

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1393
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.03.2018

Overhaul of Higher Education

1393. SHRI V. ELUMALAI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to make an overhaul of higher education;
- (b) whether the Government has planned a slew of measures such as qualifying exam for PhDs to be of the standard of NET exam, mandatory use of credible anti-plagiarism software for evaluating PhDs, assessment and accreditation of higher education institutions by third party agencies and granting full autonomy such as academic, financial and administrative to ranked institutions;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether these measures were part of higher education reforms package which was finalised by a high powered panel; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Dr. SATYA PAL SINGH)

(a) to (e): The Government is committed to improve the quality of education and it is a continuous ongoing process. A number of initiatives are being undertaken by UGC and AICTE for quality improvement in general and technical education in higher education sector. Several initiatives are currently being undertaken in this direction. Initiatives such as:

- i) Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM)
- ii) National Academic Depository (NAD)
- iii) Global Initiative for Academics Network (GIAN)
- iv) Impacting Research, Innovation & Technology (IMPRINT)
- v) Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP)
- vi) Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNTT)

vii) National Digital Library

viii) Campus connect programme

are being implemented to improve the quality of higher education. To promote objective assessment of performance annually, Government has also launched the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for Higher Educational Institutions.

Further, UGC has notified various Regulations to improve the standards in Higher Education such as the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2016, UGC (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of standards in Higher Education 2010) Regulation 2016 (Third Amendment), UGC (Categorisation of Universities (only) for Grant of Graded Autonomy) Regulations, 2018 and UGC (Conferment of Autonomous status upon Colleges and Measures for maintenance of Standards in Autonomous Colleges) Regulations, 2018.

The Government is in the process of formulating a New Education Policy to meet the changing dynamics of the student population's requirement with regard to provide quality education and aiming to make India a knowledge hub by equipping its students with the necessary technology skills and knowledge.
