

organisation Act, 2014, Total 07 Central Educational Institutes i.e. one Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), one Indian Institute of Information Technology Design and Manufacturing (IIITDM), one National Institute of Technology (NIT), one Indian Institute of Management (IIM), one Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER), one Central University and one Tribal University are being established by this Ministry in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Among these institutes, permanent campus is already functional in IIT Tirupati, IIITDM Kurnool and NIT Tadepalligudem. The work of science building at IISER, Tirupati has been completed. The construction of IIM, Visakhapatnam is in progress.

Central University (Amendment) Act, 2019 for establishment of Central University, Ananthapur and Tribal University, Vizianagaram in Andhra Pradesh has been passed by the Parliament and have come in force w.e.f. 05th August, 2019. Since these two universities have been established in this financial year therefore ₹ 8 crore and ₹ 50 lakh have been released respectively for the current year.

#### **Increasing suicide rates among students**

1663. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the increasing suicide rates among students in the higher education institution in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any survey/research regarding the causes for suicides among students;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government is of the view that caste based discrimination is also one among the reasons for committing of suicides by students in the higher education institutions; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) to (f) The Government of India and University Grants Commission (UGC) have already taken several initiatives to check the incidents of harassment and discrimination of all students and to safeguard their interests, including of all disadvantaged groups, in higher educational institutions of the country which include formulation of University Grants Commission (Redress of Grievances of Students) Regulations, 2019.

UGC *vide* its letters has also issued instructions for prevention of Caste based discrimination, from time to time, to all the Universities/Deemed to be Universities. Recently, the UGC *vide* its letter dated 26.06.2019 has communicated to all universities to constitute a committee to look into the discrimination complaints received from the SC/ST/OBC Students /Teachers and non-teaching staff.

AICTE has also launched three week student induction program which includes physical activities, learning, art form, literature, cinema, social awareness and universal human values to make them stress free.

### Promotion of Sanskrit language

†1664. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar had proposed in the Constituent Assembly to make Sanskrit the official language, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has any action plan for the promotion of Sanskrit language in order to keep the dreams of Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar alive, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) On 11.09.1949, The Hindu, The Statesman, Hindusthan Standard, National Herald and other newspapers reported about Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's proposal to make Sanskrit as official language. To promote Sanskrit language there are 15 State Universities and 3 Deemed to be Universities across the country. The Government has also taken the following measures to develop Sanskrit language through Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi which are given in the Statement.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.