

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.199
ANSWERED ON 01.12.2025

Shortage of HEIs in Mumbai

199. Prof. Varsha Eknath Gaikwad:
Shri Sanjay Dina Patil:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Mumbai faces a shortage of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) despite the growing student population and increasing demand for quality higher education, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has received any proposal for the establishment of a new Central University or national-level institute in Mumbai to address this demand;
- (c) If so, the details thereof along with the present status of such proposals;
- (d) whether the Government has identified land or initiated discussions with the State Government of Maharashtra for setting up new higher education or research institutions, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to upgrade existing colleges affiliated to the University of Mumbai into autonomous or deemed universities to enhance access, affordability and research capacity in the metropolitan region?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): As per AISHE Report 2021-22, there are 7003 total number of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Maharashtra. In Mumbai district, there are various prominent Institutions of National Importance such as Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay; Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Mumbai and Centrally funded deemed University like Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), etc. which cater to the educational as well as the aspirational needs of the students in Mumbai. Education being in the Concurrent List, enhancing the quality of education is the responsibility of both the Central and State Governments. The State Universities function under the administrative control of the concerned State and are established by an Act of the State Legislation. However, recognizing the need for central assistance, the Central Government has implemented various schemes for supporting State Governments.

Ministry of Education is implementing Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) which is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme aimed at funding specific State government universities and colleges, so as to improve their quality by ensuring their conformity to prescribed norms and standards. The government has launched the third phase of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) in June 2023 in the form of Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA) with an outlay of Rs. 12926.10 crore for the period 2023-24 to 2025-26 to cater to needs of educationally unserved/ underserved areas. Under RUSA and PM-USHA, a total of 144 units have been approved support in the state of Maharashtra for a total amount of Rs. 1431.31 Crores, including financial support for improving and strengthening infrastructure of 24 Universities and 111 Colleges. Furthermore, under the earlier phases of RUSA, 3 New Model Degree Colleges have been approved support in the districts of Washim, Nandurbar, Hingoli of Maharashtra with a total amount of Rs.28 Crores.

Central Universities are envisaged to function more as pace setter institutions to provide academic leadership to other institutions in the region. Following 12th Five-year Plan (2012-17) as approved by the 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 is already one Central University in Maharashtra namely, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya in Wardha.

Furthermore, Deemed to be University (DTBUs) status is regulated as per the UGC (Institutions deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2023. Currently, a total of 23 Institutions Deemed to be Universities (IDTBUs) are operational in Maharashtra, with 8 located in Mumbai.
