

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4250
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010
MBBS COURSE IN IITS
Sardinha Shri Francisco

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to start MBBS course in Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any request from such institutes to offer MBBS course;
- (d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto;
- (e) whether the Government has consulted Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur have proposed to introduce a new Medical Education programme leading to MBBS, MD, MS and Ph.D. The new programme aims to bridge the gap between Medicine and Technology with inputs beyond the Medical Council of India recommendations.

(d) to (f): On consultation with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare regarding the proposal to include 'Medicine' within the scope of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961, it was opined that establishing Medical Colleges by the IITs for starting conventional medical courses would not be advisable. That Ministry have, however, suggested that the IITs may consider starting of higher courses of medical sciences like Ph.D. involving collaboration between the branches of engineering and medical sciences. However, appreciating the fact that the modern trends in medical education and research in technology and medicine in all the developed and most of the developing countries are seen hand-in-hand, the Government proposes to incorporate 'Medicine' in the IT Act. The programme will bring the two diverse, yet important disciplines of medicine and engineering together.