

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2609
ANSWERED ON- 18/12/2024

UGC

2609 Shri Ramji Lal Suman:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that UGC Act regulates the Indian Universities and whether Foreign Universities is mentioned any where in UGC Act, if so, the specific provision may be indicated;
- (b) if not specific provision exists, whether a general provision for Indian Universities be extended to Foreign Universities;
- (c) whether Foreign Universities are a threat to Indian Universities in terms of faculty and students retention; and
- (d) the manner in which the interest of students coming from marginalised sections will be safeguarded and their participation will be ensured in Foreign Universities operating in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (c): Clause (j) of section 12 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 stipulates that the Commission may perform such other functions as may be prescribed or as may be deemed necessary by the Commission for advancing the cause of higher education in India or as may be incidental or conducive to the discharge of its functions. Further, section 26 of the UGC Act, 1956 empowers the Commission to make regulations consistent with the Act and the rules made thereunder.

Accordingly, the UGC has notified the University Grants Commission (Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India) Regulations, 2023 in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (j) of section 12 read with clauses (f) and (g) of sub-section (1) of section 26 of the UGC Act, 1956.

(d): The Foreign Higher Educational Institutions (FHEIs) may provide full or partial need-based scholarships and fee concession to Indian students to study at their campuses. Further, FHEIs shall have a mechanism to address students' grievances. However, the students may appeal to UGC if the FHEI does not redress their grievances.
