

**UGC recognition to degrees and certificates awarded
by South Asian University**

3512. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission (UGC) has accorded recognition to degrees and certificates awarded by South Asian University under the administrative control of Ministry of External Affairs under Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956;

(b) if so, whether Government funding to the South Asian University is also being routed through the UGC as per Section 12(B) of the UGC Act; and

(c) whether the UGC also reserves the power to monitor the South Asian University for standards of teaching, examination and research as per Section 13 of the UGC Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) The Section 22 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 defines the right to confer degrees as follows: "The right of conferring or granting degrees shall be exercised only by a University established or incorporated by or under a Central Act, a Provincial Act or a State Act or an institution deemed to be a University under section 3 or an institution specially empowered by an Act of Parliament to confer or grant degrees." The South Asian University has been established through an Act of Parliament, *viz.*, The South Asian University Act, 2008 (No. 8 of 2009), and therefore is competent to award degrees specified by the UGC under Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956.

(b) No, Sir. The UGC is not providing any funds to the South Asian University.

(c) Section 13 of the UGC Act, 1956 is an enabling provision for inspection of a University by the UGC, after consultation with the concerned University, for the purpose of ascertaining the financial needs of a University or its standards of teaching, examination and research and accordingly the UGC can take up such inspection.