

Evaluation of courses in universities

†*257. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether UGC has identified the universities and colleges for evaluating the quality of education being imparted on course level in the universities and colleges throughout the country;
- (b) if so, the names of the colleges and universities identified, State-wise;
- (c) whether recognition is not granted without evaluating the level of courses in America and other developed countries whereas in India recognition is being granted without making any evaluation in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether in view of these facts, Government has taken any concrete steps regarding educational infrastructure and other facilities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has reported that it does not undertake evaluation of quality of education being imparted in universities and colleges, separately for each course. However, UGC undertakes evaluation of courses offered by different institutions before granting them funds under the schemes of University with Potential for Excellence (UPE), Centre with Potential for Excellence in Particular Area (CPEPA), Colleges with Potential for Excellence (CPE) and Special Assistance Programme (SAP) etc. Similarly, quality of education infrastructure is also evaluated by the UGC before conferring the Section 12B status on an institution. UGC lays down, from time to time, guidelines and regulations, to ensure minimum standards of quality of education being imparted in colleges and universities. The universities, being autonomous entities, prescribe the courses of study, syllabi and course requirement etc. through its Statutes and Ordinances. UGC also prescribes the norms and standards of education to be imparted, norms for affiliation of colleges to universities and minimum standards of instructions for grant of degrees. The degree granting institutions can award only those degrees which are specified by UGC under Section 22(3) of the UGC Act, 1956.

The UGC has established National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), an Inter University Centre (IUC) of the UGC. The NAAC undertakes accreditation of colleges and universities by evaluating the institution on various quality standards and parameters laid down by UGC and respective university. However, the institution is taken as a unit of evaluation and not individual courses. While NAAC takes institution as a unit of evaluation of quality, another body, namely National Board of Accreditation (NBA) undertakes accreditation taking a programme/course as a unit.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Education is in the concurrent list of the VII Schedule of Constitution. States have equal and concurrent powers to create and set up universities in the country. No prior approval or recognition is needed from the Central Government for establishment of universities. Affiliation of colleges to a university is governed by UGC Regulations and respective Statutes of the university. The accreditation is presently voluntary in India. Therefore, evaluation and accreditation is not mandatory at present. The NAAC undertakes accreditation based on several parameters which include quality of teaching and learning, curricular aspects and learning resources. The status of accreditation undertaken by NAAC since inception of NAAC in 1994 is as follows.

	Universities	Colleges
Accreditation	168	4618
Re-accreditation	71	922

Accreditation is presently not mandatory in India. In order to make the accreditation mandatory, which is the only independent quality assurance mechanism to ensure basic threshold of quality of education, the Government has proposed a legislation, namely National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010, which has been introduced in Parliament on 3rd May, 2010.

(e) The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010 once enacted, shall make it mandatory for every institution to apply for and obtain assessment and accreditation from a registered accreditation agency. In addition, several programmes and schemes have been initiated during the Eleventh Plan to improve education infrastructure and educational facilities in the country, which includes 374 Model Degree Colleges in districts with less than 12.4% Gross Enrollment Ratio, setting up new Central Universities, Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, National Institutes of Technology, Girls Hostels, Quality Improvement initiatives of UGC and All India Council of Technical Education and National Mission on Education through Information Communication and Technology etc.

Phone subscribers registered with NDNC

*258. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of landline and mobile phone subscribers in the country, State-wise and service provider-wise;
- (b) when the National Do Not Call Registry (NDNC) came into effect;
- (c) the total number of subscribers who have registered themselves with the NDNC Registry;