

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3334
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019**

Empower

3334. SHRI VENKATESH NETHA BORLAKUNTA:

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

- (a) whether the IIT Delhi and Microsoft have teamed up to host 'Empower', a conference that will bring together researchers, technologists and policy-makers to discuss actionable steps in creating and making available assistive technologies and highlight the challenges in doing so;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and progress made; and
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to address the challenges faced by persons with disabilities, if so, the details thereof and progress made, if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

(a) & (b): As per information provided by IIT Delhi, "Empower 2019" was organized by IIT Delhi in partnership with Microsoft India at the I-TEC IIT Delhi Centre in Sonapat Haryana during 14-17 October 2019. The details of the conference are available in the link <http://assistech.iitd.ernet.in/empower2019/>

(c) : Centrally Funded Technically Institutions are conducting research to address the challenges faced by Persons with Disabilities (PwD). Government is providing complete fee waiver to PwD students in undergraduate programme in IITs.
