GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.4121 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2022

Academic Integrity in Research Education

4121. SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the increasing occurrence of academic integrity in research education and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the policy adopted by the Government to check the plagiarism in research journals;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to change the current regulations to tackle the menace of plagiarism;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of fraud cases brought to the notice of University Grants Commission during the last five years?

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

(a) & (b): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil/Ph.D. Degree) Regulations. 2016 provide that the Institution shall evolve mechanism using well developed software and gadgets to detect plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. The UGC (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018 also contain measures for Curbing Plagiarism, **Provisions** for Detection Reporting Handling of Plagiarism and prescribing penalties in cases of plagiarism.

Further to ensure prevention of academic misconduct including plagiarism in academic writing among student, faculty, researcher and staff, the UGC has set up a Consortium for Academic and Research Ethics (CARE) to identify, continuously monitor and maintain 'UGC-CARE Reference List of Quality Journals' across disciplines.

- (c) & (d): The UGC has informed that presently there is no proposal to change the current provisions relating to plagiarism in the regulations.
- (e): UGC does not centrally maintain the data regarding the number of fraud cases relating to plagiarism. The cases of plagiarism as and when reported to the Commission are referred to the University concerned with a request to take appropriate action in the light of UGC regulations.
