

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

7529 suggestions have been received on HECI Draft Bill as on 15th July, 2018

New Delhi, July 19th, 2018

The Ministry has prepared a draft Higher Education Commission of India Bill, 2018 for repeal of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act and setting up Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) for promoting the quality of academic instruction, maintenance of academic standards and autonomy of higher educational institutions for free pursuit of knowledge, innovation, incubation, skills and entrepreneurship, and for facilitating access, inclusion and opportunities to all, and providing for comprehensive and holistic growth of higher education and research in a competitive global environment.

The Ministry has put the draft Higher Education Commission of India Bill, 2018 in public domain on 27.06.2018 for seeking comments and suggestions from educationists, stakeholders and general public before 20.07.2018. As on 15th July, 2018, 7529 suggestions/comments covering Members of Parliament, State Governments, academicians, teacher unions, Chambers of Commerce, students etc. have been received and appropriate changes are being made in the draft Bill based on public feedback.

The grant disbursement function to Universities and Colleges is now proposed to be located in an entity which works in a transparent, merit-based approach through an ICT enabled platform.

This information was given by the Minister of State (HRD), Dr. Satya Pal Singh today in a written reply to a Rajya Sabha question.

NB/AKJ/AK/ HECI Draft Bill