supreme Court (SC) cancelling engineering degrees obtained by students via correspondence courses offered by certain universities;
- (b)** if so, the details thereof;
- (c)** whether the said move would have an adverse impact on the professional career of thousands of students of the countries including in Saurashtra Gujarat and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d)** the responses of the Government thereto and steps being taken to assist such students?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Hon'ble Supreme Court on Special Leave Petition (C) Nos. 19807-19808/2012 has directed that the degrees in engineering awarded to students who were enrolled during the academic years 2001-2005 with the 4-listed Deemed to be Universities shall stand suspended till they pass tests to be conducted under the joint supervision of AICTE – UGC in the manner indicated thereafter. Hon'ble Supreme Court also directed AICTE to devise within one month from the date of the judgment, modalities to conduct the appropriate test/tests both in written examination as well as in practical(s) for the concerned students enrolled during the academic sessions 2001-2005 covering all the concerned subjects in the 4-listed deemed to be Universities. The Degree(s) awarded to students who were enrolled in these Deemed to be Universities after the academic sessions 2001-2005 shall stand recalled and be treated as cancelled. Those students who are not opting for tests will get refund of tuition fees etc. from concerned universities as per the judgment. AICTE in pursuance of the above order constituted a committee to suggest action plan for the implementation of Supreme Court decision and issued Public Notice for the online registration of students who were affected by this decision for appearing in the tests to be conducted by AICTE-UGC likely to be held in the month of May/ June, 2018. The syllabus/ format of the tests as prepared by the committee for different courses has been uploaded on AICTE Web Portal. All NIT Directors have been requested to extend their cooperation for providing infrastructure and expertise for conducting tests in their premises.

(c) & (d) : Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgment has given two chances to students who were enrolled during the academic years 2001-2005 for appearing in the tests and if they clear the tests, all the advantages or benefits shall be restored to the concerned students. However, no relief has been given to students who were enrolled thereafter. AICTE on its part is implementing the decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court in letter and spirit.
