

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2082
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2011
UNIVERSITIES IN INDIA
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) whether the number of universities in India is much less in comparison to the vastness of the country;
- (b) If so, whether the Government has made any assessment about the need of universities in the coming 10-15 years;
- (c) If so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any action plan to establish more universities keeping in view the future needs; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof and the efforts being made by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The National Knowledge Commission in its report of 2007 had estimated that country needs 1500 universities nation wide. The Government has set up 16 new central universities by an Act of Parliament in 2009 in the unserved States of the country. The number of Universities as on 31.3.2010 was 493.

(d) to (e): Establishment of new Universities and expanding the existing ones is an ongoing progress. Education is in concurrent List and Central and State Governments have equal responsibility in setting up new Universities. Central Government is taking all actions to increase the number of Universities in the country. Efforts include creation of new universities by central government and improvement and expansion of existing ones, encouraging state governments to set up new universities etc.