

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:528

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2013

NEW TECHNICAL COURSES BY NEW UNIVERSITIES

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

- (a) whether the eligibility criteria has been fixed to be followed by private universities in the country to ensure requisite standards in higher education and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has instructed the private universities and deemed to be universities that they can't affiliate any colleges or institutions for conducting courses and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether certain private universities in the country are violating norms of permissible territorial jurisdiction and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the action taken by the UGC against those private universities in the country who have been found operating on their territorial jurisdiction; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in the matter in order to protect the interests of the bonafide students studying in such private universities in the country including Haryana?

Answer

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

- (a): Yes, Madam. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has framed the UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 and all Private Universities in the country are regulated by these Regulations. The Private Universities have to fulfill the minimum criteria in terms of programmes, faculty, infrastructural facilities, financial viability, etc. as laid down from time to time by the UGC/Statutory Bodies to ensure that requisite standards in higher education are met.
- (b): Yes, Madam. The UGC has issued a Public Notice stating that no Private Universities and Deemed-to-be- Universities can affiliate any college or institution for conducting courses leading to award of its diplomas, degrees or other qualifications. As per the provisions of the UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003, a private university shall be a unitary university. As per clause 16.0 of the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010, once an institution is declared as an institution deemed to be a university, it cannot affiliate any other institution to itself.
- (c) & (d): Some complaints have been received against some of the Private Universities for running courses outside their territorial jurisdiction and the UGC is taking action against such universities as and when such violations are noticed, in addition to issuing notices in press and posting on its website. One such notice has recently been issued in case of CMJ University, Shillong which can be seen on www.ugc.ac.in.
- (e): The Government has introduced the Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010 in the Lok Sabha which provides for the prohibition of certain unfair practices in educational institutions to protect the interest of the students admitted to these institutions. It also provides for criminal liability and civil penalties for charging capitation fee or donations. The charging of fees over and above what is declared in the prospectus is also made punishable in the Bill.