

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1752
ANSWERED ON 13TH FEBRUARY, 2023

Safety of Women in Universities in HEIs

†1752. SHRIMATI RANJANBEN DHANANJAY BHATT:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to release any guidelines to make arrangements for safety of women in the Universities and Higher Educational Institutes (HEI) of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure the safety of women in educational institutes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (c): In order to improve the safety of all women, including students and employees, and to provide a healthy and secure atmosphere for them on the campus in Higher Educational Institutes (HEIs), following initiatives have been taken:-

- i. University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified UGC (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women Employees and Students in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2015, which being statutory in nature, are binding on Universities and Colleges. This regulation is available on UGC website i.e. www.ugc.ac.in.
- ii. Advisories have been issued from time to time for taking action in order to sensitize the issue related to maintenance of safe working environment for female employees as per "Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013".
- iii. All HEIs have been mandated to have Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) under the provision of Section 4 of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.
- iv. UGC has set up Toll free No. 1800-111-656 for registration of grievances related to Women and sexual harassment.
- v. HEIs have been mandated to constitute an Anti-Ragging Committee.

- vi. Seminars/ awareness workshops etc. are conducted for Gender Sensitization in HEIs. Recently, a special drive was also conducted in HEIs to observe the 25th November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to observe Discrimination against Women Pakhwada from 25th November to 10th December, 2022 and for ICCs to review the pending cases and take appropriate action thereon.
