

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

LOK SABHA

**STARRED QUESTION No. 133
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.03.2018**

Status of Central University

†*133. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to accord the status of central university to Patna University and upgrade it;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)**

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 133 FOR 5.3.2018 ASKED BY SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING STATUS OF CENTRAL UNIVERSITY.

(a) to (c) There is no proposal to accord the status of central university to Patna University. With a view to increase the access and improve the quality of higher education and to address the issue of regional imbalance in the country, the 11th Plan (2007-2012), as approved by the National Development Council (NDC), envisaged setting up of one Central University each in States which did not have any Central Universities (CUs) till then. Further, the Central Government has taken a policy decision not to convert State Universities into Central Universities for reasons of legacy issues, adjustment of existing staff and disaffiliation of affiliated colleges. Under 12th Plan (2012-17), as approved by NDC, the thrust was on consolidation of the higher education system. Expansion was to be mainly done by scaling up capacity of the existing institutions in place of setting up new institutions.

There are already three Central Universities functioning in Bihar namely, Central University of South Bihar, Mahatma Gandhi Central University and Nalanda University. Further, the Prime Minister announced a package for Bihar on 18.8.2015 which includes establishment of a Central University near Bhagalpur at the historic site of Vikramshila University. The Central Universities are envisaged to function more as pace setter institutions to provide academic leadership to other institutions in the region.
