

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3432
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.07.2019**

Request for Central University

3432. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

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

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for setting up a Central University in Darjeeling, a long-pending demand of the people of the region and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government on the issue?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank')**

(a) & (b) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to set up a new Central University in Darjeeling. During 12th Plan (2012-17), as approved by National Development Council (NDC), the thrust is on consolidation of the higher education system. Expansion is to be mainly done by scaling up capacity of the existing institutions in place of setting up new institutions. The Central Government has launched Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) on cost sharing basis to assist States to open new institutions. Further, 'Education' is a concurrent subject, State Governments also take various initiatives to enhance the access to higher education in the respective States along with other Private Universities/Institutions.
