

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3541  
ANSWERED ON 02/04/2025**

**Funding gap**

**3541 Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal:**

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

- (a) measures taken by Government to bridge the funding gap, and whether there will be an increase in the budget allocation for education in the upcoming fiscal year;
- (b) the mechanisms ensured for better Governance and accountability in publicly funded Universities, and how are issues of corruption or mismanagement being addressed;
- (c) the details of timeline and strategies of Government to improve these critical resources; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to ensure that regulatory oversight maintains education quality and prevents commercialization at the cost of academic standards?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) Government of India is committed towards improving the access, equity and quality in Higher Education and a number of Schemes have been implemented for this. Under PM USHA, financial assistance is provided to selected public funded universities and colleges of the States/UTs Government for improving quality of education. PM Uchchatar Shiksha Protsahan (PM-USP) Yojana provides financial assistance to meritorious students from economically weaker section. PM-Vidyalaxmi scheme, which has been launched recently, seeks to provide financial support to meritorious students so that financial constraints do not prevent any student from pursuing quality higher education.

There has been a consistent increase in the Budget Allocation in Higher Education over five years.

(Rs. in Crore)

FY: 2021-22	FY: 2022-23	FY: 2023-24	FY: 2024-25	FY: 2025-26
36,031.57	40,828.35	44,744.48	47,619.77	50,077.95

Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) has been set up to substantially increase funding for creating quality infrastructure in Higher Educational institution of Ministry of Education. The department has also taken initiative to create infrastructure projects in PPP Mode under Viability Gap Funding (VGF) Scheme.

(b) to (d) Central Universities are autonomous institutions established by Acts of Parliament. They are governed by their respective act, statutes and ordinances made thereunder. All academic, administrative and financial decisions are taken by the universities with the approval of their statutory bodies, namely - Court, Executive Council (EC) / Board of Management (BoM), Academic Council (AC), Finance Committee (FC). President of India is Visitor of the Central University who has the right to cause an inspection in respect of any matter connected with the administration or finances of the university.

There are seven Deemed to be Universities funded by UGC. They are required to follow General Financial Rules and other relevant norms to ensure financial propriety. Their accounts are mandatorily subjected to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG). Deemed to be Universities are governed by University Grants Commission (Institutions deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2023, which, inter-alia, stipulates that donation or capitation fee in whatever nomenclature or form, either directly or indirectly, is strictly prohibited

Academic standards are maintained through Regulations and Guidelines issued by the UGC from time to time.

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