

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:273
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2015
SURVEY ON RANKING OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES
Rathod Shri Dipsinh Shankarsinh

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

- (a) whether the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has conducted any survey on ranking of Indian Universities;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the said survey including the modalities adopted by the NAAC in this regard; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the standard of higher education in the country including Gujarat?

Answer

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

(a) & (b):No, Madam. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has reported that it has not conducted any such survey.

(c):The Ministry of Human Resource Development had launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) namely Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) which seeks to improve overall quality of existing State higher educational institutions by ensuring their conformity to prescribed norms and standards and adoption of accreditation as a mandatory quality assurance framework. RUSA is incentivizing State Governments to reform affiliating system, governance and academic and examination system in State higher educational institutions. The total outlay for RUSA for the 12th Plan is Rs. 22,855 crores.

The Project Approval Board of RUSA has approved infrastructure grants for five universities and thirty five colleges, two new professional colleges and grants for faculty improvement, vocationalization of higher education and equity initiatives in higher educational institutions in Gujarat.

The UGC supports access & expansion by financing development of the Central Universities, recognition of new State Universities and Colleges, regulation of private and deemed to be universities and establishment of Community Colleges. The UGC conducts inspection of private universities. These Private Universities are also inspected by the UGC with the help of Expert Committees, constituted by the UGC, which includes representatives from the concerned Statutory Council(s), to check their compliance with the laid down regulations and gives them opportunity for rectification of defects and non- conformity with the regulations.

The UGC has notified several regulations with the objective of sustenance and improvement in the quality of higher education and for undertaking academic reforms. The regulations are on the following matters, namely: mandatory assessment and accreditation of higher educational institutions; affiliation of colleges by universities; regulation of private and deemed to be universities; minimum qualifications for appointment of teachers; minimum standards for grant of first degree, Master's degree, M.Phil/Ph.D; grievance redressal; promotion of equity; curbing the menace of ragging etc. The regulations are available at [http://www.ugc.ac.in/ page/UGC-Regulations.aspx](http://www.ugc.ac.in/page/UGC-Regulations.aspx).

The UGC also laid down a list of Degrees specified for the Purposes of Section 22 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956. No other degree can be granted by a University/College and Institutions empowered to grant degrees by an Act of Parliament.

In order to encourage research and development in the country, UGC has laid out schemes, awards, fellowships, chairs and programmes under which financial assistance is provided to institutions of higher education as well as faculty members working therein to undertake quality research covering areas of knowledge across disciplines including revival & promotion of indigenous languages. These schemes are the following, namely:Universities with Potential for Excellence (UPE); Centre with Potential for Excellence in Particular Area: (CPEPA); Special Assistance Programme (SAP); Research Projects; Basic Science Research; JRF & Non-NET Fellowships; post doctoral fellowship for young Indian scholars for international collaborative research opportunities, etc. The UGC has established seven Inter University Centres in the country for providing common facilities, services and programmes for universities in general.

The UGC has also informed that it has launched the following schemes for making higher education relevant to the needs of the society and industry, namely: Career Oriented Programmes (COC), Community Colleges (CC) and introduction of degrees in vocational subjects in line with National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF). The UGC, through collaboration with National Mission on Education thought ICT (NMEICT), has undertaken e-content development of post graduate programmes called e-PG Pathashala.