

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION No. 242  
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024**

**Upgradation of Odia University and Integration with Satyabadi Bana Bidyalaya**

**242 Shri Subhasish Khuntia:**

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to upgrade Odia University in Satyabadi, Puri district, to a Central University for promoting the Odia language, literature and culture at the national level;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposal, including timelines and funding provisions; and
- (c) whether Government plan to connect or integrate Satyabadi Bana Bidyalaya, established by Utkalamani Gopabandhu Das, with Odia University for historical and academic purposes, and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (A) TO (C) OF RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 242 FOR 18.12.2024 ASKED BY SHRI SUBHASISH  
KHUNTIA, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING UPGRADATION  
OF ODISIA UNIVERSITY AND INTEGRATION WITH SATYABADI BANA  
BIDYALAYA.**

(a) to (c): Presently, there is no proposal under consideration in the Ministry of Education to upgrade Odia University into a Central University. As regards conversion of Universities, colleges, or institutions into Central Universities, legacy considerations, the complexities of integrating existing staffs, and challenges related to affiliated colleges need to be factored in. The Central Educational Institutions are envisaged to function more as pace setter institutions to provide academic leadership to other institutions in the region. In Odisha, various Central Higher Educational Institutions are playing this role such as Central University of Odisha, Koraput; Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bhubaneswar; National Institute of Technology (NIT) Rourkela; Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Sambalpur; and Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Berhampur. In order to promote Odia language, the Central Government has declared Odia as a classical language. The policy of the Government is to promote all Indian Languages including Classical Languages. Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru works for the promotion of Indian languages including classical languages. To further enhance the study and preservation of Classical Languages, the Centre for Excellence for studies in Classical Odia was established under the auspices of CIIL on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020. 'Education' being a concurrent subject, State Governments also take various initiatives to provide greater access to education in their respective States and set up their own educational institutions. Both Odia University; and Satyabadi Bana Bidyalaya are under administrative control of Government of Odisha and as such there is no proposal under consideration in this Ministry to connect or integrate these institutions.

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