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Title: Need to expedite the process of setting up an Indian Institute of Technology in Palakkad, Kerala.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD) : Kerala is one of the few states which do not have an Indian institute of Technology in the country. It has to be noted that Kerala is one of the most educationally advanced states in the country. Kerala's achievement in education is even comparable to that of developed countries. Kerala is producing a large number of qualified professionals and human resources which is an institution of excellence like IIT. Government of India had given assurance on the floor of this august House that an IIT will be given to Kerala during 12th Plan period. The state is ready to offer land free of cost at Palakkad for the setting up of IIT. The state Government since 2006 has been offering land for the purpose. Palakkad has been considered as the most suitable place for the setting up of IIT due to its proximity to Coimbatore airport and its growing importance as an industrial hub. Hence, I request the Union Government to expedite the process of setting up of IIT in Kerala and to take immediate steps to start the project in the next Financial Year itself.