

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3584
ANSWERED ON:13.02.2014
OPENING OF NEW REGIONAL CENTRES OF IIMC
Tagore Shri Manicka

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has any proposal for opening of four new regional centres of the prestigious Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) across the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has also any proposal to enhance the academic capacities of the Delhi- based IIMC and to declare it as an 'Institution of National Importance';
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to open any centre of IIMC in Tamil Nadu; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI)

(a) Four Regional Centres of IIMC have already been established at Amravati (Maharashtra), Aizawl (Mizoram), Jammu (J&K) and Kottayam (Kerala). The Centres at Amravati and Aizawl became operational from the academic session 2011-12 whereas the Centres at Jammu and Kottayam have become operational from the academic session 2012-13 with PG Diploma courses being offered in English Journalism. These Centres are functioning at temporary premises provided by the respective State Governments, free of cost. As per Plan Scheme of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting under 12th Five Year Plan, there is a proposal to upgrade the Centres by establishing permanent campuses on the lands to be provided by the respective State Governments, free of cost.

(b) & (c) Yes Sir. With the endeavour to provide IIMC the Degree granting powers, the Ministry has taken the initiative to declare IIMC as "An Institution of National Importance" through an Act of Parliament. For this purpose, a draft Bill has been prepared and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is in regular consultation with the Ministry of Law & Justice (Legislative Department) for finalisation of the proposed Bill.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

(e) Doesn't arise in view of (d) above.