

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3888
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025**

Education Hub within Central Universities

3888. Shri Dharambir Singh:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plans to develop an education hub within Central Universities to enhance academic excellence and interdisciplinary research;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including proposed infrastructure, funding allocation and timeline for implementation;
- (c) whether the education hub will include specialized research centres, incubation facilities and industry collaborations to promote innovation and skill development, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the steps likely to be taken by the Government to ensure equitable access for students from rural and economically weaker sections;
- (e) whether the Government has identified specific Central Universities for this initiative and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Government plans to develop an education hub at the Central University of Haryana, Pali Mahendergarh, to reduce the burden on Delhi University and JNU Delhi and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) envisages to restructure Higher Education by ending fragmentation and developing large multidisciplinary universities, colleges, and Higher Education Institutions (HEI) clusters/Knowledge Hubs with a minimum of 3,000 students. This will foster vibrant academic communities, break disciplinary silos, promote holistic education across various fields, encourage cross-disciplinary research, and enhance resource efficiency in higher education. Central Universities (CUs) under the purview of Ministry of Education are statutory autonomous organizations established under respective Central Acts of Parliament and governed by provisions of the Acts and Statutes/Ordinances/Regulations made thereunder. These Central Universities are empowered to take steps towards academic excellence, interdisciplinary research, and can plan for infrastructure development for such purposes through Higher Education Financing Agency

(HEFA). NEP 2020 has taken into account the concerns of the Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) which includes female and transgender individuals, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs, minorities and other categories. This policy aims at bridging the social category gaps in accessing, participation, and learning outcomes. Government has taken various measures in this direction which include opening of more HEIs; introduction and implementation of various Scholarship and Fellowship schemes for providing financial assistance to students; HEIs offering full Open Distance Learning/Online Programmes; anytime, anywhere learning opportunities through SWAYAM platform etc. ensuring equitable access for students from rural and economically weaker sections. Developing Central Universities, including Central University of Haryana, as education hub to foster innovation and skill among students, is the main thrust of NEP 2020.
