

Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010" have been introduced in Lok Sabha on 3rd May, 2010 and these Bills have been referred to the Department related Parliament Standing Committee.

Recommendations of R.K. Raghavan Committee to curb ragging

2958. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that incidents of ragging are on the rise;
- (b) whether Government is aware that under the directive of the Supreme Court a Committee headed by Dr. R.K. Raghavan was appointed to suggest means of its prevention; and
- (c) if so, the recommendations and suggestions made by the Committee and how far they have been effective in curbing the menace of ragging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) As no information on incidents of ragging was being maintained centrally prior to the launch of the National Anti-Ragging Helpline on 20th June, 2009 under the "UGC regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009", it is not possible to confirm any trend of a rise in the number of incidents.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has issued directions to regulatory bodies to implement major recommendations made by Committee headed by Dr. R. K. Raghavan to look into the issue of ragging and suggest means of prevention in educational institutions. The Government has also requested the Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of all State Governments/Union Territories to comply with the directions of the Hon. Supreme Court of India.

The University Grants Commission has notified, on 17 June, 2009, its regulation namely "The UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009". These regulations are comprehensive and provide for a number of punitive and prohibitive measures, including stopping of grants by UGC and also withdrawal of affiliation/recognition or other privileges

conferred, if any higher education institution fails to comply with any of the provisions of regulations or fails to curb ragging effectively. The regulations also require higher educational institutions to take effective steps in order to sensitize students on the dehumanizing effects of ragging and generate awareness among all stakeholders regarding the penal laws applicable to incidents of ragging. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Medical Council of India (MCI) and Dental Council of India (DCI) have also notified anti-ragging regulations on 01-07-2009, 3-8-2009 and 13-08-2009 respectively. Pharmacy Council of India has issued guidelines to curb the menace of ragging in pharmacy colleges/institutions. UGC's regulations are binding on universities as well as institutions affiliated thereto. Institutions such as the Indian Institutes of Technology which do not come under purview of the UGC or under any of the statutory councils have also been advised to adopt the UGC regulations with appropriate modifications.

A toll free anti-ragging "Helpline" has already been launched on 20th June, 2009 with Call Centre facilities in English, Hindi and several regional languages to begin with, for helping victims of ragging, besides facilitating effective action in respect of such incidents.

Starting of job oriented courses in Government Colleges

2959. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that commercialisation of education is taking place in different States of the country due to which the standard of education is declining and the poor students are deprived of getting higher and professional education;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check this commercialisation;

(c) whether Government proposes to start job oriented courses in Government colleges; and

(d) if so, the details of their fee structure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Education is in The Concurrent List of the