

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:47

ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014

CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES

Charitra Shri Ram;Thota Shri Narasimham

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

(a) whether suggestions have been received from various quarters to frame guidelines for common admission and curriculum, student and faculty mobility as well as a national system of credit transfers in order to create uniformity among Central Universities and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has constituted a committee comprising of Vice Chancellors (VCs) of Central Universities to frame the norms/guidelines including drawing up a new vision for higher education in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to evolve as national ranking system of Central Universities and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for bringing transparency and uniformity among Central Universities?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 47 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.11.2014 ASKED BY SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD AND SHRI NARASIMHAM THOTA, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, REGARDING CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES.

(a) to (d): During the Retreat of Vice Chancellors of Central Universities, chaired by Hon'ble HRM on 12th & 13th September, 2014 at Chandigarh, the matters of common admission and curriculum, student and faculty mobility as well as a national system of credit transfers in order to create uniformity among Central Universities, were discussed with Vice Chancellors of all Central Universities. Thereafter, the two Working Groups consisting of Vice Chancellors were constituted for furnishing their reports on:-

(1) To frame the guidelines on:-

- a. Common admission
- b. Common curriculum
- c. Student mobility
- e. Faculty mobility
- f. National System of Credit Transfer

(2) To develop a framework for the National Ranking System.

The reports of these working groups are still to be submitted.

A Committee was earlier constituted to prepare a Single draft Bill for administration of all Central Universities under the purview of UGC. The Committee perused the laws governing the 39 Central Universities and carefully noted the provisions of each of such laws and held detailed deliberations thereon. This Committee has already furnished their report to this Ministry. The Committee felt that there are some provisions in certain Central Universities which can be made applicable to all Central Universities because they would accelerate the standards of Academics, Development of Research and improvement in Administration and bring transparency therein. It was also felt that such provisions found in certain Central Universities Act, (including those governed by the Central Universities Act, 2009) may be incorporated in the uniform law. Single Act for Central Universities has already been circulated to all Central Universities for inviting their suggestions during the Retreat of Vice Chancellors of Central Universities, chaired by Hon'ble HRM on 12th & 13th September, 2014 at Chandigarh. The suggestions from most of Central Universities are to be received.

However, to enhance efficiency and excellence in the higher education system, UGC has recently issued guidelines on adoption of grading system to mitigate the diversity in evaluation system followed by different Universities and proposes to introduce Choice Based Credit System from the next Academic Session for seamless mobility of students across Central Universities.

To increase the transparency in the higher education and to make the students aware of the facilities available in colleges, a website has been launched called "Know Your College" from where any student or their parents can know the details of courses, laboratories, faculty, library, availability of hostels, status of Ombudsman and anti ragging facilities etc available in the college selected. This helps a prospective student and parents to make an informed decision.