

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3060
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.03.2022

UGC's plans on higher education

3060. DR. V. SIVADASAN:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the UGC is going to exempt the requirements of various educational qualifications to teach in Universities, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the UGC is planning to permit ed-tech firms to tie up with Universities;
- (c) whether Government has noticed the objections and protests raised by AICTE against ed-tech firms developing tie ups with Universities for offering online courses; and
- (d) if so, what is the further move of Government on this?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) UGC had notified UGC Regulations-2018 for appointment of teachers in Universities and colleges. These regulations, inter-alia, include the minimum qualifications for appointment of teachers and other academic staff. As per the regulations, there was mandatory requirement of PhD degree for the appointment of Assistant Professor w.e.f. 1.07.2022. Considering the unprecedented COVID situation, the regulation has been amended in terms of Ph.D requirement for the appointment of Assistant Professor w.e.f 1.07.2023.

(b) Based on recommendations of Expert Committee, UGC has proposed modifications in online and open distance distance learning programme regulations. As per proposed modifications, the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) may avail the services of educational technology firms for the purpose of technology maintenance, learning platform, advertisement and marketing etc. However, entire responsibility of offering the online programme with or without support of educational technology firms will be with HEIs. Any advertisement or marketing activity in respect of such programmes shall be solely and expressly in the name of the Higher Educational Institution.

(c) & (d) A few complaints have been received by UGC and AICTE regarding grievances against Ed-tech platforms. Considering this UGC and AICTE have issued public notices advising the students to check recognition/entitlement status of programme on official website before enrolling any course. The notice may be seen at https://deb.ugc.ac.in/pdf/UGC_Public_Notice_16-01-2022.pdf

The Ministry of Education has issued advisory regarding taking precautions against high claims made by Ed-Tech companies while opting for courses, tutorials, coaching etc. in an online mode. The details are available at https://www.education.gov.in/en/parl_ques