

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3666
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2015
GUIDELINES FOR GOVERNMENT UNIVERSITIES
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has framed any guidelines for setting up and regulating/monitoring the operational efficiencies of government universities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware about the deficiencies found in the functioning of some universities, including the government run universities and if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. As per section 2(f) of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956, "University" can be established or incorporated by or under a Central Act or a State Act. The UGC maintains a list of universities, established and incorporated as per Section 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956, on its website at www.ugc.ac.in. The name of a University is included in this list, by the UGC, after the university concerned furnishes the Act and Notification, establishing that University.

Co-ordination and determination of standards in institutions for higher education or research and scientific and technical education is vested with the Union as Entry 66 of List I (Union List) of the VIth Schedule of the Constitution. Accordingly, the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956, which has been enacted pursuant to Entry 66 of List I of the Constitution of India, has set up the UGC for provision for co-ordination and determination of standards in Universities. In exercise of the powers vested with it under Section 12 and 26 of the UGC Act, 1956, the UGC has laid down several Regulations for maintaining standards in Universities. These Regulations are available on the UGC website at <http://www.ugc.ac.in/page/UGC-Regulations.aspx>.

Quality assurance of Universities and Colleges has been made mandatory as per the UGC (Mandatory Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012. The result of such accreditation, including of public funded universities, is available in the public domain through the website of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and the National Board of Accreditation (NBA). The UGC provides financial assistance to only those Universities which are included in the list of Universities under Section 12 B of the UGC Act, 1956. To include Universities in this list, visits are conducted by UGC Expert Committees to verify the infrastructure and other facilities available with the State Universities. The Universities are asked to comply with the deficiencies pointed out by the UGC Expert Committees before they are included in the list of Universities under Section 12 B. Further, on the spot visits are conducted by the UGC with the help of Expert Committees to ensure that the Universities maintain the standards of teaching, research and qualities in higher education.

Institutions Deemed to be Universities are regulated by the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010 and its amended version in the year 2014 and 2015. A provision has been made in these regulations to review the status of these Institutions. These reviews are conducted by the UGC with the help of Expert Committees. Institutions Deemed to be Universities are asked to submit compliance reports in respect of the deficiencies pointed out by the UGC Expert Committees. These institutions can be reviewed by the UGC after a period of every 5 years or earlier, if necessary.

Private Universities are regulated by UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003.

(c) & (d): At present, there are 204 Private Universities in the Country. Out of this, the UGC has already inspected 108 Private Universities with the help of Expert Committees. These Committees visited Universities to ascertain fulfilment of criteria by these Universities in terms of programmes, faculty, infrastructural facilities, financial viability, etc. These Universities are asked to rectify the deficiencies pointed out by UGC Expert Committees and submit compliance report to the UGC. The report and compliance are posted on UGC website i.e. www.ugc.ac.in.

Further, The Government of India had constituted a Review Committee in 2009 to review the functioning of the existing Deemed-to-be-Universities. The Review Committee categorized 38 Deemed-to-be-Universities in category A (fit to continue), 44 in category B (deficient in some aspects and could rectify those deficiencies within a time frame of three years) and 44 in category C (unfit to continue). The 44 Institutions found unfit have filed cases in Supreme Court and the matter is presently sub-judice.

Apart from the above reviews, the UGC and the Ministry also review the progress made by Central Universities from time to time.