

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5112**  
ANSWERED ON 03/04/2023

**Foreign Universities Applied for GIFT City**

5112. SHRI MANISH TEWARI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether foreign universities have applied to GIFT City to start their campuses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of such foreign universities which have applied to be a part of GIFT City and the number of approvals granted, University/country-wise;
- (c) whether foreign universities operating in India will be exempted from rules/regulations of the GIFT City, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) in light of the aforesaid, the details of specific rules, financial and otherwise, which will be applicable to foreign universities operating campuses on Indian soil;
- (e) whether the Indian laws/rules are not applicable to such foreign universities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the Government proposes to protect the interests of the Indian students enrolled in these universities given that the campuses of these universities will be on Indian soil?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (e) As per announcement in the Union Budget 2022-23, World-Class Foreign Universities and Institutions will be allowed in the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) to offer courses in Financial Management, FinTech, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics free from domestic regulations, except those by International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA). Foreign Universities and Institutions can set up their Branch Campuses in GIFT City as per the criteria and standards laid down in the IFSCA (Setting up and Operation of International Branch Campuses and Offshore Education Centres) Regulations, 2022. The Regulations is available on <https://ifsc.gov.in/Viewer/Index/352>. Two Universities from Australia have submitted proposals for setting up their campus in GIFT City.

(f): To protect the interests of the Indian students enrolled in these universities, safeguards are clearly given in the Regulations and no International Branch Campus and Offshore Education Centre shall wholly or partially discontinue, suspend or close any of its approved courses or programmes in the permissible subject areas for any reason without the prior written approval of the International Financial Services Centres Authority. In the eventuality of disruption or discontinuation of a course or programme for any reason, it shall be the responsibility of the Parent Entity to provide an alternative to the affected students, including reallocation to the course or programme conducted by it.

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