

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.4265
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2016

Medium of Instruction in Higher Education

4265. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that students with rural background are unable to pursue higher education on account of English being the medium of instruction;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to introduce both English and Hindi as medium of instruction in the institutions of higher education and if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be done; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor and the alternative steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Dr. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)

(a) to (d): The National Policy on Education, 1986 has emphasized on the adoption of modern Indian/regional languages as the media of instruction at the University stage. The University Grants Commission (UGC) reviews, inter-alia, the medium of instruction in Higher Education with the Universities in the country. In a Conference of Vice Chancellors of the Central Universities held on 18th February, 2016, the Vice-Chancellors of all Central Universities have unanimously resolved to ensure that no student is deprived of Higher Education due to language limitations. It was also resolved to ensure instructions in an Indian language as applicable to the State along with English.
