**No. Acad.III/PQ/1068/2015/ 17th April, 2015**

Shri P. Bhaktavatsalam

Under Secretary (CU-VI)

Department of Higher Education

Ministry of Human Resource Development

Shastri Bhavan

**NEW DELHI-110001**

Sub: Material for reply to Lok Sabha provisionally Starred/Unstarred admitted Question Diary No. 11838 for 22.04.2015 asked by Dr. P. Venugopal regarding adoption of villages by Central Universities-reg.

 Dear Sir,

Please refer to your e-mail dated 16.04.2015 on the subject cited above.

 As desired, we forward herewith the draft material to the aforesaid Lok Sabha Question for further action at your end.

 Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(YASHWANT SINGH)

 **OSD**

**Encl:** As above.

CC: PS to Registrar --- For kind information of the Registrar.

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JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

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**Q. (a): Whether it is true that the Government has asked the Central Universities to adopt villages to make them model villages;**

Reply (a): There is a letter of communication from the Joint Secretary (CU&L) of the MHRD, D/O School of Education and Literacy, along with a gist of observations made by the Honorable President of India and the Honorable HRM on the recommendations made during the Vice-Chancellor’s Conference held at Rashtrapati Bhawan on 4-5 February 2015. One of the recommendations relates to adoption of villages as model villages in the vicinity of the Universities.

**Q. (b): If so, the details thereof;**

Reply(b): One D.O. letter (No. 20-107/2014-Desk.U dated 13 February 2015) from Mr. Sukhbir Singh, Joint Secretary (CU&L), MHRD, D/O School of Education & Literacy, Shastri Bhawan has been addressed to JNU Vice-Chancellor, Prof. S. K. Sopory, along with the gist of recommendations. One of the recommendations relates to ‘Community Development Cell’, and it reads as the following:

 *‘Each Central University shall set up a Community Development Cell which will identify at least 5 villages in its vicinity for adoption as model villages by the University’.*

**Q. (c): Whether any Universities have come forward to implement the above proposal.**

Reply(c**):** Jawaharlal Nehru University has deliberated on the recommendations and constituted a ‘Community Development Cell’.

**Q. (d) If so, the details thereof and if not, the views expressed by Universities on the above**

 **said proposal?**

Reply(d):Due to paucity of funds at the moment there is a plan to adopt at least one village during the current financial year, namely Kusumpur Pahadi (an urban slum with 70 thousand residents) in South-West Delhi near JNU. As and when we receive additional grant, more villages will be adopted.

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