

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:133
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2013
ACCREDITATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
Sugumar Shri K.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make accreditation of all higher educational institutions in the country mandatory and if so, the details thereof including the existing methodology of evaluation of programmes run by educational institutes;
- (b) whether the Government/All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) proposes to set up an Indian Board of Accreditation (IBA) for higher education and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether AICTE is overburdened with affiliation applications from thousands of institutes and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to make changes in the existing accreditation policy for higher educational institutions and if so, the details thereof?

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. 133 FOR 14.08.2013 ASKED BY SHRI SUGUMAR K., HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING ACCREDITATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a): Yes, Madam. The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010, (NARAHEI Bill) has been introduced by the Government in the Lok Sabha on 3rd May, 2010. The Bill makes it mandatory for institutions imparting higher education beyond twelve years of schooling to get accredited. The University Grant Commission (UGC) has issued UGC (Mandatory Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012 on 19th January, 2013. As per the Regulations, every Higher Educational Institution (HEI) after 6 years of existence should obtain accreditation. The All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) has also approved Regulations making it mandatory for technical institutions to obtain accreditation.

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), undertakes accreditation of HEIs. It follows an institutional accreditation methodology. The NAAC has identified seven criteria to serve as the basis for assessment of HEIs viz. Curricular aspects; Teaching-Learning and Evaluation; Research, Consultancy and Extension; Infrastructure and Learning Resources; Student Support and Progression; Governance and Leadership; and Innovative Practices. More details are available at <http://www.naac.gov.in>.

The National Board of Accreditation (NBA) undertakes evaluation of programmes of technical education through the process of programme accreditation. As per the procedure laid down by the NBA, the applicant institution will make self assessment of its programmes, in the prescribed format, and after paying the prescribed accreditation fee, submit the application for programme accreditation to NBA. The Educational Institution offering the programmes to be accredited should be formally approved/recognized as an educational Institution by the concerned Regulatory Authority. Programme from which at least two batches of students have graduated are considered for accreditation.

Programmes are evaluated by NBA in accordance with the following accreditation criteria, namely:

vision, mission and programme educational objectives; programme outcomes; student's performance in the programme; faculty contribution; facility and technical support; academic support units and teaching-learning process; governance, institutional support and financial resources; and continuous improvement in attainment of outcomes. Accreditation is based on satisfying the minimum standards. More details on programme accreditation are available at www.nbaind.org.

(b): The AICTE in its 30th Council meeting held on 30.10.2012 resolved to set up the Indian Board of Accreditation (IBA) for technical education. The proposed objective of the IBA is to assess and accredit the Technical Institutions and/or institutions of technical and professional education or one or more of their units, i.e. departments, institutions, programmes, etc.

(c): The powers to affiliate colleges rest with the Universities. The AICTE is only responsible for giving approval to technical courses and programmes.

As per the report of the AICTE, out of 288 applications received by it in 2013-14 for setting up of new Technical Institutions, for offering Under Graduate/Post Graduate/ Post Graduate Diploma in Management courses, it has granted approvals for setting up of 85 new institutions. Similarly, out of 290 applications received by it in 2013-14 for setting up of new Technical Institutions, for offering Diploma courses, it has granted approvals for setting up of 85 new institutions.

In order to handle the load of approvals, the AICTE had introduced e-Governance approval process for greater transparency, clarity, easier and assured communication, fast processing and facility for tracking of application by the applicant. Emphasis is being laid on self declaration by Institutions rather than inspection through the e-Governance process.

(d): Yes, Madam. As per the NARAHEI Bill, 2010, introduced by the Government in the Lok Sabha, institutions imparting higher education beyond twelve years of schooling are to be mandatorily accredited.