GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 93
ANSWERED ON 25.11.2024

NIRF Rankings for Higher Education

93. SHRI SRIBHARAT MATHUKUMILLI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a)   the detailed description of the parameters considered under the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) rankings, including the weightage assigned to each parameter;
(b)   whether NIRF relies on bibliometrics from commercial databases, and if so, the details thereof;
(c)   the measures taken by the Government to expand the NIRF rankings beyond traditional research contributions and incorporate qualitative factors such as relevance to industry, innovation, and social impact in the rankings process;
(d)   whether the Government ensures credibility and reliability in self-reported data from participating institutions, if so, the details thereof; and
(e)   whether any studies or reports have been undertaken to explore more qualitative approach to rankings instead of a quantitative one and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) outlines a methodology to rank unvirsities and institutions across the country. The methodology identifies broad parameters for ranking various universities and institutions which cover "Teaching, Learning and Resources," "Research and Professional Practices," "Graduation Outcomes," "Outreach and Inclusivity," and "Perception". Details of weightage assigned to each parameter are at Annexure.

(b): NIRF relies on bibliometrics from commercial databases. Data on publications, citations, and highly cited publications are provided by Scopus (Elsevier Science) and Web of Science (Clarivate Analytics), whereas Derwent Innovation provides data on patents.

(c) to (e): The existing framework of Rankings not only considers the quantitative factors but also focuses on qualitative factors like outreach and inclusivity, multiple entry-exit, publications on SDG etc. Moreover, in India Rankings 2024, NIRF has introduced a new category of innovation ranking focusing on innovation, establishing start-ups and entrepreneurship.

The responsibility of data authenticity and appropriate entry lies with the participating institutions. However, NIRF uses triangulation method to detect and correct data issues in consultation with the concerned institutions. Stakeholders (that include the public or other individuals or entities having an interest in one or more institutions) are invited to give their feedback through the "Online Feedback System" on the data submitted by the institutions, through a public advertisement in the newspapers and other media.

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Annexure as referred to in reply to Part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 93 to be answered on 25.11.2024 asked by Shri Sribharat Mathukumilli

The parameter-wise details for ranking various Universities and Institutions in respect of the "Overall Category" are as below:

1. **Teaching, Learning & Resources (TLR) 100 Marks (Ranking weight: 0.30)**
   i. Student Strength including Doctoral Students (SS): 20 marks
   ii. Faculty-student ratio with emphasis on permanent faculty (FSR): 25 marks
   iii. Combined metric for Faculty with PhD (or equivalent) and Experience (FQE): 20 marks
   iv. Financial Resources and their Utilisation (FRU): 20 marks
   v. Online Education: Online Completion of Syllabus & Exams and Swayam (OE): 10 marks
   vi. Combined metric for Multiple Entry/Exit, Indian Knowledge System and Regional languages (MIR): 5 marks

2. **Research and Professional Practices (RP) 100 Marks (Ranking weight: 0.30)**
   i. Combined metric for Publications (PU): 30 marks
   ii. Combined metric for Quality of Publications (QP): 30 marks
   iii. IPR and Patents: Published and Granted (IPR): 15 marks
   iv. Footprint of Projects and Professional Practice (FPPP): 15 marks
   v. Combined metric for Publications & Citations in SDGs (PSDGs): 10

3. **Graduation Outcomes (GO)100 Marks (Ranking weight: 0.20)**
   i. Metric for University Examination (GUE): 60 marks
   ii. Metric for Number of Ph.D. Students Graduated (GPHD): 40 marks

4. **Outreach and Inclusivity (OI)100 Marks (Ranking weight: 0.10)**
   i. Percentage of Students from Other States/Countries (Region Diversity RD): 30 marks
   ii. Percentage of Women (Women Diversity WD): 30 marks
   iii. Economically and Socially Challenged Students (ESCS): 20 marks
   iv. Facilities for Physically Challenged Students (PCS): 20 marks

5. **Perception (PR)100 Marks*(Ranking weight: 0.10)**
   i. Peer Perception: Academic Peers and Employers (PR): 100 marks

*However, for universities in the PR parameter, 70% weight was given to Peer Perception and 30% to Accreditation.

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