

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1800
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2014
CENTRES FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING OF LANGUAGES
Udasi Shri Shivkumar Chanabasappa

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is emphasizing upon establishment of centres for teaching and learning of Sanskrit, Chinese, Russian, Urdu and European languages by providing special financial assistance to the universities of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the traditional system of teaching and learning of various languages of the world in Indian Universities has almost been discontinued; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): In order to promote Sanskrit Language, the Central Government has requested all Central Universities where the Department of Sanskrit does not exist, to explore the possibilities of opening of Sanskrit Departments. Further, the University Grants Commission (UGC) provides plan and non-plan grants to five Sanskrit State Universities and two Sanskrit Deemed to be Universities. The details of grants released to these Institutions from 2012-13 to 2014-15, as on date, are at Annexure.

For Urdu Language, the Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad, a Central University, through its Under Graduate and Post-Graduate Programmes, caters to the educational needs of the Urdu speaking population. Besides this, UGC has established the Centre for the Professional Development of Urdu Medium Teachers in Aligarh Muslim University, Jamia Millia Islamia and Maulana Azad National Urdu University.

(b) to (d): Universities have autonomy in Academic matters including opening new departments, introduction of courses and teaching and learning of various languages of the world, since they are governed in such matters by their respective Acts, Statues and Ordinances.