

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2282  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.12.2018

**Online Training Course through SWAYAM**

2282. SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched initiative of online professional development of 1.5 million higher education faculty using Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platform, SWAYAM;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether under its first phase of implementation, 75 discipline-specific National Resource Centres (NRCs) have been identified;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the aim of the Government through this project?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

**(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

(a) to (e) Yes Madam, the Government has launched Annual Refresher Programme in Teaching (ARPIT), a major and unique initiative of online professional development of 15 lakh higher education faculty using the MOOCs platform SWAYAM. For implementing ARPIT, 75 discipline-specific institutions have been identified and notified as National Resource Centres (NRCs) in the first phase, to prepare online training material with focus on latest developments in the discipline, new & emerging trends, pedagogical improvements and methodologies for transacting revised curriculum. The 75 discipline-specific National Resource Centres are located in a mixed range of institutions, such as, Central Universities, IISc, IUCAA, IITs, IISERs, NITs, State Universities under the Ministry's Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNTT); UGC's Human Resource Development Centres (HRDCs), National Institutes for Technical Teachers Training (NITTTRs), IIITs Open Universities. These NRCs cover wide ranging disciplines of Social Sciences, Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Design & Manufacturing, Humanities, Language Teaching, Commerce, Management, Education Planning and Administration, Public

Policy, Leadership & Governance, Library & Information Science, Astronomy & Astrophysics, Assessment and Evaluation, Pedagogy and research methods , cutting edge areas of Nano-sciences, Internet of Things, etc.

The aim of this initiative is to enable all in-service teachers, irrespective of their subject and seniority, to get an opportunity to keep abreast of the latest developments in their disciplines through the technology based online refresher course. The NRCs under ARPIT programe will revolutionize professional development of faculty by catering to massive numbers by leveraging ICT and online technology platform of SWAYAM.

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