

**Vacant Posts in Central Universities of Himachal Pradesh**

\*279. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sanctioned and vacant posts of lecturers in the Central Universities in the State of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether Government is taking any steps to fill the said vacant posts and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) Central University of Himachal Pradesh is the only Central University in the State of Himachal Pradesh. Details of sanctioned and vacant posts of lecturers in this Central University are as under:-

Post	No. of sanctioned post	Vacancies
Lecturer/Assistant Professor	108	57

(b) and (c) A regular Vice Chancellor has been appointed in the University. The Ministry has also provided a panel of Visitor's nominees for Selection Committees for teachers. Occurring of vacancies and filling them up is a continuous process. MHRD and UGC have repeatedly urged the University to fill up the vacancies. The onus of filling up of the posts lies on the University which is an autonomous body created under an Act of Parliament.

**Uniform education policy in the country**

\*280. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the existing education policy there is a wide gap in education between haves and have-nots;

(b) to what extent privatization is bringing in division between the students; and

(c) the reasons for not having a uniform education policy throughout the country and have a common school system to address this problem?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) The extant National Policy on Education (NPE) provides for a National System of Education which implies that, up to a given level, all

students, irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education of a comparable quality. It includes a common educational structure, a national curriculum framework and minimum levels of learning for each stage of education. Further, the stated policy of the Government is that education is a 'not-for-profit' activity. The 42nd Constitutional Amendment, 1976 brought about a fundamental change by transferring education from the State List to the Concurrent List recognizing the federal structure of our country.

In this context, the Government has initiated the process of formulating a New Education Policy (NEP), for which it carried out nearly a year-long highly participative, inclusive and multi-pronged consultation process, through online, grassroots and thematic expert consultations across 33 identified themes. Six zonal meetings were also held on NEP with the State Education Ministers, State Education Secretaries and other State officials. The proposed New Education Policy aims to meet the changing dynamics of the population's requirement with regard to quality education, innovation and research, aiming to make India a knowledge superpower by equipping its students with the necessary skills and knowledge and to eliminate the shortage of manpower in science, technology, academics and industry.

'Some Inputs for the Draft National Education Policy (NEP), 2016' has been formulated, wherein several suggestions for inclusive education of children from socially and economically disadvantaged sections as well as reforms in curricula, examinations, governance, regulation, school standards, teachers and faculty, literacy and lifelong learning, skills and employability, quality assurance, internationalization, research, innovation etc. have been proposed so as to build an education system that promotes equitable access to quality education to all sections of the society. It also States that appropriate regulatory and monitoring rules and mechanisms will be designed for private pre-schools and separate education tribunals will be established at the Centre and in the States to deal with litigation and address public grievances against Government as well as private schools/institutions. Further, it States that the Government will take steps for reaching the long pending goal of raising the investment in education sector to at least 6% of GDP as a priority. It reiterates that education, in Indian context, should be considered a public good and there is a need for greater public investment in the sector.

Suggestions on 'Some Inputs for the Draft National Education Policy (NEP), 2016' have been invited from the relevant Ministries of the Government of India, all States and UTs, Hon'ble MPs and all stakeholders by 16th August, 2016.