GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:647 ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010 UPGRADATION OF ENGINEERING COLLEGES Paranipe Shri Anand Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Government has any Plan to raise the standard of some engineering colleges close to that of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the engineering colleges proposed to be taken up under this scheme; and
- (d) the funds allocated/earmarked for this purpose?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): An Expert Committee constituted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development under the chairmanship of Prof. S.K.Joshi identified the following seven Institutes for upgradation to the level of IITs,viz: (1) Institute of Technology - Banaras Hindu University (IT-BHU); (2) University College of Engineering(UCE), Osmania University; (3) Bengal Engineering College, Shibpur (now Bengal Engineering and Science University (BESU), Shibpur) (4) Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Jadavpur University; (5) Zakir Hussain College of Engineering and Technology, Aligarh Muslim University(AMU); (6) Andhra University College of Engineering; and (7) Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT). These Institutes were asked to prepare Vision Document pertaining to upgradation of the Institutes' infrastructure - both academic and administrative, in identified thrust areas. Subsequently the Central Government constituted another Expert Committee - Anandakrishnan Committee to examine these Vision Documents and give necessary suggestions to (i) meet the goals (ii) identify the gaps in resources, and(iii) suggest a Plan of Action for upgrading the identified Institutes. One of the recommendations of the Anandakrishnan Committee was for the establishment of a system of Indian Institutes of Engineering Science and Technology (IIESTs) as Institutes of National Importance through an Act of Parliament. The Committee recommended upgradation of five Institutes to IIEST - (1) Bengal Engineering College, Shibpur (now Bengal Engineering and Science University (BESU), Shibpur) (2) Institute of Technology, BHU (3) Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) (4) Andhra University College of Engineering, and (5) University College of Engineering (UCE), Osmania University. However, when the State Governments were asked for concurrence, only the Governments of West Bengal and Kerala approved the transformation. Subsequently the Government of Kerala has not shown interest. There is a proposal to convert the IT-BHU into an Indian Institute of Technology with an outlay of Rs.422.96 crore during the 11th Five Year Plan Period.