

Central University in Kerala

1175. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central University in Kerala has become fully functional;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is contemplating to shift the University from the present location;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether construction of the University Campus has been started; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) The Central University of Kerala has been established under the Central Universities Act, 2009 which has come into force on 15.1.2009. Pending allotment of land and construction of permanent campus, the University is presently carrying out its administrative and academic activities from hired premises.

Charging of capitation fee and other unfair practices in institutions/colleges

1176. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to enforce strict penalties on institutions/colleges in the country which are charging capitation fee, etc.;
- (b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;
- (c) whether unfair practices prevailing in institutions/universities would be curbed and some monitoring system would be put in place to check these unfair practices; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. The Government has introduced a legislation in Parliament, namely "The Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical, Medical Educational

Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010". The Bill completely prohibits charging of capitation fees. The Bill also seeks to curb other unfair practices prevailing in higher educational institutions and universities. The Bill prescribes stiff penalties and criminal punishments for persons/institutions indulging in unfair practices and demanding capitation fees.

Autonomy to affiliated colleges

1177. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is keen to grant autonomy to affiliated colleges; and
- (b) the steps taken by University Grants Commission (UGC) so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Colleges are admitted to academic privileges by Universities by affiliating them in accordance with their respective Acts, Statutes and Ordinances which lay down the degree of autonomy extended to such colleges. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has a scheme for declaring colleges satisfying certain conditions, as autonomous colleges, the details of which are available on the website of the Commission (<http://www.ugc.ac.in>).

Autonomy to universities

1178. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to accord organisation status to the universities that meet stringent demands;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether such universities would have more financial and academic autonomy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir. Universities are autonomous organizations governed under their respective Acts, Statutes and Ordinances.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.