

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5227
ANSWERED ON 03.04.2023

Steps to Regulate Ed-Tech Sector

5227. DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the malpractice, false promise and misleading fee loans/scholarships advertisements to lure students for their courses by Ed-Tech companies;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to regulate the Ed-Tech sector;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to bring regulatory framework to regulate these Ed-Tech companies; and
- (d) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) In order to safeguard the student interest, the Government has issued advisory which includes do's and don'ts for the stakeholders. It has also reiterated legal provisions for e-commerce firms for information to citizens who are consumers of ed-tech services. The details may be seen at <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1784582>

University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified regulations for offering full-fledged online programme by the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). These regulations, inter-alia, include eligibility conditions, recognition process for offering online programmes, maintenance of infrastructural, academic and other quality standards by HEIs. It prohibits franchise arrangements with private sector and the ownership of offering online programmes shall be that of HEIs only.

UGC and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) have also issued public notices advising the students to check recognition/entitlement status of programme on official website before enrolling any course. The notice may be seen at https://deb.ugc.ac.in/pdf/UGC_Public_Notice_16-01-2022.pdf.

Further, in line with the National Education Policy 2020, National Educational Technology Forum (NETF) Cell has been established at AICTE as a platform for free exchange of ideas on the use of technology to enhance learning, assessment, planning, administration and so on, both for School and Higher Education.