

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

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1460
ANSWERED ON 12.03.2025**

Central University at Dooars and Terai, North Bengal

1460 Shri Prakash Chik Baraik:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to establish a Central University in the Terai and Dooars (Tea Belt area) in North Bengal; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the timeline, budget and steps taken so far, if not, the reason therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)**

(a) and (b) The Central Universities are envisaged to function as pace setter institutions to provide academic leadership to other institutions in the region. There is already a Central University in West Bengal, namely Visva-Bharati. Besides, Central Universities, there are several other higher educational institutions in West Bengal such as Indian Institute of Information Technology, Kalyani; Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata; Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Nadia; Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur; National Institute of Technology, Durgapur; Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur; National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research, Kolkata. These educational institutions are also catering to the need of higher education in the State of West Bengal. Now, the focus has been on consolidation of higher education systems by scaling up the capacity of existing institutions. Further, Education being a concurrent subject, the State Governments are also taking initiatives to provide greater access to higher education in respective states.
