

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1048
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2018

Ranking of Educational Institutes

†1048. Dr. RAMESH POKHRIYAL “NISHANK”:

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

- (a) the special efforts put in during the last 5 years to improve the International ranking of the Indian Educational Institutes;
- (b) whether the Government has formulated any policy to promote the signing of agreements with foreign educational institutes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to promote research in private and public sectors in close association with Universities; and
- (e) the status of India in getting International level research work published in the Indian Universities?

ANSWER

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

(a): Government of India is very keen to improve the global standards/ International ranking of the Indian Higher Education Institutions. In order to improve quality of Indian universities and institutes and thereby bringing them at par with the leading world universities, the Central Government has launched several initiatives viz. National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), Impacting Research Innovation & Technology (IMPRINT), Uchhtar Avishkar Yojana (UAY) and Global Initiative of Academic Networks (GIAN) in the field of education for the qualitative development of education in the country. Under the NIRF, Educational Institutions are ranked by an independent ranking agency on the basis of objective criteria. Under the IMPRINT, the Government has taken the initiative to address major engineering challenges related to 10 socially relevant domains through the collaborative efforts of the IITs and Indian Institute of Science (IISc). The objectives of UAY scheme are to promote innovation in IITs, addressing issues of manufacturing industries; to spur innovative mindset; to co-ordinate action between academia & industry and to strengthen labs & research facilities. GIAN scheme facilitates partnership between Higher Educational Institutions of the country and other countries in order to tap international talent pool of scientists and entrepreneurs. Study Webs of

Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM) and SWAYAM PRABHA have also been launched by the Central Government, which are aimed at providing high quality educational programmes through digital means. SWAYAM will provide one integrated platform for online courses. SWAYAM ensures 3 As - *Anytime, Anywhere, Anyone* learning. The objective is to ensure that the every student in our country has access to the best quality higher education at the affordable cost. Reputed academicians from hundreds of institutions throughout the country are involved in developing & delivering MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) through SWAYAM in almost all disciplines from senior schooling to Post Graduation wherein it is intended to develop world class content. UGC and AICTE have issued 'Credit Framework for online learning courses through SWAYAM, Regulation' creating enabling framework for transfer of credits upto 20 % for the students who use SWAYAM for their academics. SWAYAM PRABHA is a bouquet of 32 dedicated high quality educational channels on DTH platform which is available through free dish of Doordarshan. Through these channels anyone in any part of the country can view the lectures by the best teachers without internet. It is also available on YouTube as archival data.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) also undertakes maintenance of standards in teaching, research and quality assurance in Universities, Deemed to be Universities and Colleges through framing regulations, schemes and disbursing grants to the eligible institutions.

Recently, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has granted autonomy to 76 Educational Institutions (as per data up to 26.07.2018) which have maintained high academic standards. UGC has categorized Universities into three categories: Category-I, Category-II, and Category-III. Universities coming under Category-I and Category-II may hire, without approval of UGC, foreign faculty upto twenty percent over and above of their sanctioned faculty strength. They shall also be free to admit foreign students on merit, subject to a maximum of twenty percent over and above of the strength of their approved domestic students.

Besides these, one of the initiatives of Ministry of Human Resource Development is the declaration of Educational Institutions as Institutions of Eminence (IoE) to provide world class education to the Indian Students within the country. Six such institutions have been recently accredited the status of IoE by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. It is expected that the above selected Institutions will come up in top 500 of the world ranking in 10 years and in top 100 of the world ranking eventually. To achieve the top world ranking, there is a provision of greater autonomy i.e. to admit foreign students up to 30% of admitted students; to recruit foreign faculty upto 25% of faculty strength; to offer online courses upto 20% of its programmes; to enter into academic collaboration with top 500 in the world ranking Institutions without permission of University Grants Commission; free to fix and charge fees from foreign students without restriction; flexibility of course structure in terms of number of credit hours and years to take a degree; complete flexibility in fixing of curriculum and syllabus, etc.

(b) and (c): Indian Higher Educational Institutions are autonomous in nature and are free to enter into agreements with foreign universities at institutional level. The Government promotes this by not interfering in the process and encouraging the signing of such agreements subject to extant domestic laws in vogue and that it should not be detrimental to sovereignty and security of the country. However, UGC has recently notified UGC (Promotion and Maintenance of Standards of Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2016 which would allow Indian institutions to enter into twinning arrangement with foreign institutions as a way of bringing in cutting edge and quality education.

(d): It has been a constant endeavour of the Government of India to make India a research hub by way of launching several schemes/initiatives from time to time.

Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC) aims at improving the research ecosystem of India's higher educational institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions [overall top-100 or category-wise top-100 in NIRF (including Institutions of Eminence and such Private Institutions which are recognized under 12(B) of UGC Act)] and the best institutions in the world (top-500 overall and top-200 subject-wise institutions listed in QS World University Ranking) from 28 selected nations to jointly solve problems of national and international relevance. This involves supporting 600 joint research projects facilitating mobility of students/faculty for long term research and teaching activities. More details are available on <https://sparc.iitkgp.ac.in>

IMPacting Research Innovation and Technology (IMPRINT) is a flagship national initiative of the Government, launched on November, 5, 2015, which aims at providing solutions to the most relevant engineering challenges and translating knowledge into viable technology in 10 selected technology domains, viz. health care, energy, sustainable habitat, nano technology hardware, water resources and river systems, advanced materials, Information and communication technology, manufacturing, security and defence, and environmental science and climate change. It is a pan IITs and IISc Joint Initiative seeking to develop a roadmap for research. 142 research projects at a total cost of Rs. 323.16 crore with joint funding by MHRD and various participating Ministries/Departments/Industry are currently under execution under IMPRINT-I. To realize this objective, MHRD and the Department of Science & Technology (DST) have jointly created a corpus of Rs.670 crore, which will act as a dedicated funding source for the IMPRINT-II projects. In of first call of proposals under IMPRINT-II, 122 projects at a total cost of Rs. 122 crore have been approved.

Uchhatar Avishkar Yojana (UAY) was announced on October 6, 2015 with a view to promoting innovation of a higher order that directly impacts the needs of the Industry and thereby improves the competitive edge of Indian manufacturing. The project envisages collaboration between the academia and industry – within or outside India. The funding pattern of the projects selected would be 25% by Industry; 25% by participating Department/Ministry; and 50% by MHRD. Currently, 87 projects at a total cost of Rs.265.59 crore with joint funding by MHRD, participating Ministries and Industry are currently under

execution. In the second call of proposals, the Apex Committee of UAY in its meeting held on 21.11.2017 approved 65 projects at a cost of Rs.139.48 crore are under execution.

Under another scheme called Impactful Policy Research in Social Sciences (IMPRESS), 1500 research projects will be awarded for 2 years to support the socialsciences research in the higher educational institutions and to enable research to guide policy making.

(e): As per information provided by the UGC, Indian share of the overall world publications is about 4.06%. In the Management discipline, the share falls to about 2.43%. Nearly 67% of the scholarly output from India is represented in the NIRF evaluation. In fact, it can be safely concluded that this would be close to (if not equal to) the total scholarly output from the academic world from India. Research Publications of Eligible institutes (NIRF applicants) in Comparison to Total Research Publications of the World and India are as under:

Discipline / Category	No. of research publications		
	World (1)	India (2)	NIRF eligible institutes
Overall (All)	8309449	336978 4.06% of (1)	224577 66.64% of (2)
Engineering	2469455	151884 6.15% of (1)	112848 74.30% of (2)
Management	111111	2701 2.43% of (1)	1450 53.68% of (2)
Pharmacy	203997	10766 5.28% of (1)	3947 36.66% of (2)
