

(c) Yes, Sir. The concept of world class universities has been further developed and it has now been decided to call them Universities for Research and Innovation. The Central Government has introduced the 'Universities for Research and Innovation Bill' in Parliament on 21.05.2012, which aims to provide for the establishment and incorporation of such universities. The Universities for Research and Innovation are expected to provide for the knowledge needs of the country, in training professionals, specialists, scientists and researchers needed by the society and economy. The Universities would focus on one area or problem of significance to India and to build an ecosystem of research and teaching around different related disciplines and fields of study and search for solutions that are globally valid and in the process develop education at under-graduate and higher levels. These universities would be set up in the public mode, the purely privately funded mode and in the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode. A copy of the Bill is available at http://164.100.24.219/BillsTexts/LSBillTexts/asintroduced/61_2012_LS_ENG.pdf.

(d) These universities can be set up only after the Bill is passed by Parliament.

Fake Ph.D. degrees

1776. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a private university in Meghalaya had sold over 400 fake Ph.D. degrees and registered an equal number during the last one year and the Governor of Meghalaya had lodged a complaint against the university;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the University Grants Commission has set up an expert committee to look into the irregularities committed by the university; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The University

Grants Commission (UGC) has been receiving complaints about the Ph.D. programmes run by the CMJ University, a Private University in Shillong (Meghalaya) without following proper procedure. These complaints were about back-dated registration, not holding the entrance examination and about not following the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for the award of M.Phil/Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009. As per the information provided by the University to the UGC, 490 students were enrolled for the Ph.D. alone. These students are enrolled in different parts of the country and the course was not conducted at the main campus. There are allegations that the degrees of the University are being sold.

His Excellency the Governor of Meghalaya in his capacity as Visitor has taken action against CMJ University for irregularities committed by it. The Principal Secretary to the Governor of Meghalaya has informed us that His Excellency, the Governor of Meghalaya has recommended to the State Government of Meghalaya the dissolution of CMJ University in terms of Section 48 of the CMJ University Act, 2009.

(c) and (d) In order to enquire into the alleged irregularities of the CMJ University, Shillong, as reported by the Governor's Secretariat, the UGC has constituted an Expert Committee chaired by Prof. Mihir K. Chaudhari, Vice Chancellor, Tezpur University. The Committee visited University on 1st August, 2013 and has submitted its report.

New courses in IITs

†1777. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six new courses have been included in IIT courses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when these courses would be started?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.