

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4197
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010
LIBERAL ART UNIVERSITIES
Dhanaplan Shri K. P.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Liberal Arts Universities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be finalized;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to ban those higher educational institutions which are affiliated to overseas universities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (c) : Universities are established by or under Central law or a State law or notified by the Central Government as an institution deemed to be university under section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956. As envisaged in the Eleventh Plan, 16 new Central Universities have been established under the Central Universities Act, 2009, in States which are presently do not have any Central University. Establishment of 14 new Innovation Universities aiming at world class standards has also been envisaged and each Innovation University would focus on one area of problem of significance to India and build an ecosystem of research and teaching around the problem area. Universities being envisaged as essentially multi- disciplinary in nature, no unitary university focused on a single field of knowledge is proposed to be established by the Central Government at present.

(d) to (e) : Only a university established under Central law or a State law or an institution deemed to be university has the power to award a degree. Therefore, a degree awarded by a higher educational institution affiliated to an overseas university would not be considered as a degree awarded in India. Accordingly, the question of banning higher educational institution affiliated to an overseas university does not arise.