GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1318
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2007
MODIFICATION OF EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to change and modify the current system of education to meet the requirements of the current boom in the IT & ITeS and other related industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) has submitted any proposals and suggestions to the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) o (e): The National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) made a presentation before the Prime Minister on 19.12.2005 on the vision for IT Industry, based on the NASSCOM-Mckinsey Report, 2005. According to this report, India will need a 2.3 million IT and BPO workforce by the year 2010 to maintain its current market share. NASSCOM's supply projections indicate a shortfall of nearly 0.5 million employees, nearly 70 percent of which will be concentrated in the BPO industry. AICTE has however forecast that at an anticipated growth in enrolment in engineering courses at 15% there would not be any shortage of manpower for IT jobs.

The Government had set up a working group, on 27.06.2006, under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Higher Education) and with representatives from the Department of IT, CSIR, Department of Economic Affairs, AICTE, NASSCOM, industry, etc. to make recommendations on improving the supply of talent to the IT/BPO sector. As recommended by the Working Group, AICTE is updating curriculum and syllabi of undergraduate engineering courses to make them more compatible with the requirements of the IT & ITeS and related industries.

As also recommended by the Working Group, finishing schools have been organized in some National Institutes of Technology and IIT Roorkee to enhance the employability of engineering graduates of other Engineering Colleges. The Ministry of HRD has also taken up a major initiative to establish 20 new Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) in the country during the 11th Five Year Plan.