

REPORT NO.

257



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**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**  
**RAJYA SABHA**

DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

**TWO HUNDRED FIFTY SEVENTH REPORT**  
**ON**  
**THE CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2012**

*(Presented to the Rajya Sabha on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2013)*  
*(Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2013)*



**Rajya Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi**  
**September, 2013/Bhadrapada, 1935 (Saka)**

Hindi version of this publication is also available.



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\*will be appended on printing stage

**DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**  
(Constituted w.e.f. 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2012)

1. \$Shri Oscar Fernandes — *Chairman*

**RAJYA SABHA**

2. Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia
3. Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar
4. Shri Avinash Rai Khanna
5. Shri Tarun Vijay
6. Shri Derek O' Brien
7. Chaudhary Munabbar Saleem
8. Dr. Janardhan Waghmare
9. Shri Baishnab Parida
10. Shri N. Balaganga

**LOK SABHA**

11. Shri Suresh Angadi
12. Shri P.K. Biju
13. Shri Jeetendra Singh Bundela
14. Shri Sivasami C.
15. Shrimati Helen Davidson
16. \*Smt. Deepa Dasmunshi
17. DR. Charles Dias
18. Shri Kapil Muni Karwariya
19. Shri Virender Kashyap
20. Shri N. Peethambara Kurup
21. Shri Prasanta Kumar Majumdar
22. Shri Raghuvir Singh Meena
23. Capt. Jai Naraian Prasad Nishad
24. #Shri Sis Ram Ola
25. Shri M.K. Raghavan
26. Shri K. Chandrashekar Rao
27. Shri M.I. Shanavas
28. Shri Balkrishna K. Shukla
29. Shri Bhoopendra Singh
30. Shri Kunwar Rewati Raman Singh
31. Shri Manicka Tagore
32. @Shri Mahadev Singh Khandela
33. \*\*Smt. Ambika Soni
34. ))Smt. Ambika Soni

\*Smt. Deepa Dasmunshi was elevated to Union Minister of State, Urban Development on 28.10.2012

@ Nominated as a member of the Committee w.e.f 09.01.2013

\$Shri Oscar Fernandes was elevated to Minister of Road Transport and Highways on 17.06.2013

#Shri Sis Ram Ola was elevated to Minister of Minister of Labour on 17.06.2013

\*\*Nominated as a member and Chairperson of the Committee w.e.f. 5.8.2013

))Resigned from membership and Chairmanship w.e.f. 7.8.2013

**DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**  
(Constituted w.e.f. 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2013)

1. Shri Birender Singh — *Chairman*

**RAJYA SABHA**

2. Shri A.W. Rabi Bernard  
3. Shri Avinash Rai Khanna  
4. Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia  
5. Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar  
6. Shri Derek O' Brien  
7. Shri Baishnab Parida  
8. Chaudhary Munavver Saleem  
9. Shri Tarun Vijay  
10. Dr. Janardhan Waghmare

**LOK SABHA**

11. Shri Suresh Angadi  
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13. Shri Jeetendra Singh Bundela  
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22. Shri Raghuvir Singh Meena  
23. Capt. Jai Narayan Prasad Nishad  
24. Shri M.K. Raghavan  
25. Shri K. Chandrashekar Rao  
26. Shri M.I. Shanavas  
27. Shri Balkrishna K. Shukla  
28. Shri Bhoopendra Singh  
29. Shri Kunwar Rewati Raman Singh  
30. Ms. Ramya Divya Spandana  
31. Shri Manicka Tagore

**SECRETARIAT**

Smt. Vandana Garg, Additional Secretary  
Shri N.S.Walia, Director  
Shri Arun Sharma, Joint Director  
Smt. Himanshi Arya, Assistant Director  
Smt. Harshita Shankar, Assistant Director

## PREFACE

I, the Chairman of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development, having been authorized by the Committee, present this Two Hundred and fifty seventh Report of the Committee on the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2012.\*

2. The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2012 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 28 December, 2012. In pursuance of Rule 270 relating to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees, the Chairman, Rajya Sabha in consultation with Speaker, Lok Sabha referred \*\* the Bill to the Committee on 1 January, 2013 for examination and report.
3. The Committee considered the Bill in two sittings held on 30 April and 7 June, 2013.
4. The Committee heard the views of the Secretary, Department of Higher Education on various provisions of the Bill in its meeting held on 30 April, 2013.
5. The Committee, while drafting the report, relied on the following:-
  - (i) Background Note on the Bill received from the Department of Higher Education;
  - (ii) Note on the clauses of the Bill received from the Department of Higher Education;
  - (iii) Summary of Consultations;
  - (iv) Verbatim record of the oral evidence taken on the Bill;
  - (v) Presentation made and clarification given by the Secretary, Department of Higher Education;
6. The Committee considered its Draft Report on the Bill and adopted the same in its meeting held on 7 June, 2013.
7. For facility of reference, observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters at the end of the report.

NEW DELHI;

June 7, 2013

Jyaistha 17, 1935 (Saka)

BIRENDER SINGH

Chairman,

Department-related Parliamentary

Standing Committee on Human Resource Development.

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\* Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II Section 2 dated 26 November, 2012

\*\* Rajya Sabha Parliamentary Bulletin Part II No.50467 dated 2 January, 2013

## REPORT

1. The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2012 was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development by the Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 1 January, 2013 for examination and report. The Bill seeks to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009 for the renaming of the Central University of Bihar, already established under the Central Universities Act, 2009, as Central University of South Bihar to be located at Gaya and establishment of a new Central University of North Bihar to be located at Motihari.
  
2. With a view to increase access and improve the quality of higher education in the country and also to remove the regional imbalances in higher education sector, the Central Universities Ordinance, 2009 was promulgated by the President on 15 January, 2009 for conversion of three State Universities in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Uttarakhand into Central Universities and establishment of a new Central University each in twelve States which did not have a Central University. The Ordinance was subsequently replaced by the Central Universities Act, 2009. The said Act was amended for establishment of Central University of Jammu. Thus, thirteen new Central Universities have started functioning from temporary premises. The State Governments were requested to provide land free of cost for establishing the permanent campuses of the Universities. The sites offered by the State Governments were inspected by a Site Selection Committee constituted by the Central Government having representation from the State Government also, before deciding upon establishment of a permanent campus.
  
3. The Secretary, Department of Higher Education, who appeared before the Committee on 30 April, 2013 gave a brief background of the circumstances necessitating amendment in the Central Universities Act, 2009. For the Central University of Bihar, the State Government of Bihar had identified three sites in Motihari. Two of the sites were found unsuitable by the Site Selection Committee for being low lying flood prone area. The third site was not found suitable due to lack of proper connectivity and lack of social and physical infrastructure. The Department had requested the Government of Bihar to identify other suitable sites but when it could not, the Department, on its own initiative, explored the possibility of acquiring a portion of an unused airfield belonging to the Ministry of Defence at Panchanpur, Gaya. On receiving 'in principle' approval from the Ministry of Defence, a Site Selection Committee visited Panchanpur and

identified 300 acres of land for establishing the Central University. This was communicated to the Ministry of Defence which was in the process of transferring the land.

4. The Secretary further informed the Committee that once the land was selected, there was a lot of opposition within the State of Bihar. Resolutions were passed by both the Houses of State Legislature, requesting the Central Government to establish the University at Motihari. Several Members of Parliament also raised the issue in Parliament, highlighting the need for establishing more than one Central University in Bihar to speed up the all-round development of the State. The general public, cutting across party lines both, at Gaya and Motihari was agitating and holding demonstrations for the establishment of the Central Universities at their respective places. In the above circumstances, it was apprehended that establishment of a Central University in any one place of these two places could lead to a law and order problem at the other place.

5. With a view to resolve the issue, a new Site Selection Committee comprising of representatives of both the Central and the State Government was constituted to examine the suitability of the sites offered by the State Government and recommend a suitable site for establishing the Central University at Motihari. The Committee inspected the two sites, one at Village Bankat Baria and Fursatpur under Chandrahia Panchayat and other at Village Bara Tola, Basatpur and Patparia, both under Motihari Circle.

6. The Department informed the Committee that the Site Selection Committee had found the site at Village Bara Tola, Basatpur and Patparia under Motihari Circle unsuitable being a low land for development of a University. However, by reducing the area of required land to 300 acres, the Committee was able to identify a suitable compact L-shaped piece of land at Village Bankat Baria and Fursatpur under Chandrahia Panchayat, Motihari Circle located right on NH-28A. In recommending the site, the Committee took into account the improvement that had taken place in roads and bridges between Patna, the nearest airport, and Motihari and the ongoing infrastructure projects for further improvement, which, when completed, would bring travel time from Patna to Motihari to two and a half hours. Already two educational institutions, a CBSE affiliated DAV school and an AICTE approved State Engineering College were functioning adjacent to the site. It was also observed that the process of urbanization had started in the area.



7. The Committee was apprised that it was proposed that one more Central University may be established in Bihar by amending the Central Universities Act, 2009. The Central University of Bihar already established through the Central Universities Act, 2009 would be renamed as Central University of South Bihar and its territorial jurisdiction shall be limited to the territory in the South of the River Ganges in the State of Bihar and a new Central University by the name of Central University of North Bihar would be established in Motihari having its territorial jurisdiction extending to the territory in the north of the River Ganges in the State of Bihar.

8. On a specific query that whether any other State has been chosen for establishing two Central Universities, the Secretary informed that it has been done in the case of Jammu & Kashmir. Initially, there was only one Central University but later it was bifurcated into Central University of Jammu and Central University of Kashmir by an amendment of the Central Universities Act, 2009. Committee's attention was drawn to the fact that the request for a second Central University by the State Government was in lieu of one IIM, duly sanctioned for the State.

**9. The Committee observes that the objective of the Central Universities Act, 2009 was to increase access and improve the quality of higher education sector and also to remove the regional imbalances in the higher education sector. When a new Central University is to be established in any State, the requirements of the State and its assessment at the ground level are to be the benchmark. Not only this, State Government is also mandated to provide land free of cost for establishing permanent campus of such a University. The Committee is also well aware of the fact that in a Parliamentary democracy, public sentiments and views of public representatives cannot be ignored. Against this backdrop, the initiative of the Government for having two Central Universities in Bihar, instead of one Central University as initially envisaged can only be considered a welcome step taken at the right time. The Committee, accordingly, approves the insertion of new section 3B and amendment of the First Schedule to the Central Universities Act, 2009.**

10. The Committee would also like to point out that there may be other States in the country, particularly those States which are large and educationally backward, where more than one Central University needs to be established. The Committee strongly feels that the Department, being the nodal authority for the higher education sector for the entire

country, has to act as the guiding force for ensuring the reach of higher education to all the targetted youth of the country. The Committee observes that the process has already started by getting the Central Universities Act, 2009 and other similar Acts enacted. The only action required to be taken is to sustain and further strengthen this major initiative of the Government. The Committee, while welcoming the present legislative proposal, would also like to emphasize that an assessment of all the States having only one Central University may be made so as to initiate the exercise of having another Central University, wherever required and feasible.

11. The Committee would be failing in its duty if status of the Central University of Bihar, now proposed to be designated as the Central University of South Bihar is not looked into. The Committee notes that this University of Bihar which was established on 2 March, 2009 is functioning from a temporary location at BIT Campus, Patna. The University will be ultimately established on army land identified in Gaya for which 'in principle' approval of the Ministry of Defence has already been obtained. The Committee was given to understand that the Department was in the process of placing a memo for transfer of land before the Cabinet. As things stand, because of the dispute about the site, no progress could be made so far as permanent campus is concerned. It is doubtful as to how much time would be taken in getting the army land ultimately transferred. The University has not become fully functional and is continuing to function from a temporary campus for the last four years. The Committee finds that out of 14 Schools of Studies envisaged under the Central University of Bihar, only 6 Schools are operational as on date, with 2 new Schools likely to come up in the near future. Nobody can also dispute the fact that required facilities can be made available only when the University starts functioning from a permanent site. In the process, the students will be the main casualty.

12. Another worrisome aspect which has drawn the attention of the Committee is the very large number of vacant faculty positions in the Central University of Bihar. While examining the Demands for Grants-2013-14, the Committee was given to understand that as on 31.3.2012, out of 140 sanctioned faculty posts, 114 posts were lying vacant. Not only this, out of the 26 teachers in position, 15 teachers were on contract. Position with regard to non-teaching posts was also equally discouraging. Out of the sanctioned 99 non-teaching posts, vacancies numbered 55. The Committee is, however, somewhat intrigued to note that as per

the latest feedback made available to it, there are 55 faculty members comprising of 2 Professors, 3 Associate Professors and 50 Assistant Professors in position in the Central University of Bihar. The Committee notes that only 7 posts could be filled up during 2011-12. However, during 2012-13, 29 posts were filled up. The Committee fails to understand the reasons for this latest position not being shared with it during the course of examination of Demands for Grants 2013-14 which has taken place only in the first week of April, 2013. In any case, this present strength of 55 faculty members shows a big gap when compared with the sanctioned faculty strength of 140. The Committee is not aware about the percentage of faculty members in position on regular basis and adhoc basis, against the 55 faculty positions reported to be in place as per the latest figures. The Committee has dwelt at length on the problem of acute shortage of teachers in all categories of higher educational institutions in its 256<sup>th</sup> Report on Demands for Grants, 2013-14 of the Department of Higher Education. The problem has indeed acquired a serious dimension with no easy solution visible in the near future. The Committee can only say that this issue will have to be taken up in a mission mode.

13. The Committee is deeply concerned about another crucial problem-area pertaining to the new Central Universities i.e. lack of a well-structured building, fully equipped with the required infrastructure having labs, library and hostel facilities etc. for its students. It has taken more than four years to identify the site for the Central University of Bihar. It is not known how much time would be taken in getting the land transferred in the name of the two new Central Universities of Bihar. Thereafter, the prolonged exercise of construction of boundary wall of the Universities, getting the Master Plan approved, hiring of Architects and construction agencies would begin. Only thereafter, the actual construction work would start. The Committee would once again emphasize that by merely having the legislation enacted would not serve the purpose. Here again, a vigorous monitoring mechanism at every feasible level has to be in place so as to expedite the process of construction of University building.

14. The Committee notes that as indicated in the Financial Memorandum to the Bill, ₹ 240.00 crore was approved by the Cabinet in the Eleventh Plan for the Central University of Bihar. This allocation is now proposed to be split between the Central University of South Bihar and the Central University of North Bihar. On a specific query in this regard, the

**Committee was assured that this arrangement was meant for initial period only. Subsequently, required funds would be made available for both the Universities by UGC. The Committee recommends that adequate funds, as and when required, may be provided to both the Universities.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

## RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS—AT A GLANCE

The Committee would like to point out that there may be other States in the country, particularly those States which are large and educationally backward, where more than one Central University needs to be established. The Committee strongly feels that the Department, being the nodal authority for the higher education sector for the entire country, has to act as the guiding force for ensuring the reach of higher education to all the targetted youth of the country. The Committee observes that the process has already started by getting the Central Universities Act, 2009 and other similar Acts enacted. The only action required to be taken is to sustain and further strengthen this major initiative of the Government. The Committee, while welcoming the present legislative proposal, would also like to emphasize that an assessment of all the States having only one Central University may be made so as to initiate the exercise of having another Central University, wherever required and feasible.

(Para 10)

The Committee has dwelt at length on the problem of acute shortage of teachers in all categories of higher educational institutions in its 256<sup>th</sup> Report on Demands for Grants, 2013-14 of the Department of Higher Education. The problem has indeed acquired a serious dimension with no easy solution visible in the near future. The Committee can only say that this issue will have to be taken up in a mission mode.

(Para 12)

The Committee is deeply concerned about another crucial problem-area pertaining to the new Central Universities i.e. lack of a well-structured building, fully equipped with the required infrastructure having labs, library and hostel facilities etc. for its students. The Committee would again emphasize that by merely having the legislation enacted would not serve the purpose. Here again, a vigorous monitoring mechanism at every feasible level has to be in place so as to expedite the process of construction of University building. (Para 13)

The Committee notes that as indicated in the Financial Memorandum to the Bill, `240.00 crore was approved by the Cabinet in the Eleventh Plan for the Central University of Bihar. This allocation is now proposed to be split between the Central University of South Bihar and the Central University of North Bihar. On a specific query in this regard, the Committee was assured that this arrangement was meant for initial period only. Subsequently, required funds would be made available for both the Universities by UGC. The Committee recommends that adequate funds, as and when required, may be provided to both the Universities.

(Para 14)

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# MINUTES

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## **XIX**

### **NINTEENTH MEETING**

The Committee on Human Resource Development met at 3.00 p.m. on Tuesday, the 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2013 in Committee Room 'A', Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

##### **RAJYA SABHA**

1. Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar - in the Chair
2. Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia
3. Shri Avinash Rai Khanna
4. Shri Tarun Vijay
5. Chaudhary Munabbar Saleem
6. Dr. Janardhan Waghmare
7. Shri Baishnab Parida
8. Shri N. Balaganga

##### **LOK SABHA**

9. Shri P.K. Biju
10. Dr. Charles Dias
11. Shri Virender Kashyap
12. Shri N. Peethambara Kurup

#### **LIST OF WITNESSES**

##### **DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

- (i) Shri Ashok Thakur, Secretary
- (ii) Shri Anant Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary
- (iii) Shrimati Vaisala Hariharan, Deputy Secretary
- (iv) Shri Umesh Kumar, Under Secretary

##### **SECRETARIAT**

Smt. Vandana Garg, Additional Secretary  
Shri N.S. Walia, Director  
Smt. Himanshi Arya, Assistant Director  
Smt. Harshita Shankar, Assistant Director

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members to the meeting of the Committee convened  
\*\*\* \*\* and to hear the views of the Secretary, Department of Higher Education  
on the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2012.

3. \*\*\* \*\*

4. Thereafter, the Committee, heard the views of the Secretary, Department of Higher Education on  
the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2012. The Members raised some queries which were replied to  
by the Secretary.

5. The Committee then adjourned at 4.45. p.m.

## **XXI**

### **TWENTY FIRST MEETING**

The Committee on Human Resource Development met at 3.30 p.m. on Friday, the 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2013 in Main Committee Room', Ground, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

##### **RAJYA SABHA**

1. Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia - **In the Chair**
2. Shri Tarun Vijay
3. Chaudhary Munavver Saleem
4. Shri Baishnab Parida
5. Shri N. Balaganga

##### **LOK SABHA**

6. Shri Suresh Angadi
7. Shri Jeetendra Singh Bundela
8. Shrimati Helen Davidson
9. Dr. Charles Dias
10. Shri Virender Kashyap
11. Shri N. Peethambara Kurup
12. Shri Raghuvir Singh Meena
13. Capt. Jai Narain Prasad Nishad
14. Shri Sheesh Ram Ola
15. Shri M.K. Raghavan
16. Shri M.I. Shanavas

#### **LIST OF WITNESSES**

##### **THE INDECENT REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN (PROHIBITION) AMENDMENT BILL, 2012**

##### **I. ADVERTISING AGENCIES ASSOCIATION OF INDIA**

- (i) Mr. Arvind Sharma, President
- (ii) Mr. Sam Balsara, Past President,

##### **II. INDIAN SOCIETY OF ADVERTISERS**

- (i) Ms. Beena Koshy, Member, Media Committee of the ISA

##### **III. VAKUL SEEMA AND ASSOCIATES**

- (i) Shri Vakul Sharma, Advocate
- (ii) Smt. Seema Sharma, Advocate



**IV. RAKSHAK FOUNDATION**

- (i) Ms. Nikita Anand
- (ii) Ms. Preeti Goel
- (iii) Shri Rohit Agarwal
- (iv) Ms. Kritin Jain
- (v) Mr. Keshav Gupta

**V. LAWYERS COLLECTIVE, WOMEN'S RIGHTS INITIATIVE**

- (i) Ms. Indira Jaising, Executive Director
- (ii) Ms. Gayatri Sharma, Assistant

**SECRETARIAT**

Smt. Vandana Garg, Additional Secretary

Shri N.S. Walia, Director

Smt. Himanshi Arya, Assistant Director

Smt. Harshita Shankar, Assistant Director

2. Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia, M.P., Rajya Sabha and a member of the Committee presided over the sitting, as authorized by Shri Oscar Fernandes, Chairman of the Committee. He welcomed the Members to the meeting of the Committee convened to consider and adopt draft 257<sup>th</sup> Report on the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2012 and also to hear the views of the stakeholders on the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Amendment Bill, 2012.

3. \*\*\* \*\*

4. The Committee, then, considered and adopted the draft 257<sup>th</sup> Report on the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2012. The deadline for presenting a Report on the Bill was 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2013 and since the House was not in session, the Committee authorized the Chairman to present the Report to the Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2013.

5. \*\*\* \*\*

6. The Committee then adjourned at 4.55. p.m.

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# ANNEXURES

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