GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2552 ANSWERED ON:05.08.2015 Commercialisation of Education Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

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

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed its various steps taken to check the growing trend of commercialisation of education;
- (b) if so, outcome thereof; and
- (c) the time when the last review was made?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c): It has been stressed in the National Policy on Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992) as well as in several judicial pronouncements that education is a not-for-profit activity and commercialization of education is to be avoided. The Policy envisages that in the interest of maintaining standards and for several other valid reasons, the commercialization of technical and professional education will be curbed. At present, private sector participation exists in the funding and management of educational institutions as long as surplus earned is reasonable and the same is ploughed back for development of institution. The Government has taken several initiatives to curb the commercialization of education. Section 13 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 clearly prohibits the collection of any capitation fee. Similar steps have been taken in higher education. UGC has issued several regulations, such as; UGC Establishment and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities, 2003; UGC (Institutions Deemed-to-be Universities) Regulations, 2010 and UGC Institutions Deemed-to-be Universities (Amendment) Regulations, 2014. Further, the UGC has issued the UGC (Grievance Redressal) Regulations, 2012 and AICTE has issued the AICTE (Establishment of Mechanism for Grievance Redressal) Regulations, 2012. These regulations provide for redressal of grievances including cases where money has been demanded in excess of what is specified in the declared admission policy or approved by the competent authority to be charged by institutions. Both the regulations provide for the resolution of grievances through ombudsmen. Presently, the Government has already initiated the consultation process of formulating a New Education Policy.
