

- (b) if so, which districts have been identified for setting up these institutions; and
- (c) what steps are being taken to improve the IT education infrastructure in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to establish one Indian Institute of Management in Jharkhand. Two sites have been recommended by the State Government for the establishment of IIMs in Dhanbad and Ranchi district. There is also a proposal to set up 17 Polytechnic in Garhwa, Hazaribagh, Giridih, Deoghar, Godda, Sahibganj, Pakur, Lohardaga, Gumla, Pashchimi Singhbhum, Chatra, Palamau, Jamtara, Khunti, Ramgarh, Simdega and Dumka districts of the State.

(c) The AICTE has taken various steps to promote technical education in States including Jharkhand, where the enrolment is below the national average. These include starting of second shift in engineering institutes and polytechnics so as to provide more opportunities with existing infrastructure. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has provided Rs. 15 crores in the Annual Plan of 2008-09 for reducing regional imbalance in the country. States with low enrolment including Jharkhand, will benefit from the measures taken for this purpose.

IIT in BTAD

1404.SHRI BISWAJIT DAIMARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total population in the Bodoland area is 30 lakhs, for which it is necessary to set up at least one Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) to facilitate the entire population of the Bodoland Territorial Autonomous District (BTAD) and if so, whether any such provision has been made so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether, as per the policy of Government, the Ministry is regularly allocating 10 per cent out of the total budget allocated to it, for the development of North Eastern Region;

(e) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are established in different States of the country keeping in mind various aspects viz regional imbalance, connectivity, infrastructural facilities, etc. An IIT was set up in 1994 in Guwahati in the North-Eastern region of the country, of which the Bodoland Territorial Autonomous District (BTAD) is a part. Presently there is no proposal to set up an IIT at BTAD.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. As per the policy of the Government, the Ministry is regularly allocating 10 per cent of its total budget, excluding Externally Aided Projects (EAP), for the development of North Eastern Region. The details of allocation during the current year of 2008-09 are as under:

			(Rs. in lakhs)
Department of	General	NE Region	Total
Higher Education	6,83.751	75,599	7,59,350
School Education & Literacy	24,27,880	2,52,120	26,80,000

Assistance to children of poor families for higher education

†1405. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report of the National Sample Survey Organisation for 2004-05 which States that children belonging to the poorest families in the country have the lowest participation in higher education;

(b) if so, the percentage of the children of the poorest families residing in urban and rural areas, separately, who are able to afford higher, technical and vocational education; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has made a special provision for providing financial assistance to children of this section for getting higher education and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) According to the National Sample Survey (NSS) 61st round (July 2004- June 2005) Report No.517, the proportion of the educated (i.e., those with level of general education secondary and above including diploma/ certificate course) was found to be the lowest in the bottom MPCE (Monthly Per Capita Consumer Expenditure) class in the urban areas and the same was the case in the two bottom MPCE classes in the rural areas.

(c) The Government has accorded high importance to higher education during the 11th Five Year Plan for which an allocation of Rs.84,943 crore for higher education reflecting a nine fold increase over the 10th Plan has been provided. One of the commitment under the National Common Minimum Programme is to ensure that nobody is denied professional education because he or she is poor.

Government has provided reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBC) belonging to non-creamy layer in admission in all the Central Educational Institutions which will cover several students from poor families. Also, a scheme of Post-Graduate Scholarship for Students belonging to SC/ST/Minorities is initiated keeping in view the social background of the candidates from deprived section of the Society and to provide them an opportunity to undertake Post Graduate level studies.

Cap on tuition fees

1406.SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to provide a cap on tuition fees charged by schools, including primary schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.