

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2675
ANSWERED ON- 17/03/2025

Unified Higher Education Regulatory Body under NEP

2675. Shri Vishaldada Prakashbapu Patil:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set a timeline for establishing the unified higher education regulatory body under NEP 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government in this regard particularly in Maharashtra, which has numerous universities and autonomous institutions;
- (c) whether the Government plans to ensure academic autonomy and institutional diversity under the new framework, especially in tier-2 and tier-3 cities like Sangli;
- (d) whether the regulatory body will address governance inefficiencies and streamline approvals for new universities, research funding, and accreditation across the country including Maharashtra; and
- (e) the mechanisms being developed to ensure transparent and consistent enforcement of standards, particularly in emerging educational hubs like Sangli to support institutional expansion and attract more students?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, envisions a 'light but tight' regulatory framework to ensure integrity, transparency, and resource efficiency of the educational system through audit and public disclosure while encouraging innovation and out-of-the-box ideas through autonomy, good governance, and empowerment.

The NEP, 2020 further envisions setting up of a Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) as an umbrella body with independent verticals to perform distinct functions of regulation, accreditation, funding, and academic standard setting.

Considering the above vision of NEP 2020, the Ministry is in the process of drafting a HECI Bill.
