

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1159
ANSWERED ON 28.07.2025

ENCROACHMENT OF LAND OF VISVA-BHARATI UNIVERSITY

1159. SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of research projects at Visva-Bharati University which are currently funded by the Government and the total amount of funds allocated for these projects;
- (b) the total number of vacant posts of faculty at Visva-Bharati University and the steps being taken to fill these vacancies;
- (c) the details of land encroachment identified at Visva-Bharati University;
- (d) the details of legal and administrative steps taken against such land encroachment;
- (e) whether the Government has conducted a review of land disputes at Visva-Bharati University; and
- (f) the details of measures taken to prevent further land encroachments?

ANSWER

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

- (a): 53 research projects worth Rs.3.46 crores are currently funded by Central Government at Visva-Bharati.
- (b): Occurring of vacancies and filling thereof is a continuous process. The vacancies arise due to retirement, resignation and additional requirements on account of enhanced students' strength. Central Universities (CUs) are autonomous bodies established under Acts of Parliament. They are governed by their respective Acts/Statutes/Ordinances. All Central Universities including Visva Bharti, have been directed to fill- up the vacancies under Mission Mode, which is monitored regularly.

(c) to (f): Visva Bharti identified around 62.0225 acres of land under encroachment. The University has taken several measures for campus security, fencing, removal as well as prevention of the land encroachment. The Estate Officer for Visva Bharti appointed under Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorised occupants) Act, 1971 has conducted eviction drives periodically and demolished unauthorized structures. Additionally, the university issued administrative notices and consistently sought assistance from the District Administration and State Government for the removal of encroachments. Legal action has also been pursued through the filing of court cases. The University campus was surveyed and demarcation was done in 2007-08 and more than 550 pillars were installed. More than 30 km length of boundary wall has been erected around the campus.
