GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2506
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2012
QUALITY AND STANDARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;De Dr. Ratna;Singh Shri Radha Mohan

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

- (a) the details of initiatives/steps taken by the Government to improve the quality and standard of higher education in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (b) the details of the funds allocated, utilised and unutilised for the purpose during the above period State-wise and year-wise?

Answer

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

(a): The University Grants Commission (UGC) which has the mandate for coordination and determination of standards in higher educational institutions, has been implementing a number of schemes aimed at improvement of quality of higher education in Indian Universities and colleges. It has taken up various measures for educational reforms, such as introduction of Semester System, regular updating of curricula and Choice Based Credit Systems (CBCS) etc, which have been implemented by most of the Central Universities. The UGC has also issued 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" for improving the standards of teaching in Indian Universities. In order to improve quality of teachers and teaching, National Eligibility Test (NET) and State Level Eligibility test (SLET) have been made compulsory requirements, only exception being those who have completed Ph.D in accordance with UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil/Ph.D Degree), Regulations 2009. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), an autonomous body established by the UGC, accredits universities and colleges on various parameters of quality. The National Board of Accreditation (NBA) accredits programmes offered by the technical institutions. The UGC has launched several schemes to improve the standards of education in Universities and colleges. Under these schemes, financial assistance is provided to eligible universities and colleges for creation and upgradation of infrastructural facilities, including Libraries, Laboratories and Hostels and for strengthening of teaching and research. In order to attract best talents in the teaching profession, the Government has notified new pay structure for the University teachers w.e.f 01.01.2006.

The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010, which provides for making accreditation mandatory in order to ensure independent credible quality assurance mechanism for higher educational institutions in the country, has been introduced in Parliament on 3rd May, 2010

(b): The grants are sanctioned by UGC directly to institutions eligible to receive grants under Section 12B of UGC Act. The institution wise details for the last three years are available in the Annual Reports published by UGC and also on the UGC website www.ugc.ac.in