

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

INVITES SUGGESTIONS

ON

THE HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH BILL, 2011

The Higher Education and Research Bill, 2011 as introduced and pending in the Rajya Sabha has been referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development headed by Shri Oscar Fernandes, MP, Rajya Sabha for examination and report.

2. Rapid growth of Indian Higher Education Sector has given rise to numerous concerns about the regulatory structure in various fields of knowledge in institutions of higher learning. The Higher Education Sector as a whole is seen as “over-regulated but under-governed” with a multiplicity of regulatory agencies. It has, therefore, become imperative that a holistic view of higher education is taken because of the increasingly converging nature of the disciplines and the opportunities of knowledge creation that lie at the intersections of existing disciplines. The Higher Education and Research Bill, 2011 accordingly, seeks to promote autonomy of higher educational institutions and universities for free pursuit of knowledge and innovation; to provide for a comprehensive and integrated growth of higher education and research keeping in view the global standards of educational and research practices and for that purpose to establish the National Commission for Higher Education and Research to facilitate determination, co-ordination, maintenance and continued enhancement of standards of higher education and research including university education, vocational, technical, professional and medical education other than agricultural education

3. The Committee has decided to invite memoranda containing views/suggestions from individuals/organizations interested in the subject matter of the Bill.

4. Those desirous of submitting memoranda to the Committee may send their written memoranda, either in English or Hindi to **Shri Arun Sharma, Joint Director, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, 540, Fifth Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi-110001. Tel: 23035368 and Fax: 23793633) e-mail: arunsharma@sansad.nic.in or rsc_hrd@sansad.nic.in** within fifteen days from the date of publication of this advertisement. Those who are willing to appear before the Committee for oral evidence besides submitting the memoranda may indicate so. However, Committee's decision in this regard shall be final.

5. The memoranda submitted to the Committee would form part of the records of the Committee and would be treated as confidential and would enjoy privileges of the Committee.

6. The Bill has been published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, Dated 3rd January, 2012. Copies of the Bill can be had on written request to the above-mentioned Officer or can be downloaded from the official web-site of the Rajya Sabha (<http://rajyasabha.nic.in>) under the caption "**Bills with the Committees**".