

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4255  
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2009  
SETTING UP OF CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES  
Rao Shri Kavuri Samba Siva

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

- (a) the issues raised by the National Knowledge Commission with regard to setting up of new Central Universities;
- (b) the major recommendations of the Commission regarding higher education system in the country to achieve excellence in higher education and the corresponding provisions made in the Central Universities Bill;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to reformulate the Bill in consultation with all the stakeholders and set up an independent regulator of the university system to maintain their academic freedom and institutional autonomy essential for excellence in higher education; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a)to(d): In its Report to the Nation, the National Knowledge Commission (NKC) recommended the creation of 50 National Universities that would provide education of the highest standard and act as exemplars for the rest of the nation training students in a variety of disciplines; and that each University could be endowed with a substantial allocation of land which would be a subsequent source of income generation. These Universities would admit student on an All-India basis adopting the principle of needs blind admissions. The academic structure shall be semester based with internal evaluation and credit system permitting credit transfer. These Universities would be department based and shall not have any affiliated colleges.

The Central Universities Act, 2009, which come into effect on 15-01-2009 provides for establishment of fifteen Central Universities. These Universities would primarily be non-affiliating, providing for instruction and research in various branches of learning, such as natural sciences, humanities, engineering, technology and medicine, as the University may determine, from time to time. The University shall endeavour to maintain an all-India character and high standards of teaching and research, and for the purpose, shall take measures such as merit-based admissions and recruitments on all India basis; introduction of semester system, continuous evaluation, choice-based credit system and credit transfer, periodic review. In view of the provision for academic reforms to maintain quality provided in Section 6(2) of the Act, there is no proposal to reformulate the Central Universities Act, 2009.