

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:46  
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2013  
MUSHROOMING OF NEW UNIVERSITIES  
De Dr. Ratna

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

- (a) the criteria to regulate establishment and functioning of Universities in the country;
- (b) whether any mechanism has been put in place to assess the performance of the existing Universities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/being taken by the Government against those Universities whose performance is not found satisfactory; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check mushrooming of new Universities in the country and to improve the quality of education being imparted in these Universities?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 46 FOR 07.08.2013 ASKED BY DR. RATNA DE (NAG), HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING MUSHROOMING OF NEW UNIVERSITIES.

(a): The Central and the State Governments can establish a University in pursuance of powers under Entry 25 to List III (Concurrent List) and Entry 32 to List II (State List), respectively, of the VIIth Schedule to the Constitution of India. However these powers are subject to provisions in exercise of Entry 66 of List I (Union List) of the VIIth Schedule of the Constitution, which deals with co-ordination and determination of standards in institutions for higher education or research and scientific and technical education.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956, which has been enacted pursuant to Entry 66 of List I of the Constitution of India, defines a University as established or incorporated by or under a Central Act, a Provincial Act or a State Act, and includes any such institution as may, in consultation with the University concerned, be recognised by the Commission in accordance with the regulations made in this behalf under this Act. Further, as per the provisions of Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, Deemed to be Universities are declared by the Government of India, on the advice of the UGC. The UGC (Establishment and maintenance of standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 and the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010 regulate the establishment and operation of Private Universities and Deemed to be Universities respectively.

Further, in exercise of the powers vested with it under Section 12 and 26 of the UGC Act, the UGC has laid down several Regulations in addition to the above mentioned two Regulations, for maintaining the standards in the Universities. These regulations are available on the UGC website, viz- [www.ugc.ac.in](http://www.ugc.ac.in).

The UGC has also specified a list of Degrees for the Purposes of Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956.

(b) & (c) :The UGC has reported that it conducts periodical review of the functioning of the Deemed-to-be- Universities and Private Universities in the country. The UGC, in 2009, conducted a comprehensive review of 124 deemed-to-be-universities with the help of Expert Committees. The reports of the Expert Committees are available at <http://www.ugc.ac.in/subpage/UGC-Expert-Committee-Reports-DU.aspx>. UGC also conducts a comprehensive review of each State University before it is included in Section 2(f) and Section 12B of the UGC Act, 1956.

The Government of India had constituted a Review Committee in 2009 to review the functioning of the existing Deemed-to-be-Universities. The Review Committee categorized 38 Deemed-to-be-Universities in category A (fit to continue), 44 in category B (deficient in some aspects and could rectify those deficiencies within a time frame of three years) and 44 in category C (unfit to continue). The 44 Institutions found unfit have filed cases in Supreme Court and the matter is presently sub-judice.

Private Universities are regulated by the UGC as per provisions contained in the UGC (Establishment and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities), Regulations, 2003. These private universities are inspected by the UGC with the help of concerned Statutory Council(s). Out of the 138 State Private Universities, the UGC Expert Committees have already visited 53 Private Universities. The

reports of UGC visiting Committees are available at <http://www.ugc.ac.in/privateuniversity.aspx>

Apart from the above reviews, the UGC and the Ministry also review the progress made by Central Universities from time to time.

(d): Since the setting up of Universities is through an Act of Parliament/ State Legislature, every proposal for setting up of new Universities in the country undergoes the scrutiny of the Central/ State Legislature.

Quality enhancement and improvement in standards of higher education in all Universities, including new Universities, is an ongoing process. UGC conducts a comprehensive review of each State University before it is included in Section 2(f) and Section 12B of the UGC Act, 1956. The UGC has 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" which sets 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, with the 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 UGC has issued regulations making accreditation mandatory for higher educational institutions.