

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3185

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2000

REGIONAL ENGINEERING COLLEGES

BASANGOUDA PATIL;DR. KIRIT SOMAYA;GADDE RAMAMOCHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;RAMSHETH THAKUR;SHIVAJI MANE

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is any proposal to upgrade Regional Engineering Colleges to the level of Indian Institute of Technology and also levying a cess on information technology firms to meet the trained manpower requirement in the country;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the funds earmarked for the purpose and time frame worked out therefor;
- (d) the details of the Regional Engineering Colleges (REC) likely to be upgraded;
- (e) the name of the Ministry that will co-ordinate and implement this project;
- (f) the recommendations made by the Jaswant Singh Committee on infotech; (g) the recommendations implemented so far; and (h) the time by which remaining recommendations are likely to be implemented?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN)

(a),(b),(c),(d) and (e): The Advisory Committee on Information Technology in its meeting held on 21st February, 2000 has suggested upgradation of the existing leading 43 Engineering Colleges/ Regional Engineering Colleges as IIT type institutions of higher learning and excellence in Information Technology. List of Engineering Colleges likely to be upgraded is at Annexure. The suggestions have been referred to the Ministry of Human Resource Development(HRD) for implementation.

(f),(g) and (h): The major recommendations of the Task Force relate to simplified policies and procedures in telecommunication sector, enactment of Cyber Laws to promote e-commerce and to provide security to electronic transactions, simplifications in labour laws for IT sector, fiscal incentives, promotion of IT in schools and rural areas, computerization in government and to increase computer literacy at grass root levels.

44 out of 108 recommendations have already been implemented. 30 recommendations are on-going and are to be implemented in phases. 3 recommendations have been found non-implementable and 31 are yet to be implemented. Many of these recommendations yet to be implemented relate to Department of Telecommunications, Department of Education, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Department of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Finance and State Governments. Ministry of Information Technology being the nodal Ministry for promotion of IT in the country is pursuing with the concerned Ministries/Departments for implementation of these recommendations. The recommendations in the second and third report are under the consideration of Government.