

(c) and (d) The 1st and 2nd year BS-MS students will commence their undergraduate classes and accommodation in the Main campus from the next academic year (2020-2021).

Inclusion of Kannada in UNESCO list of classical languages

550. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether request has been made by State Government of Karnataka to the Ministry related to recommendation of inclusion of Kannada as a classical language in the list of classical languages of UNESCO; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government of Karnataka has requested to various Ministries of Central Government for making recommendations for the inclusion of Kannada a classical language, in the records of the UNESCO. The Ministry of Culture has accordingly taken up the matter of inclusion of Kannada in records of UNESCO through permanent delegation of India to UNESCO wherein it was informed that UNESCO is not involved in recognition of Classical Languages.

Concerns related to fee hike

551. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Universities which have hiked their fees and whether Government has taken any steps to look into the demands of students opposing such fee hike;

(b) the ways in which the universities which are extending concession in fees will pass on the benefit to students and the details thereof; and

(c) methods by which the universities will identify students from poor family backgrounds who need concessions and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has not issued any instructions to Central Universities for increase in the fees. Central

Universities are autonomous bodies created under the respective Acts of Parliament and they are competent to take administrative and financial decisions pertaining to their Universities for betterment of the available facilities with the approval of competent statutory bodies as prescribed by the provisions of the Acts concerning them. Recently, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) informed that they have increased hostel room rent from ₹107/- per month to ₹300/- per month for double seater room and ₹20/-per month to ₹600/- per month for single seater room *vide* Executive Council Resolution No.6.26 taken in its 283rd meeting held on 13.11.2019. However, officials of MHRD engaged with students, faculties and the Administration for amicably resolving the issues raised by them. As per the record of the discussion issued by the MHRD, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has been requested to pay the service and utility charges in JNU hostels during the current semester (Winter Semester, 2020).

- (b) BPL students have been given 50% concession in room rent.
- (c) Students are required to submit BPL Certificate/ Card issued by the respective competent authority.

Protests in JNU over fee hike

552. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether different fee including hostel fee in JNU were increased recently by the University administration, if so, details of existing and revised fee and any extra payment which students are told to pay;
- (b) whether the students belonging to socially and economically weaker section will not be able to bear this unprecedented fee hike;
- (c) whether Government is aware of the protest of students in JNU against fee hike and details of intervention by Government to find a solution for it; and
- (d) the details of communication with Government and JNU VC or administration on this matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) is one of the foremost university in India, and a world-renowned centre for teaching and research.