

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the action taken against those universities and the new rules put in place to ensure such fake universities do not open in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) The Central Government as well as the University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken the following action against fake universities running without recognition:—

- (i) UGC has issued Show Cause/Warning Notices to fake universities cautioned that running of Undergraduate and Postgraduate degree courses and giving misleading advertisements shall attract severe action under the provisions of appropriate laws including the UGC Act and the Indian Penal Code, etc.
- (ii) Letters have been sent to the State/UT Principal Secretaries/Education Secretaries for taking appropriate action against the fake universities located in their jurisdiction.
- (iii) UGC has lodged FIRs in the respective police stations against Indian Institute of Planning and Management (IIPM), New Delhi and Bio-Chemic Education Grant Commission, Nadia, West Bengal.

Apart from the above, UGC has taken the following steps to spread awareness among the general public, students and parents from the fake universities:—

- (i) UGC has published the list of fake Universities on its website *i.e.* www.ugc.ac.in.
- (ii) UGC has also issued public notice against the unrecognized status of Indian Institute of Planning and Management (IIPM), New Delhi and illegal status of Bio-Chemic Education Grant Commission, Nadia, West Bengal.
- (iii) At the beginning of every academic session, UGC issues Press Release and Public Notice regarding State-wise list of fake universities in the country in national dailies and newspapers in Hindi and English to warn the aspiring students, guardians and the public at large not to take admission in the courses run by the self-styled, unauthorized fake universities/institutions of higher education functioning in different parts of the country.

Proposal from MNCs for developing playgrounds

515. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposal from any MNC to develop

playgrounds of Government schools specially of Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalayas of olympic standards free of cost on no profit basis;

- (b) if so, Government's response thereto; and
- (c) the reasons for not accepting such proposals, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) A communication had been received from a private entity offering to develop the playgrounds of the Government schools viz. Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas against a sovereign bank guarantee by the Government of India. As the offer was not in accordance with the extant guidelines for grant of Government guarantees, it could not be processed further.

Amendment to existing Education Policy

516. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to amend the existing Education Policy in the near future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government is in the process of formulating a New Education Policy (NEP) for meeting the changing dynamics of the population's requirement with regard to quality education, innovation and research, aiming to make India a knowledge superpower by equipping its students with the necessary skills and knowledge. The guiding principles of NEP are access, equity, quality, accountability and affordability aimed at transforming education. Wide ranging consultations were undertaken at multiple levels of online, expert/thematic and grassroots from village to State, Zonal levels as well as at the National level. Initially, a Committee for Evolution of the New Education Policy was constituted which submitted its report in May, 2016 and thereafter, the Ministry prepared 'Some Inputs for the Draft National Education Policy, 2016'. Both these documents are treated as inputs for policy formulation. Suggestions and inputs have been received from various stakeholders such as, individuals, organisations, autonomous bodies, Hon'ble MPs, GoI Ministries and State Governments on various aspects of education. The exercise of preparing a New Education Policy is ongoing and the report of the Committee for Draft National Education Policy constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan is awaited.