

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

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1944
ANSWERED ON- 06/08/2025**

Central University in Odisha

1944 Smt. Sulata Deo:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry will consider setting up a Central University or upgrading a State University to central status in Western Odisha; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): 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 Odisha, namely Central University of Odisha in Koraput which is catering to the educational aspirations of State of Odisha also. Besides Central University, this Ministry has established several other higher educational institutions in Odisha such as Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar; Indian Institute of Management, Sambalpur; Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Berhampur; National Institute of Technology, Rourkela etc. These higher educational institutions are also catering to the need of higher education aspiration in the State of Odisha. 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.
