

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 15  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2021**

**IIT, Madras**

**15. SHRI T.R. BAALU:**

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Indian Institute of Technology(IIT) Madras which is pride of Chennai is fast turning into a place for discrimination against students and faculty on caste and religious basis;
- (b) the action taken by the Government and IIT Madras management to put an end to such inhumane and illegal practice enacted in IIT Chennai in the wake of the suicidal death of a girl student Ms Fathima in the hostel room in 2019;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that atrocities against students and Faculties including non-teaching staff belonging to SC, ST, non-Hindu religious minorities are continuing unabated as evidenced in the resignation of one Assistant Professor of Chennai IIT, recently; and
- (d) if so, the action is going to be taken by the Central Government?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

- (a) : IIT Madras does not discriminate on caste or religious basis.
- (b) : IIT Madras, through its students' outreach program, ensures the mental well-being of every student/research scholar. The institutional counselling service is being provided to the students/scholars on 24x7 basis. There is a full-time functional Institute Hospital on campus to serve the students' health issues. Newly admitted students are inducted through an orientation program, wherein they interact with officials at various levels including Director of the Institute. The orientation program aims to make them comfortable in the Institute, which is a new environment for them.

(c) & (d): Section 7 (1) of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961 provides that the Institute shall be open to persons of either sex and of whatever race, creed, caste or class, and no test or condition shall be imposed as to religious belief or profession in admitting or appointing members, students, teachers or workers or in any other connection whatsoever.

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