LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *263
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.12.2018

Private Universities

†*263. SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:
            SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:

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

(a) the number of Universities including Private Universities and deemed universities in the country along with the rankings thereof, on the basis of their performance, State-wise including Tamil Nadu;

(b) the details of Universities recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) on the basis of their merits-demerits, location-wise;

(c) whether the Government has prescribed any process to ascertain the merits-demerits and performance of private Universities and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether several proposals for setting up of private Universities are pending with UGC and if so, the details thereof along with the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to improve the standard and quality of education being imparted by the said Universities?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *263 FOR 31.12.2018 ASKED BY HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK AND SHRI JUGAL KISHORE REGARDING PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

(a): At present, there are 892 Universities / Deemed to be Universities in the country. Out of which 325 are Private Universities and 125 are Deemed to be Universities. All Higher Educational Institutions including Private Universities and Deemed to be Universities are ranked by National Institutional Rankings Framework (NIRF) based on their performance which includes 'Teaching, Learning and Resources', 'Research and Professional Practices', 'Graduation Outcomes', 'Outreach and Inclusivity', and 'Perception'. State/UT-wise list of all Private Universities and Deemed to be Universities that participated and ranked in NIRF-2018 in various categories is available on NIRF's website www.nirfindia.org.

(b): The location-wise details of UGC recognized Universities are available on UGC's website www.ugc.ac.in.

(c): Private Universities are regulated by the UGC as per the provisions of the UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003. In order to ascertain the quality and performance of Private Universities, UGC conducts inspection of every Private University with the help of its Expert Committees consisting of a representative(s) from the Statutory Council(s) concerned. These Committees assess the fulfillment of minimum criteria in terms of programmes, faculty, infrastructural facilities, financial viability, etc. as laid down by the UGC and respective Statutory Councils. In case any deficiencies are pointed out, the Private Universities are asked to submit compliance report in respect of the observations/suggestions of the Expert Committees.

(d): No, Madam. Private Universities are established by the Act of the State Legislatures concerned. UGC includes the name of Private University in its list after receipt of the State Act.

(e): UGC issued a Quality Mandate for all Higher Educational Institutions including Private Universities to improve the standard and quality of education. The UGC issued the following 10 initiatives for all HEIs to achieve the above objectives:

   i.   Induction programme for students.
   ii. Learning outcome-based curriculum framework – revision of curriculum in regular intervals.

iii. Use ICT based learning tools for effective teaching-learning process.

iv. Soft skills for students.

v. Social and Industry connect for every Institution: Every Institution shall adopt at least 5 villages for exchange of knowledge and for the overall social / economic betterment of the village communities.

vi. Examination reforms – test the concept, and application; exit examinations.

vii. Tracking of the student progress after completion of Course.

viii. Induction training for all new teachers, and annual refresher training for all teachers – role of the NRCs; and mandatory leadership / management training for all educational administrators.

ix. Promoting quality research by faculty and creation of new knowledge.

x. Mentoring of non-accredited institutions, so that every Institutions can get accreditation by 2022.

*****