

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2089**  
ANSWERED ON-09/12/2024

**NUMBER OF HEIs OPENED**

†2089. Shri Chandra Prakash Choudhary:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of institutes of higher education opened in the country during the last three years and the contribution thereof to increase the enrolment of students;
- (b) the details of the partnerships with the international Universities and institutes for the improvement in quality and accessibility of higher education in the country;
- (c) the impact of the increase in enrolment of higher education on the quality of education and availability of employment opportunities along with the relevant supporting data in regard thereto; and
- (d) the details of the changes made in the schools for implementing skill India teaching framework in Jharkhand, particularly in Giridih Lok Sabha Constituency?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) As per All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE), 2022-23(Provisional), the total number of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) i.e. University/University level Institutions, College and Standalone Institutions, registered under AISHE has increased to 60,380 in 2022-23 from 56,205 in 2020-21. Total student enrolment in higher education has increased to 4.46 crore in 2022-23 from 4.13 crore in 2020-21.

(b) National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 focuses on Internationalization and inter-alia recommends to encourage High performing Indian universities to set up their campuses in other countries. An Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for setting up of campus of IIT Madras in Zanzibar- Tanzania has been signed on 5-7-2023 between the Ministry of Education (MoE), Govt. of India, IIT Madras and Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT) Zanzibar- Tanzania. Also, an MoU for setting up of campus of IIT Delhi in Abu Dhabi has been signed between MoE, Govt. of India, IIT Delhi and Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (United Arab Emirates), on 15-7-2023, for setting up of campus of IIT Delhi in Abu Dhabi.

University Grants Commission (UGC) has spiritedly undertaken many measures for the Internationalization of higher education as charted in NEP-2020. Some of the major initiatives undertaken by UGC in this direction are:-

- i. UGC has issued **Guidelines for the Internationalization of Higher Education** to provide an opportunity for global outreach of Indian Higher Education Institutions through activities such as internationally relevant curricula, brand building of Indian Higher Education Institutions abroad, academic and research collaboration with foreign universities, credit recognition under twinning arrangements, global citizenship approach and engaging with foreign alumni.
- ii. **UGC has issued the “Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India Regulations 2023”** to give international dimensions to higher education and by establishing foreign campuses to enable Indian students to obtain foreign qualifications at affordable cost and make India an attractive global study destination. UGC has also developed and opened the Portal (<https://fhei.ugc.ac.in>) wherein eligible FHEIs can apply for setting up their campuses in India as per the criteria laid in the regulations.
- iii. **UGC has issued Regulations on Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign HEIs to offer Twinning, Joint Degree, and Dual Degree Programmes in 2022** to promote active linkage between Indian and Foreign Higher Education Institutions, research/teaching collaborations, faculty/student exchanges. ([https://www.ugc.gov.in/pdfnews/4555806\\_UGC-Acad-Collab-Regulations.pdf](https://www.ugc.gov.in/pdfnews/4555806_UGC-Acad-Collab-Regulations.pdf))
- iv. In accordance with NEP 2020, UGC has introduced an initiative called “Establishment of an Office for International Affairs” in each University which will be an integral part of internationalisation of higher education in India. This office will be responsible for undertaking various activities to coordinate all matters relating to welcoming and supporting foreign students, to disseminate information related to admission process among prospective foreign students and to engage in promotional activities and brand building campaign abroad.
- v. UGC has introduced an initiative called Alumni Connect in order to encourage HEIs to engage with Alumni (of foreign origin and Indians living abroad) for brand building of the HEIs. In order to maintain a continuous engagement with the alumni, the HEIs have been encouraged to undertake a number of activities such as establishment of an alumni cell in their respective institutions, maintain a database of the alumni living abroad and share information and invite for participation in conferences etc.

All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) also accord approval to Technical Institutions for conducting courses through collaborative programs with reputed Universities/ Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in India/ Foreign Countries.

(c) Several steps have been taken in line with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, to improve the quality of higher education system in the country. University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued guidelines for transforming stand-alone, fragmented and domain-specific higher educational institutions into large, multidisciplinary universities and autonomous degree-awarding institutions with institutional infrastructure necessary for multidisciplinary education and research. Regulations have been brought in for the National Credit Framework (NCrF), National Higher Education Qualification Framework, the Academic Bank of Credit (ABC), Multiple Entry and Exit for making the higher education curricula aligned to emerging global requirements and bringing in flexibility in the system. All higher education institutions are being encouraged to join the National Institutional Ranking Framework and getting accreditation under the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), and the parameters for these have been rationalized to facilitate greater participation.

Due to such concerted effort of Government of India, the number of Indian higher education Institutions in “QS World University Rankings” has increased from 9 in 2014 to 46 in 2025. Also, there is approximately 88% increase in the number of Research publications in 2022, since 2015. Filing of Patents increased by more than 55.4%, rising to 66,440 in 2021-22 from 42,763 in 2014-15. Further, as per AISHE 2022-23(Provisional), the PhD enrolment is 2.33 lakh which is nearly doubled during the period 2014-15 to 2022-23.

Improving employability of the youth is a priority of the Government. Towards this end, the NEP, 2020, as part of a holistic education, envisages providing students at all HEIs with opportunities for internships with local industry, business, artists, crafts persons, etc.

In order to make students globally competitive, so that they may face the challenges of life and become employable, AICTE is making concrete efforts to bring qualitative changes/reforms in Technical Education by focusing on universalization of quality education, skill development, faculty capacity building and internationalization etc.

AICTE is collaborating with various industries and institutes to design skill development courses in online mode that are integrated into the regular curriculum. These courses are aimed at enhancing the practical skills of students and making them more employable. To achieve these objectives, it has entered into MoU with leading organization such as Sales Force, Adobe, CISCO, Microsoft, Youth 4Job, META, AMAZON IBM, CDAC, Bajaj Finserv and WHEEBOX etc. These collaborations are supposed to lead to the development of integrated programs that incorporate real-world applications and industry-relevant skills. Internship has been already made mandatory as part of the curriculum.

**(d)** For implementing Skill Education, as per the perspective of NEP 2020 and National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) 2023, Vocational Education is being introduced as a compulsory subject from Grade 6 onwards. As a follow-up of this, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has brought out an Activity Book on Vocational Education entitled-“Kaushal Bodh”. This will provide exposure to children in different areas of Vocational Education based on Project -based pedagogy in schools. Vocational Education has also been integrated from Grade 3 onwards across subject areas. NCERT has also brought out Guidelines for 10 bagless days which also provides ample exposure to local vocations in integrated manner.

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