

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 879  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2022

**Online Courses through Ed-Tech Companies**

879. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that various EdTech companies are giving advertisements in the newspapers offering degree programmes to students in online mode in association with UGC/AICTE approved Universities/Institutions and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether such online degrees programmes are permissible as per existing regulations and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the action/taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against such EdTech companies including affiliating Universities/ Institutions which are luring innocent and gullible students to enroll in such invalid programmes?

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

(a) to (c) Information/ complaints have been received by UGC and AICTE regarding EdTech companies giving advertisements in the newspapers offering degree programmes to students in online mode. UGC regulations regarding offering full-fledged online programme by Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) prohibit franchise arrangement with private sector and the ownership of offering online programmes shall be that of HEIs only. The details may be seen at <https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/221580.pdf>.

Having regard to the above, UGC and AICTE have issued Public Notice advising the students to check recognition/entitlement status of programme on official website before enrolling for any course. The notice may be seen at [https://deb.ugc.ac.in/pdf/UGC\\_Public\\_Notice\\_16-01-2022.pdf](https://deb.ugc.ac.in/pdf/UGC_Public_Notice_16-01-2022.pdf).

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