

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3941  
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2014  
DEEMED UNIVERSITY STATUS TO A HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION  
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether granting deemed-to-be university status to a higher educational institution is the prerogative of the University Grants Commission (UGC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to strip the UGC of its aforesaid powers and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the High Court of Karnataka has recently ordered that the aforesaid power of the UGC is unconstitutional and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) whether the Supreme Court has sought the opinion of the Government on the aforesaid issue and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

(a):&(b) No, Madam. An institution which intends to acquire Deemed to be University status submits its proposal to the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Ministry in turn forwards the proposal to the University Grants Commission (UGC) for examination and recommendation in accordance with the procedures laid down under the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010. The UGC, after due deliberation, forwards the recommendation to the Ministry. The Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, declares an Institution as Deemed to be University. The Central Government consults the UGC on account of the Commission being an expert body. The Central Government is, however, not bound to act in accordance with the advice of the UGC.

(c): Does not arise.

(d) The Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in its order dated 22nd May, 2014 quashed the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010. Government has filed its appeal in the High Court of Karnataka and Transfer Petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The matter is currently sub-judice.

(e): No, Madam.