

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1612
ANSWERED ON 21.12.2022**

Availability of land for Central Universities in Bihar

1612 # Shri Sushil Kumar Modi:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had announced a Central University to be set up near Vikramshila in Bihar under the PM package;
- (b) the details of the area of land provided by Government of Bihar vis-à-vis land expected to be made available by Government;
- (c) the area of land provided by Government of Bihar vis-à-vis land expected to be made available by Government for setting up Motihari Central University, the status of remaining area of land; and
- (d) the amount sanctioned and spent on construction of buildings in Motihari along with the physical and financial progress made therein?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)**

(a) & (b) The PM Package for Bihar, 2015 *inter-alia* provides for establishment of a new Central University near Bhagalpur at the historic site of Vikramshila University. The Government of Bihar was requested to provide about 500 acres of land free from all encumbrances for the proposed University. However, on the request of the State Government the requirement of land was reduced to about 200 acres to begin with and the remaining to be furnished for future expansion. The State Govt offered the land measuring about 200 acres at three sites. The Site Selection Committee of this Ministry visited the sites in February 2022 and did not find the sites suitable. The Committee has requested for another location closer to ancient monument for holistic future growth perspective of the area.

(c) & (d) The State Government of Bihar has transferred 134.57 acres of land out of proposed approx. 301.97 acres of land for the Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Motihari. The construction of buildings at Motihari has not yet started.
