

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5073  
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2014  
REGULATOR FOR EDUCATION REFORMS  
Adsul Shri Anandrao

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to appoint a regulator to implement the education reforms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in the matter?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): The University Grant Commission (UGC) is a statutory body established in 1956 through the UGC Act, 1956, under Entry 66, List-I of Schedule VII of the Constitution, for the purpose of funding as well as coordinating, determination and maintenance of quality standards in higher education or research in higher educational institutions and the scientific and technical institutions. The mandate of the UGC includes maintenance of standards of higher education, setting standards of curriculum, teaching evaluation and research in universities and colleges, monitoring developments in higher education, disbursing funds to institutions and serving as a link between various agencies of the Central and State Governments. The UGC is specifically mandated to take, in consultation with the Universities or other bodies concerned, all such steps as it may think fit for the promotion and co-ordination of University education and for the determination and maintenance of standards of teaching, examination and research in Universities. While discharging its mandate, the UGC also has to take into account the Rules framed by the Central Government, the Regulations notified by the Commission and the policy framework, as expressed in the National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986. It can issue advisories and directives to Universities for breach of its Rules, Regulations and the NPE. It is also mandated to undertake inspections of Universities and Colleges for ensuring compliance with the norms and standards laid down by it.

Education reforms is a continuous process and as a part of this exercise, UGC has made the accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions mandatory, issued regulations for affiliation of colleges to Universities, maintaining standards in Deemed and Private Universities, laid down the minimum qualifications for appointment to teaching positions, minimum standards for grant of first degree, Master's degree, M.Phil / Ph.D degree, etc for enhancing quality and access in higher education. The UGC has also laid down regulations for promotion of equity and grievance redressal in higher educational institutions.

Further, the Central Government is implementing the Rashtriya Uchhatar Siksha Abhiyan during the XIth Plan to incentivise reforms in the state higher educational institutions.