

Brainstorming Session on “Proposed Higher Education Commission of India”

Address by Shri Kadyam Srihari Garu, Honourable Dy. CM and Minister of Education, Government of Telangana.

- Total of 31 clauses.
- The bill doesn't concentrate on meeting the educational requirements.
- Major concerns are
 - No support to the deprived sectors.
 - Autonomy is mentioned but the main motto is of centralisation.
 - Constitutional rights of state govt taken over by central govt.
 - Poorer sections are not being helped leading to illiteracy.
- Expected GER is not being achieved.
- State universities are not in competition with the global universities. The following are the reasons:
 - ❖ Central and state government is not giving priority to education sector.
 - ❖ Funding for education is decreasing constantly.
 - ❖ 30-40% faculty vacancies in the universities.
 - ❖ Research funding is poor.
 - ❖ No scope for upgradation of teaching skills.
 - ❖ Better research funding and investment on students leads to higher performance.
- The major concentration of the bill is on centralisation of power which may not lead to expected results.
- Stakeholders should be given a say on the HECI bill.
- Can HECI fit into New Education Policy.
- Too many regulatory bodies are not suggestable.
- TS SC/ST GER is the highest in the entire country.
- Concentration should be on development and diversification.
- Clauses should should be altered.
- MHRD appointment of VC of the central universities might have a political influence.
- Inspection mechanism should be concentrated.

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Address by Shri. Asaduddin Owaisi, Honourable MP

- Mere three weeks public consultation for HECI Bill amendment is not suggestable.
- Withdrawing the power of fund allocation is a major concern.
- Government official’s involvement
 - A. Section 3.6 (UGC Act) – No Government officials are involved.
 - B. Section 3.6 (HECI Bill) – Central Government officials are involved.
- Section 3.8 Composition of commission
 - A. UGC - total 10 members comprising of 4 Academicians and 6 Central/state officials.
 - B. HECI - 10-12 members comprising of 8 government officials, 4 Academicians, 2 serving VC’s and 2 serving universities.
- Section 3.8 (HECI Bill) – How does Doyon of Industry have an impact?
- HECI Bill leads to decrease in state government involvement.
- HECI Sec 15.41 talks about the Fee structure decision process.

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Address by Dr. K. Keshava Rao, Honorable MP

“Prior – Teaching was focused”

“Present – Learning is focused”

- The HECI bill is weakly drafted.
- Light should be thrown on advisory committee, Appointment of chairman and members.
- Correlation between state and central govt syllabus – To what extent?
- The Central government may not be able to meet the education needs of regional universities.
- Pace of taking concurrent decision.
- Academic economy has to be considered.
- Institute of Eminence given to 6 institutes and the basis of selection is unclear.
- Government should be facilitator
- Academicians should be the operators
- Students should be the feedback provided.