

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 192
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2019

Higher Education Regulator

192. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is working with NITI Aayog on a plan to bring technical as well as non-technical institutions under the same umbrella;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the objectives behind the move;
- (c) whether this move will replace Union Grants Commission and All India Council of Technical Education with a single higher education regulator;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether earlier also many committees have recommended for a single higher education regulator but not implemented;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for non-implementation of their recommendations; and
- (g) the time by which a single higher education regulator would be set up?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): At present, there is no decisive move by the Government and NITI Aayog to bring technical and non-technical institutions under the same umbrella.

(e) to (g): The National Knowledge Commission (2006) recommended for an independent regulatory authority for higher education and the Committee on Renovation and Rejuvenation of Higher Education (Professor Yashpal Committee: 2009) advocated an apex regulatory body by converging multiple regulatory agencies in the field of higher education. Further, the University Grants Commission Review Committee (Prof. Hari

Gautam Committee) in 2014 had recommended that the University Grants Commission should be replaced by an apex institution entitled National Higher Education Authority.

The Higher Education and Research Bill, 2011 was introduced in the Parliament for establishment of the National Commission for Higher Education and Research by subsuming the roles of the University Grants Commission and some of the Statutory Councils. The Bill was examined by the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development. Parliamentary Standing Committee had expressed its concerns on certain provisions of the Bill. In view of the suggestions and recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee, the Government decided to withdraw the Bill in 2014.
