

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2886
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2014
MOUS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES
Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao

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

- (a) whether the Government has asked the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to find out the educational institutes making false claims of their tie-ups with foreign universities and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether several universities, educational institutions, schools and vidyalaya sangthan in the country have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the foreign countries without the prior permission of Ministry of External Affairs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) the details of instructions issued by the Government for partnerships in education;
- (e) the action taken by the Government against these educational institutions; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of students?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): The Central Government has conveyed its concurrence to the University Grants Commission (Promotion and Maintenance of Standards of Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012 under which any Indian Educational Institution (IEI) can enter into a collaboration with a Foreign Educational Institution (FEI) for academic purposes, including twinning arrangement leading to the award of degree. The University Grants Commission (UGC) is required to maintain, in public interest, a list of all collaborations approved by the Commission on its website at www.ugc.ac.in. As of now, the UGC has not approved any collaboration under these regulations.

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) also maintains the details of approved collaborations and twinning programmes, as per its approval process for Technical Institutions, at its website at http://www.aicte-india.org/downloads/Foreign_Institute/Foreign%20Collaboration.pdf#toolbar=0. The list of Technical Institutions claiming collaborations with Foreign Universities but not having AICTE approval is available on the website of AICTE at http://www.aicte-india.org/downloads/consolidated_list_of_unapproved_institutions_05.12.2013.pdf#toolbar=0.

(b) & (c): Foreign collaborations by Indian Higher Educational Institutions are regulated by the UGC Regulations and the AICTE approval process for general and technical higher educational institutions, respectively.

Regarding school education, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) and Goethe Institute-Max Mueller Bhavan was not approved for renewal by this Ministry and the matter was remitted back to the KVS for consideration of the Board of Governors (BoG) de novo so as to align it with the provisions of the National Policy on Education, 1968 and the National Curriculum Framework, 2005 relating to three language formula. The BoG of KVS at its 99th meeting held on 27.10.2014 has decided that German can be taught to such students of class VI to VIII as an additional subject or hobby class, if they so desire, but not as third language, and there should be no violation of NPE and NCF relating to the Three Language Formula.

(d) to (f): The AICTE has informed that it has taken following steps to safeguard the interest of students pursuing studies in unapproved institutions:

a. A list of institutions running technical programme without prior approval of AICTE has been placed on the website at <http://www.aicte-india.org/misunapprovedinstitutions.php> to safeguard the interest of the students pursuing studies in those institutions.

b. Public Notices have been issued in all leading newspapers cautioning the students not to take admissions in such unapproved institutions for the benefit of all Stakeholders.

c. Notices have been issued to unapproved institutions available on record of AICTE for closing the technical programmes being run without its prior approval and to apply for seeking approval as per laid down procedure. The copy of the Notice is also endorsed to

concerned state authorities for information and for taking necessary action.

The UGC also issues, before the start of an academic session, advisories to parents and students cautioning them not to take admissions in unapproved institutions.