

two factors attributed to the lower ranking of IITs in the said survey are reputedly low scores on international staff and international students in IITs.

(c) and (d) Improvement of quality of higher education is a continuous process. Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are Institutions of National Importance having a brand value acknowledged and acclaimed the World over.

Regulations regarding Deemed University status

362. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the regulation for granting status of Deemed University were relaxed or eased during the last five years as a result thereof a large number of colleges were given the status of Deemed University;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the recommendations of High-powered Committee in this regard were overruled and there were remarks of Secretary of the University Grants Commission (UGC) in this regard;

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the number of Deemed University status provided in last five years and what was the total number before that; and

(d) whether responsibility has been fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Central Government is empowered by Section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 to declare an institution of higher education, other than a University, as 'Deemed-to-be-University', on the advice of the UGC. The Commission has laid down guidelines for consideration of proposals from institutions seeking declaration as an institution 'Deemed-to-be-University'. Such proposals are examined by the UGC as per the provisions of these guidelines. The Commission then deposes a Committee of Experts comprising nominees of the relevant Statutory Regulatory Bodies such as the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Medical Council of India (MCI), Dental Council of India (DCI), National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), Bar Council of India (BCI), etc., depending upon the courses being offered by the applicant-institution. The Committee makes an assessment of the applicant institution and the facilities available, including infrastructure and faculty, and submits a report to the UGC. This report is considered by the full Commission before making appropriate recommendations to the Central Government. On the basis of the recommendation of the UGC and the recommendation as contained in the report of the UGC's Expert Committee, the Central Government declares the applicant-institution as an Institution 'Deemed-to-be-University'.

(c) and (d) While eighty-three institutions were declared as deemed-to-be-universities till December 2003, between January 2004 and June 2009, sixty-two Institutions have been so declared. Seventeen National Institutes of Technologies (NITs) which were declared as institutions

'Deemed-to-be-Universities' were deleted from the list of Institutions 'Deemed to be Universities' consequent to their declaration as Institutions of National Importance on 9th August, 2007.

Raising the standard of universities

363. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is keen to raise the status and standard of a few reputed universities in the country at par with world universities; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to strengthen their infrastructural facilities and to enhance their academic excellence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Special grants of Rs.100 crores each have been sanctioned for the Universities of Delhi, Mysore, Kolkata, Madras and Mumbai to upgrade infrastructural facilities during the Eleventh Plan. A proposal in respect of Panjab University is also under consideration. Provision has been made in the Eleventh Plan for incentivizing State Governments to allocate resources for strengthening infrastructure and academic excellence in State Universities.

Establishment of Guru Granth Institute

364. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of establishment of Guru Granth Institute at Amritsar which was announced by Prime Minister in 2005;

(b) the findings of the second committee appointed by the University Grants Commission (UGC) to access the proposal submitted by Vice Chancellor of Guru Nanak Dev University;

(c) how long it will take for his Ministry to issue sanction for the Institute; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the land is being provided free by the University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A proposal to set up the "National Institute of Studies in Sri Guru Granth Sahib (NISSGGS)" as a centrally funded autonomous body is under consideration. Guru Nanak Dev University has agreed to provide land free of cost for the Institute.

Establishment of Central Universities

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