

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2108
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013
FUNCTIONING OF UNIVERSITIES
Rajendran Shri C.

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

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any criteria to set up and regulate the Universities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has recently represented to the court about the deficiencies found in the functioning of some Universities, including the Government-run Universities and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the performance of such Universities?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. A University can be set up either through a State Act or a Central Act or conferred with the deemed-to-be-university status under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956. Central Universities were set up during the XIth Plan on the basis of ensuring at least one Central University in each state.

The UGC has notified and prepared Regulations to regulate private universities and deemed-to-be-universities viz. the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulation, 2010 and UGC (Establishment and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003. In addition, the UGC has also issued Regulations relating to minimum standards in all universities.

(c): No Sir. However, the Government had filed a counter affidavit in Hon'ble Supreme Court in Viplav Sharma Case [W.P.(c) No.142 of 2006] appraising the Court of the deficiencies pointed out by the Review Committee in respect of 44 Category C institutions Deemed to be Universities on 18.01.2010 and 24.02.2010. In response to the above two affidavits, 25 institutions deemed to be universities have raised objections and the Government has filed its reply on 24.06.2013. These 44 institutions, as per the review conducted by the Expert Committee, neither on past performance nor on their promise for the future, have the attributes to retain their status as Institutions deemed to be universities. The matter is at present sub-judice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Three deemed-to-be-universities that were found to be deficient were publicly funded.

(d): The matter is at present sub-judice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.