

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2640  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2013  
FUNDS FOR INNOVATIVE RESEARCH WORK .  
Sudhakaran Shri K.

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

- (a) whether the University Grants Commission is holding unspent funds meant for setting up of Innovation Universities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay in setting up of these universities;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to disburse the funds to existing Premier Higher Educational Institutions for innovative research work; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has not earmarked any funds for setting up such universities. The Central Government has introduced the 'Universities for Research and Innovation Bill' in the Parliament on 21.5.2012, to provide for the establishment and incorporation of Universities for Research and Innovation. The delay has occurred since the formulation of the legislative proposal required extensive consultations with all stakeholders and the Bill has not yet passed.

(c) & (d): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has introduced a new Scheme entitled "Innovation Universities" from 2012-13 ( for XIIth plan period). The scheme is meant only for existing universities. Innovative research programmes are covered under any of the three following categories of financial assistance under the scheme:

1. Innovative Project One time grant up to Rs.25 crores permitted for utilization over a period of five years.
2. Innovative Programme Grant of Rs.25 crores to Rs. 100 crores permitted for utilization over a period of five years.
3. Innovation University Grant of Rs.100 crores to Rs. 300 crores permitted for utilization over a period of five years.