

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3254
ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024**

Central Universities in Bihar

3254. Shri Janardan Singh Sigriwal:
Shri Manoj Kumar:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of Central Universities in the States particularly in Bihar is very less;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has any plan to establish Central Universities in every State in proportion to its population and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating for establishing a Central University in Bihar particularly in Sasaram Parliamentary Constituency; and
- (d) if so, the details and location thereof along with the time by which the said university is likely to be set up?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Presently, there are 48 Central Universities under the administrative control of Ministry of Education. Apart from this, various Ministries have also established their domain specific Central University. Bihar already has four Central Universities namely Central University of South Bihar, Gaya; Mahatama Gandhi Central University, Motihari; Nalanda University, Nalanda and Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur. The Central Universities are envisaged to function more as pace setter institutions to provide academic leadership to other institutions in the region; not necessarily in proportion to population or as per regional aspiration. There is at least one Central University in all the states except Goa. Following 12th Five year plan (2012-17), the thrust is 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. Moreover, 'Education' being a concurrent subject, the State Governments are also taking various initiatives to provide greater access to higher education in their respective States. However, the PM Package for Bihar, 2015 inter-alia provides for establishment of a new Central university near Bhagalpur at the historic site of Vikramshila. Presently, there is no proposal under consideration of this Ministry to establish a Central University in Sasaram Parliamentary constituency.
