GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 16
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2022

Regulation of ed-tech sector

16. SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:
SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue generated from registered ed-tech companies in the country since 2019 till date;
(b) whether Government intends to introduce a specialised policy framework for the regulation of the ed-tech sector in the country;
(c) if so, the details thereof including the estimated timeline for the release of this policy and if not, the reasons therefor;
(d) whether Government is working with other Ministries to ensure a comprehensive policy that addresses concerns of predatory marketing, data security, consumer protection, etc.; and
(e) if so, the details of the Ministries/Departments being consulted and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (e) In order to safeguard against the exploitative practices of ed-tech companies, the Government has issued advisory which includes do's and don'ts for the stakeholders. It has also reiterated legal provisions for e-commerce firms for information to citizens who are consumers of ed-tech services. The details may be seen at https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1784582

UGC has notified regulations for offering full-fledged online programme by the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). These regulations, inter-alia, include eligibility conditions, recognition process for offering online programmes, maintenance of infrastructural, academic and other quality standards by HEIs. It prohibits franchise arrangement with private sector and the ownership of offering online programmes shall be that of HEIs only.

UGC and AICTE have also issued public notices advising the students to check the recognition /entitlement status of the programme on official website before enrolling for any course.

*****