

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3515
ANSWERED ON:12.02.2014
SHORTAGE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that just 7 per cent of the total students who enrolled themselves for higher education become professionals in the country;
- (b) if so, whether there is a shortage of good quality Government educational institutions in the country;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that higher education has spread rapidly in the country but most of the students are not suitable for employment and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which all educational institutions will have good ranking to meet the expectations of the market?

Answer

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

(a): No, Madam. However, as per the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) provisional statistics for the year 2011-12, the all India enrolment for higher education at the under-graduate level was 2,25,54,842, out of which about 33% was in technical and professional programmes such as Engineering & Technology, Information Technology & Computers, Management, Education, Medical Science and Law. The choice as to whether to become a professional in the field or to go for higher education or another programme/employment rests ultimately with the student.

(b) & (c): No, Madam. During the 11th Plan, the Central Government has created 16 new Central Universities, 8 new Indian Institute of Technology (IITs), 7 new Indian Institute of Management (IIMs), 10 new National Institute of Technology (NITs) and 5 Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISERs) to ensure that students do not migrate abroad for lack of capacity in premier educational institutions. During the 12th Plan, the Ministry of Human Resource Development has also launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely the Rashtriya Uchhatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) for improving access, equity and quality in the State higher education system. The RUSA provides for the capacity enhancement of existing institutions and the creation of new ones..

(d): In order to make students readily employable, universities in the country have launched various initiatives, which include institutionalised industry-academia-research laboratory interface. The UGC has been implementing "Career Oriented Courses" programmes since 2003-04. It has also recently notified Bachelor in Vocational Education (B.Voc) as a graduate degree. The National Vocational Education Qualifications Framework (NVEQF) have been notified, which provides for common principles and guidelines for a nationally recognized qualification system, covering schools, vocational education institutes and institutes of higher education with qualifications ranging from secondary to doctorate level, in order to address the issue of employability.

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has reported that it updates curriculum with the active participation of industry through the Industry Institute partnership programme. The All India Board for Undergraduate education and Post Graduate education studies have representatives of industry and have recently completed the model curriculum in various disciplines. To enhance the employability of engineering students, the AICTE also implements various schemes such as Finishing Schools for students, Innovation Programme schemes etc.

(e): While it is true that many Indian institutions do not figure significantly in the international rankings, the Government has taken concrete steps to ensure that the independent quality assurance framework is made mandatory through compulsory assessment and accreditation. The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010, which provides for making accreditation mandatory in order to ensure independent credible quality assurance mechanism for higher educational institutions, has been introduced in Parliament on 3rd May, 2010. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has also notified the Mandatory Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions Regulations, 2012 which makes it mandatory for higher educational institutions to get themselves assessed and accredited. The UGC (Promotion & Maintenance of Standards of Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012 have been approved by the UGC in order to raise standard of higher education in Indian universities by collaborating with the best institutions in the world. The UGC has implemented various academic reforms, which include Choice Based Credit System (CBCS), Semester system and continuous updation of curriculum and syllabi. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has also approved the Regulations to make

accreditation mandatory for technical educational institutions.