

and future of the IITs as world class institutions for research and higher learning. Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) are autonomous bodies, with independent Board of Governors to manage their affairs. They enjoy substantive autonomy, including procedural autonomy.

(d) After considering the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission and the report of the Committee on rejuvenation and renovation of higher education, President in her address to Parliament has already announced that an over arching body shall be created for higher education along with another for human resources and health.

(e) There is no law prohibiting participation of elected public representatives in private institutions of Higher Education.

Filling up of IIT posts with foreign faculty

1792. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to allow the IITs to fill upto 10 per cent of the permanent teaching posts with foreign faculty;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are free to recruit permanent faculty. However, to enable eminent academicians from foreign nations to serve in the IITs as faculty upto 10% of their faculty strength, the Council of IITs has recently resolved to take up the matter with Ministry of Home Affairs for streamlining/liberalising the procedure for allowing foreign faculty in IITs on a permanent basis.

Occupying of Agricultural land for SEZ

1793. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been occupying agricultural land for developing SEZ and mufti project SEZs in different States as evident from increased migration of rural poor to adjoining cities and decreased agriculture production;