

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1229
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2012
META UNIVERSITY
Natarajan Shri P.R.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up any meta university in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the purpose for which it is being launched;
- (c) whether the Government has identified the locations for the purpose;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of the funding structure for the university; and
- (f) the time by which this university is likely to be set up?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Yes Sir. The Ministry of Human Resource Development plans to set up a Meta University at Delhi in which, Jamia Millia Institute, Delhi University, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Indian Institute of Technology New Delhi would participate. The main purpose of Meta Universities is to share learning resources by different universities by using latest technologies available in order to enable students to benefit from learning resources available in different institutions. Since the Government does not interfere in the academic matters of higher educational institutions, it is left to these institutions to collaborate and to identify the courses and areas to be offered through the Meta University. It is reported by Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University that in a meeting held between these institutions, the areas of climate change, public health and education have been identified.

(e): Meta Universities represent 2nd Generation Universities, free from physical boundary conditions and able to operate in virtual space, taking advantage of the innovation and flexibility possible in such domains. Hence the existing capabilities and resources of these institutions will be utilised and no separate funding for these institutions is proposed for the purpose.

(f): It is expected that these institutions will commence course offering from next academic session.