

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2073

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007

NATIONAL KNOWLEDGE COMMISSION

Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai;Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Murmu Shri Hemlal;Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .;Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed;Singh Shri Ganesh;Yadav Shri Baleshwar

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Knowledge Commission has submitted its report as reported in the Dainik Jagran dated February 12, 2007;
- (b) if so, the main recommendations in the report;
- (c) whether the Commission has recommended to set up a National University during the next three years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the locations where these universities are likely to be set up;
- (e) whether the Government has consulted the Planning Commission to consider its recommendations;
- (f) if so, the recommendations which have been accepted;
- (g) whether a review of the recommendations will be undertaken by the Parliamentary Forum;
- (h) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (i) whether the Government proposes to bring about reform in education sector;
- (j) if so, the details thereof including the funds for the education sector; and
- (k) the time by which these recommendations are likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a) : Yes Sir,

(b) : The main recommendations of the Report on Higher Education are:

Expand massively to around 1500 universities nationwide that would enable India to attain a gross enrolment ratio of at least 15 per cent by 2015.

Establish an Independent Regulatory Authority for Higher Education.

Increase public spending and diversify sources of financing.

Establish 50 National Universities as multi disciplinary exemplars whose admissions would be on an all India basis.

Reform existing universities to ensure frequent curricula revision, introduce course credit systems, enhance reliance on internal assessment, encourage research and reform governance.

Restructure the system of affiliated undergraduate colleges.

Promote enhanced quality through stringent information disclosure norms, upgradation of infrastructure and looking at salary differentials

Ensure access for all deserving students through well funded scholarships and affirmative action that takes into account multi dimensionality of deprivation.

(c) to (k): The comments of the concerned Ministries/Departments of the Government of India have been sought by the Planning Commission. The question of a Parliamentary Forum reviewing the recommendations will only arise after the Government of India

takes a decision on the recommendations contained in the report.