

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3848  
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2015  
Dual Degree Course  
Nishank Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal

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

- (a) whether the private universities have to take permission from the Government for running common curriculum or dual degree course in collaboration with the foreign universities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of universities running such degree courses;
- (c) whether the universities can provide education through correspondence mode anywhere;
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for improvement in distance education system; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to set up the virtual university in future and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (b): No, Madam. However, the University Grants Commission (UGC) (Promotion and Maintenance of Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Education Institutions) Regulations, 2012 provide for collaboration between (i) all Foreign Education Institutions (FEI) operating in India; and (ii) Indian Educational Institutions (IEI). Under these regulations, the collaborating institutions i.e. FEI and IEI, can enter into an MoU with each other after getting approval from UGC. At present there is no provision for awarding dual degrees under these regulations.

(c) & (d): The Universities are not allowed to offer education through correspondence mode everywhere, and must abide by the University Grants Commission (UGC) policy on territorial jurisdiction notified on 27th June, 2013. The provisions under the UGC policy are as under:

(i) A Central or State Government Universities can conduct courses through its own departments, its constituents colleges and/or through its affiliated colleges.

(ii) A University established or incorporated by or under a State Act shall operate only within the territorial jurisdiction allotted to it under its Act and in no case beyond the territorial jurisdiction of State.

(iii) The Private Universities and Deemed to be Universities cannot affiliate any college or institution for conducting courses leading to award of its diplomas, degrees or other qualifications.

(iv) No University, whether Central, State, Private or Deemed, can offer its programmes through franchise arrangement with Private Coaching Institutions even for the purpose of conducting courses through distance mode.

(e) No, Madam.

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