GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.786 TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2018

Quality Assurance of Universities

786. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has a mechanism for Quality Assurance of the universities under Grant for Graded autonomy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is a provision to hire foreign faculties for Universities under the University Grants Commission (UGC);

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the mechanism by which the Government plans to balance the reservation in faculty hiring and appointment of foreign faculties in varsities under the UGC in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Recognising the need to create an enabling environment whereby Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) can become institutions of global excellence, autonomy is pivotal to promote and institutionalize excellence in higher education. The regulatory framework has recognized this need and towards this direction, the UGC (Categorisation of Universities (Only) for Grant of Graded Autonomy) Regulations, 2018 have been notified on 12th February, 2018. These regulations are aimed to provide autonomy to the HEIs based on quality benchmarks.

Under these Regulations, Universities having NAAC scrore of 3.51 or above or those who have received a corresponding score/grade from a reputed accreditation agency empanelled by the UGC or have been ranked among top 500 of reputed world rankings are placed in Category-I. Universities having NAAC score of 3.26 and above, upto 3.50 or have received a corresponding accreditation grade/score from a reputed Accreditation Agency empanelled by the UGC are placed in Category-II. The Universities which do not come under the above two categories are placed in Category-III.

(c) to (e): Yes, Madam. Category I & II Universities may hire foreign faculty, without approval of the Commission, who have taught at an institution appearing in top five hundred of any of the world renowned ranking frameworks such as the Times Higher Education World University Rankings or QS Rankings upto 20% of over and above of their total sanctioned faculty strength. Universities will have the freedom to hire foreign faculty on "tenure/contract" basis as per the terms and conditions approved by their Governing Council/Statutory bodies. Since the recruitment of foreign faculty is over and above the sanctioned strength of an Institution, the implementation of the reservation policy of the Government in teaching positions will not be disturbed.
