

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:562

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2013

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUALITY INSTITUTES OF LEARNING

Hegde Shri. K. Jayaprakash

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that degree holders produced by universities lack adequate skill and there is no focus on development of talent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to overcome such situation and ensure establishment of quality institutes of learning?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The universities and regulatory bodies such as the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) are striving constantly to enhance the skills and talent of graduates in the higher education system. Specific industry skills are acquired either through specific skill courses or on the job. The Government is constantly striving to increase and enhance the vocational and skill oriented courses and programmes in educational institutions.

(c): The Government has issued a notification regarding the implementation of the National Vocational Education Qualifications Framework (NVEQF) on 03.09.2012. The key elements of the NVEQF are to provide: national principles for providing Vocational Education (VE) leading to international equivalency; multiple entry and exit between VE; linkages with general education and job markets; progression within VE; transfer between VE and general education; and partnership with industry/employers. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has also established 16 Centres for Training and Research in Frontier Areas of Science and Technology (FAST), which is based on collaborative activity between a team of high quality researchers in an institution and researchers or research-users in several companies or organizations.

The AICTE has also notified its Grant of Approval for conducting Vocational Education Program, Community College courses and Skill Knowledge Provider under NVEQF Regulations, 2012. The above skill framework addresses the problems of skilled manpower and youth unemployment. Further, the AICTE has also notified curriculum contents for both Skills and Education from level 1 to level VII, leading to a Bachelor's degree in vocational education in 12 sectors. The AICTE has also accorded approval to 29 Skill Knowledge Providers and 349 Institutions to conduct vocational education in polytechnics & other institutions. It has also introduced an Employability Enhancement Training Programme (EETP) with the objective of enhancing the employability of engineering graduates and to make more manpower available with increased soft skills. The AICTE has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR) for the estimation and forecasts of short term and long term requirement of technical manpower in different categories of engineering disciplines, pharmacy, management, architecture and town planning, hotel management and catering technology and other emerging areas related to these disciplines

The UGC has also notified a Bachelor of Vocation degree (B. Voc). The framework provides multiple pathways and exit options after every certificate level so that a student can opt to drop out at any certificate level and be employed at a certain job role within a sector and come back into education if he/ she so desires. The UGC is implementing a scheme of "Career Oriented Courses in Universities and Colleges under which it provides financial assistance to Universities / Colleges for the introduction of career oriented courses at the certificate/diploma/advance diploma levels, which run concurrently with conventional degree courses like Bachelors of Arts /Science/Commerce etc.