GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4289
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010
DISQUALIFICATIONS OF SCS STS STUDENTS IN IITS
Shantha J.

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

- (a) whether several Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes category students were made ineligible to continue their studies in Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) on failure to secure qualifying marks in periodical tests;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of complaints against authorities which stood substantiated leading to reversal of disqualifications of SC/ST students; and
- (d) the steps taken/initiated to address the problems of students failing to meet the academic parameter?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Students of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are provided with sufficient opportunity to improve their performance. Those students who are found to be academically deficient and are unable to improve, irrespective of their being in general or any of the reserved categories, are not eligible to continue with the academic programmes. However, opportunities to appeal/ re-appeal for reinstatement / continuation of the academic programmes are available to such students, which are examined by the Senate uniformly on merits, irrespective of the caste considerations. While, no student of the IITs at Bombay, Madras, Kharagpur and Roorkee has been made ineligible to continue their studies, registration of a few students of IITs at Delhi, Kanpur and Guwahati, whose performance were not upto the mark, have been terminated.
- (c): No complaint against any individual has been received. However, a few de-enrolled students of IIT-Delhi, belonging to the general as well as reserved categories, were re-instated due to the intervention by the Commission for SC/ST and the Supreme Court of India.
- (d): The ITs have been adopting various steps to address the needs of poorly performing students which inter-alia include the following:
- (i) Students earning less than the stipulated number of credits (General / OBC: 26; SC / ST: 22) in the first year, have the option to restart the programme.
- (ii) Students performing below the minimum acceptable level, are placed on probation with warning and intimations sent to their parents / guardians. Such students are monitored, including mandatory attendance in classes, special tutorials and mentoring, comprising structured guidance under specially selected Ph.D./ M.Tech. students under the supervision of course co-ordinator.
- (iii) A faculty member in each department is identified who would function as an advisor for students under probation. The faculty member closely monitors the academic performance of these students.
- (iv) Students under probation are to meet regularly their course advisors once in every two weeks and report their difficulties. The meetings would take place as per mutually agreed schedules decided at the beginning of the semester.
- (v) Counseling requirements of students under probation, which may be identified by their advisors or course co-ordinators or wardens, are taken care of by Associate Dean of Students, who monitors the progress with the Counseling Cell and takes necessary steps.