

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.63
ANSWERED ON 25/11/2024

Challenges Faced by Students of Jharkhand in Higher Education

†63 Shri Dulu Mahato:
Shri Bidyut Baran Mahato:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the challenges faced by the students in getting higher education in the State of Jharkhand particularly Dhanbad alongwith the measures taken/likely to be taken by the Government to get higher education available to students;
- (b) whether the students of Dhanbad District in the State of Jharkhand have adequate resources and facilities to pursue higher education;
- (c) the manner in which technology is being integrated in the classrooms alongwith the challenges coming in its way;
- (d) the manner in which access of higher education is ensured for common students and the aspects to be focused in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government and educational institutions to increase the access to higher education and measures proposed to be taken to provide better opportunities to students?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(Dr. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) & (b): State of Jharkhand has six centrally funded Higher Educational Institutes (HEIs) such as Central university of Jharkhand, Ranchi; Indian Institute of Technology – ISM, Dhanbad; Indian Institute of Management, Ranchi; National Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur; Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Ranchi; National Institute of Advanced Manufacturing Technology, Hatia, Ranchi.

Dhanbad District has a well-established higher education infrastructure managed under the aegis of Binod Bihari Mahto Koyalanchal University (BBMKU) which offers postgraduate programs in 27 PG Departments, including specialized fields such as Management, Education, Mass Communication, Art & Culture, Law, Foreign Languages, Life Sciences, Computer Science, and Environmental Science & Disaster Management. At the undergraduate level, Dhanbad district is served by 09 Constituent Colleges and 11 Affiliated Colleges. Additionally, there are 13 B.Ed. Colleges, 01 Medical College, and 01 Law College providing specialized professional education to students in the region. Collectively, total of 89,889 students are enrolled in the University, of which 43,054 are females, reflecting encouraging female participation in higher education. While the existing resources and facilities are reasonably developed, they are continually improving to better meet the needs of students in the region.

(c) to (e): A number of transformative changes have taken place in higher education after announcement of NEP 2020. In Higher Education, various initiatives / reforms have been carried out such as National Credit Framework (NCrF) and National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF) in conjunction with guidelines / regulations like Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programme; Multiple Entry and Exit in Academic Programme offered by Higher Education Institutions; Transforming HEIs into multi-disciplinary Institutions; pursuing two Academic Programme simultaneously; Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR ID) of individual student which will act as lifelong identity to track their educational journey and achievements from, pre-primary to higher education; revised regulation of ODL / Online Education; permitting up to 40% credits in regular courses using SWAYAM platform; launch of new SWAYAM Plus portal with aim to enhance skill and upskilling and reskilling of existing manpower employed in different sectors; Integration of technology in administration of HEIs from admission to grant of degree through SAMARTH; permitting HEIs for two admission cycles in an academic year; enhanced reputation of the Indian HEIs in international ranking.

For enhancing access to Higher Education, number of initiatives have been taken like:

(i) Opening of more HEIs - The number of Universities/University level Institutions registered under AISHE have increased to 1168 in 2021-22 from 760 in 2014-15. Similarly, number of Colleges registered under AISHE have increased to 45473 in 2021-22 from 38498 in 2014-15.

(ii) Implementing various Scholarship and Fellowship schemes for providing financial assistance to students, including for SC/ST/OBC and Minority students and underserved regions.

(iii) Allowing well performing HEIs (based on NAAC and NIRF ranking) by University Grants Commission (UGC) to offer full Open Distance Learning/Online Programmes based on quality parameters.

(iv) Providing much-needed flexibility and appropriate Exit as well Re-entry options in the Higher Education system, to facilitate students to choose their learning trajectory.

(v) Providing anytime, anywhere learning opportunities for all learners through Study Webs for Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM) platform, which provides high quality structured online courses in multiple disciplines.

(vi) Conducting JEE, NEET (UG) and Common University Entrance Test (CUET) Exams in 13 languages, to facilitate students and making available Text Books in Indian Languages to facilitate students, particularly from vernacular/rural background.

(vii) 10% reservation for Economically Weaker Section; reservation for SC/ST/OBC; preparatory classes for SC/STs for appearing in JEE exam; JEE exam being conducted in local / regional languages etc.

The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) makes provisions to ensure full access, equality, and inclusiveness. Since education is a subject in the Concurrent List, the implementation of NEP 2020 is a joint responsibility of the central and state governments. The government is committed to providing quality education to all.