

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

Constitution and it is joint responsibility of Centre and States to provide necessary and quality education in the country. As per the National Policy on Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992), Government is against the commercialization of education. Several pronouncements of the Supreme Court of India, have also prohibited commercialization of education in India, though reasonable surpluses can be generated for further development of the educational institutions.

Further, as per the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956, the Commission has been empowered to take steps to ensure that no candidate secures admission to any course of study by reason of economic power and thereby prevents a more meritorious candidate from securing admission to such course of study. The UGC Act provides that no college shall accept, whether directly or indirectly, any payment otherwise than by way of fees; or any donation of gift (whether in cash or kind), from, or in relation to, any student in connection with his admission to, and prosecution of, and course of study. According to the information furnished by UGC, the State Governments have constituted Committee for regulating admission and fee structure in respect of private and self financed colleges located in their respective jurisdiction.

All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) have also formulated regulations for the purpose of charging of fee by technical institutions. As per these regulations State Level Fee Committee have been constituted by the concerned State Governments which will prescribe fee to be charged by technical institutions and also monitor the implementation.

(c) and (d) UGC started the vocational programme at the under graduate level during VIIIth Plan (1994-95), which has been redesigned in 2003-04 under a modified scheme of Career Orientation to Education/Career Oriented Programme. During X Plan Period the Scheme has been renamed as Career Oriented Courses with the objective to ensure that the graduates who pass out after completing these courses, have knowledge, skills and aptitude for gainful employment in wage sector in general and self employment in particular so as to reduce the pressure on institutions of higher learning for Master Degree. These courses run parallel to the conventional B.A., B.Com and B.Sc. Degree. The UGC has given importance to Job Oriented Education System and has introduced and implemented vocational education programme. All Colleges and Universities recognized by the UGC under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of UGC Act, 1956 are eligible for implementing the scheme of Career Oriented Courses.

As per guidelines under the scheme of Career Oriented Courses, the Universities should not charge any affiliation fee for the Career Oriented Courses sanctioned by the UGC. Guidelines are silent regarding the details of their fee structure.

Inclusive education for disabled children under RTE Act

2960. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Right to Education includes the right for inclusive education for disabled children; and

(b) if so, the nodal Ministry which would implement this right?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 is administered by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. A child suffering from disability, as defined in clause (i) of section 2 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection and Full Participation) Act, 1996, shall have the right to pursue free and compulsory elementary education in accordance with the provisions of Chapter V of that Act, which is administered by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Sanskrit university and colleges

2961. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any concrete measures to set up a Sanskrit university in Himachal Pradesh and develop infrastructure in Sanskrit colleges so as to improve the infrastructure at all Sanskrit college and school levels;

(b) if so, the time by when it will be done; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration