

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6719
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2013
RECOMMENDATIONS OF YASH PAL COMMITTEE
Jindal Shri Naveen

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

(a) whether the Government has accepted the recommendations of the Yash Pal Committee and National Knowledge Commission on the revamp of higher education in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of recommendations of these Committees that have been accepted and the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has accepted many of the recommendations of the Yash Pal Committee (YPC) and the National Knowledge Commission (NKC). The salient recommendations of the YPC included the setting up of the National Commission for Higher Education and Research (NCHER), to replace the existing regulatory bodies including the University Grants Commission (UGC), the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) and the Distance Education Council (DEC), divesting professional bodies of their academic functions and restoring them to the universities, galvanizing research in the universities and establishing a National Education Tribunal with powers to adjudicate on disputes among stake-holders in higher education sector. The salient recommendations of the NKC in its Report to the Nation included the setting up of an Independent Regulatory Authority for Higher Education (IRAHE), the creation of 1500 more universities to attain a Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of 15% by 2015, an increase in public spending on higher education to 1.5% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), creating 50 national universities to provide education of the highest standards through public and private funding, reforming the existing universities and promoting access and equity in universities.

Based on the above recommendation, the Government has introduced the Higher Education and Research Bill in Parliament which seeks to set up an overarching regulatory body in higher education that would subsume the UGC, AICTE, NCTE and DEC and restore academic functions to the universities leaving the professional councils to regulate professional practice. The Government has also introduced the Universities for Research and Innovation Bill in Parliament which seeks to put in place a legislative framework for creating such universities in the public funded, private funded and the public private partnership (PPP) mode. The Educational Tribunals Bill, 2010 has been introduced in Parliament on 03.05.2010 to establish Educational Tribunals.

The UGC has been implementing a number of schemes aimed at the improvement of quality of education in Indian Universities and has taken up various measures for educational reforms, such as the introduction of a semester system, the 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 standard of higher education in Indian Universities. The UGC has also notified the Mandatory Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions Regulations, 2012 which makes it mandatory for higher educational institutions to get themselves assessed and accredited.