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Status of Ambedkar University

2813. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of Ambedkar University in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether Government is considering to upgrade its present status to a Central University status;
- (c) if so, the reasons for giving it a higher status; and
- (d) the benefits that will accure by its upgradation and how the financial part will be taken care of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE)

(KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) Considering the requests from several quarters, including the Government of Pradesh and also recommendations of the Standing Committee for the Centenary Year of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar in this regard, the Government decided in 1993 to convert the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University into a Central University by the name of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (BBAU).

to Questions

Legislation to give effect to this decision was enacted by the Parliament in August, 1994. The date of commencement of BBAU Act, 1994 is yet to be notified.

The Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University would provide instructional and research facilities in frontier areas of Technology and allied disciplines as well as offer appropriate courses relevant for the development of socially and economically deprived sections of the people.

Consequent upon the transfer of land and other assets free of cost by the Govt. of U.P. to the Central Government and notification of date of commencement of BBAU Act, University Grants Commission would be in a position to provide funds for the development and maintenance of the University.

Gold Mines in Uttar Pradesh

2814. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Uttar Pradesh Directorate of Geology and Mining authorities have allowed foreigners to visit prospective gold mining sites in the hills of eastern Uttar Pradesh without the permission of State and Central Government;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) the details of the gold mining areas located in those hills of Uttar Pradesh; and