

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3956

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2014

RANKING OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES IN ASIA

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

- (a) whether the Indian Universities have listed amongst the top 100 Universities in Asia as per Times Higher Education Asia University Ranking 2014;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the names of Indian Universities which have featured in the said list and the reaction of the Government;
- (c) the norms/parameters adopted by them for the purpose; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the standard and the quality education imparted by the Indian Universities?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): Nine Indian universities or institutions of national importance have been listed amongst the top 100 Universities in Asia as per the Times Higher Education Asia University Ranking 2014. These are Punjab University, Chandigarh, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur; IIT Kanpur; IIT Delhi; IIT Roorkee; IIT Guwahati; Jadavpur University, Kolkata; Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh and Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

While figuring in the top universities in Asia or the world may be a desirable objective, Government policy focuses not just on the qualitative aspects of higher education but access, equity and inclusion as well.

(c): As per information available on the Times Higher Education website at <http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/world-university-rankings/2013-14/regional-ranking/region/asia/methodology>, the following parameters are adopted by them for ranking universities – (i) Teaching: learning environment (30%), (ii) Research: volume, income and reputation (30%), (iii) Citations: research influence (30%), (iv) Industry income: innovation (2.5%) International outlook: staff, students and research (7.5%).

(d): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken various measures for educational reforms, such as the introduction of a semester system, the regular updating of curricula and Choice Based Credit Systems (CBCS), etc. The UGC has also issued Regulations on "Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education, 2010" for improving the standard of teaching in Indian Universities. The UGC has also issued the Mandatory Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions, Regulations, 2012 whereby all eligible higher Educational institutions are required to get themselves accredited.

The UGC also implements various schemes aimed at improving the quality of higher education, such as Universities with Potential for Excellence (UPE), Colleges with Potential for Excellence (CPE), Special Assistance Programme (SAP), Basic Scientific Research (BSR) etc. The Department of Science and Technology, through its programme "Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence" (PURSE), Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE), Fund for the Improvement of S&T Infrastructure in Higher Educational Institutions (FIST) etc. provides support to the universities essentially for research, staffing costs, augmentation of equipment and computational facilities, research consumables and maintenance of the facilities etc.

The Central Government has launched Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme which aims 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.