GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1454 ANSWERED ON:30.11.2011 LOW EMPLOYABILITY OF GRADUATES Rai Shri Prem Das;Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman

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

(a) whether any major studies have been carried out to determine the reasons of low employability of the graduate students in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any substantive steps have been taken to improve the curriculum and general awareness to improve employability;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether a number of foreign colleges and universities have been/are likely to be set up in India;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to prevent commercialisation of education in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) & (b) Ministry of Human Resource Development has not conducted any such major study. However, as per a study reportedly conducted by the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) & Mckinsey in 2005 and reported in media, only 25% of engineers and 10-15% of graduates are readily employable in offshore IT & BPO industry. However, this study does not categorically establish any concrete percentage of graduates employable across industries and various sectors.

(c) & (d) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified UGC Regulations dated 30-06-2010 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" which are available at the website www.ugc.ac.in. The new regulations aim to ensure quality of teaching and learning in the University system. The Government has also implemented various academic reforms, which include Choice Based Credit System (CBCS), Semester system and continuous updation of curriculum and syllabi. The National Vocational Education Qualifications Framework (NVEQF) provides for common principles and guidelines for a nationally recognized qualification system, covering schools, vocational education institutes and institutes of higher education with qualifications ranging from secondary to doctorate level, in order to address the issue of employability. The framework is a competency based modular approach with provision for credit accumulation and transfer enabling vertical & horizontal mobility of students with multiple entry and exits.

(e) & (f) No information is centrally maintained of foreign universities and their association with domestic educational institutions at present. However All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has formulated regulations for technical education which can be seen at AICTE website www.aicte-india.org/ foreignuniversities.htm. A legislative proposal, namely, The Foreign Educational Institutions (Regulation for Entry and Operations) Bill, 2010 has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 3.5.2010. The proposed legislation seeks to put in place a mechanism to facilitate the entry and regulation of reputed foreign educational institutions, while preventing the entry of those of dubious quality.

(g) A legislative proposal, namely, the Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010 to prohibit and punish unfair practices in higher educational institutions was introduced in Parliament on 3rd May, 2010. The Bill seeks to curb commercialization of education and prevent other unfair practices in higher education.