

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2525

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2016

Reconstitution of UGC

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of private institutions driven by commercial interests have entered the higher education sector in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether at time, the private institutions have not been able to maintain the prescribed standards in the field and if so, the number of such cases which have come to the cognizance of the Government during the last year;
- (c) whether the Government has received complaints that the entire functioning of the University Grants Commission (UGC) was being directed towards giving grants rather than implementing the minimum standards of functioning and regulation of higher educational institutions;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has proposed to reconstitute the UGC and if so, the details thereof and the time by which UGC is likely to be constituted?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Dr. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)

(a): Education in India is not regarded as a commercial activity and all educational institutions have to be set up in the "not for profit" mode. Universities & affiliated colleges and Deemed to be Universities have to be set up as "not for profit" institutions for operating in the private sector. Fee Fixation Committees have been set up by the State Governments, which are fixing fee for all professional and technical courses.

(b): Private Universities in the country are regulated by the UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003. The regulations are available at http://www.ugc.ac.in/oldpdf/regulations/establishment_maintenance.pdf. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified these regulations to monitor Private Universities. On the spot visits are conducted by the UGC with the help of Expert Committees to ensure that these Universities maintain the standards of teaching and research in higher education.

Out of the total 243 Private Universities, the UGC has already inspected 146 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.

UGC has taken the following action on receipt of complaints against Private Universities:

- (i) UGC team visited CMJ University, Meghalaya and submitted its report. The report was sent to the State Government. The State Government of Meghalaya decided to dissolve the University.
- (ii) UGC team visited EILM University and recommended dissolution of the University. The state cabinet decided to dissolve the University.
- (iii) Public Notices issued to inform students not to take admissions in EILM University and Jodhpur National University.

(c) to (e):The Government had constituted a Review Committee headed by Dr. Hari Gautam, former Chairman UGC to review the working of the UGC. The Committee had submitted its report. There is no proposal to reconstitute the UGC. The process of reforms has already been initiated in the UGC. Significant funding reforms and regulatory reforms have been undertaken with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of regulatory mechanisms of the UGC.
