

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:597

ANSWERED ON:27.02.2013

RANKING OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES

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

- (a) Whether the Government is aware that the various Indian universities do not figure in the top 200 educational institutions in the world;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the factors responsible for the above situation;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to introduce a legislation to ensure strict adherence standards and quality of the infrastructure in engineering colleges and technical institutions in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the concrete steps taken by the Government to give a special focus to improve the standard of higher educational institutions ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a): Yes Madam.

(b) & (c): There are several international ranking systems, which use different values, indices and parameters to rank higher educational institutions. These criteria are neither universally accepted nor recognized and are therefore sometimes subject to criticism in academic circles. Some of these parameters may not be relevant for Indian higher educational institutions and therefore, these rankings do not necessarily constitute a valid basis for benchmarking of Indian institutions. For instance, research is given considerable weightage in these rankings, whereas our universities have traditionally been teaching rather than research institutions.