

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 499
ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024

Regulating EdTech sector

499 SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of measures being taken by Government to regulate the EdTech sector in the country;
- (b) the progress made in this regard;
- (c) whether Government is taking/intends to take measures to deal with the cyber threats as well as privacy related concerns in this respect; and
- (d) if so, the proposed measures to be taken in this respect?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) To ensure safeguard of interest of various stakeholders with respect to services offered by EdTech sector, Ministry of Education had issued a public advisory on 23rd December, 2021 which includes dos and don'ts for the stakeholders. It has also reiterated that the legal provisions for e-commerce firms (which were notified by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs)) that apply to all companies including EdTech. The details may be seen at <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1784582>.

To regulate standards of instruction for the grant of degrees at the undergraduate and post graduate levels and grant of post graduate diploma, through Open and Distance Learning mode and Online mode, UGC has notified University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 on 04th September, 2020. Details of regulations are available at <https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/221580.pdf>. These regulations prohibit franchise arrangement with private sector and the ownership of offering online programmes shall be that of HEIs only.

Further UGC and AICTE have issued public notices on 16th January, 2022 advising the students to check recognition/entitlement status of programme on official website before enrolling any course. The notice may be seen at https://deb.ugc.ac.in/pdf/UGC_Public_Notice_16-01-2022.pdf.

To create awareness among parents and students, The PRAGYATA guideline have been published by Department of School Education & Literacy to create awareness about right use of digital technologies in education and prepare the youth for cyber threats (https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/announcement/PRAGYATA_Guidelines_for_Digital_Education_4.pdf)
