GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:84 ANSWERED ON:11.12.2013 CAMPUSES OF FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES Anandan Shri K.Murugeshan;Virendra Kumar Shri

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to allow foreign universities to set up their campuses in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the benefits likely to accrue to the education sector as a result of the entry and operation of these foreign university campuses and the mechanism put in place to regulate the operation of these university campuses in the country;

(d) whether his Ministry has sent proposals to the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotions and the Department of Economic Affairs to permit foreign universities to open their campuses in the country as provided under the Companies Act; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reactions of the above Departments thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 84 FOR 11th DECEMBER, 2013 ASKED BY SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR AND SHRI M. ANANDAN, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING CAMPUSES OF FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES.

(a) & (b): The Government has prepared the University Grants Commission (UGC) (Establishment and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Educational Institutions) Rules, 2013. Under the proposed Rules, Foreign Educational Institutions (FEIs) can set up campuses in India once the FEIs have been notified as Foreign Education Provider (FEPs) by the UGC, subject to fulfilment of certain eligibility conditions.

(c): The Rules would ensure that only high quality foreign educational institutions are permitted to set up campuses and offer education services in the country, since only the top 400 institutions as per global rankings would be eligible to open campuses in the country. Existence of high quality FEIs would contribute to enhancing existing capacity of higher education system; arresting the brain drain and drain of resources from the country; availability of education and research facilities of international standards; quality gains in Indian higher educational institutions through collaborations and partnerships etc. This would also facilitate higher investments in the higher education system including Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the higher education system. Indian students would be benefitted with the entry and operation of FEPs through access to globally renowned and quality academic institutions in Indian higher education system. These FEPs would also add to the existing capacity in higher education in India.

(d) & (e): Yes, Sir. The Ministry had sought comments and observations of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) and the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) on the Rules. Both DIPP and DEA have supported the proposal.