

(b) whether the Chief Minister of Karnataka has written to him and the Prime Minister as recently as in January, 2011;

(c) if so, the progress of consideration of this proposal; and

(d) by when the approval to the said proposal is expected?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) Requests for establishment of an Indian Institute of Technology in Karnataka have been received from various quarters from time to time, including one from the Chief Minister of Karnataka in January, 2011. Having regard to regional imbalance and the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, the Central Government has, during the Eleventh Plan period, established eight new IITs in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh. At present there is no proposal to establish any new IIT in the country.

Free coaching for engineering entrance examinations

†*351. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to start free coaching classes for engineering/technical entrance examinations for students belonging to weaker sections and low income group families of rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) The National Education Policy, 1986 (modified in 1992) states that the new policy will lay special emphasis on the removal of disparities and to equalize educational opportunities by attending to the specific needs of those who have been denied equality so far. In pursuance of the said policy, schemes are already under implementation for coaching classes for engineering/ technical entrance examinations by various Ministries/Departments for the educational advancement of Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), Other Backward Class (OBC) and Minorities.

Indian Institutes of Technology have preparatory courses for SC, ST and Physically Disabled categories. In case all the seats reserved for SC, ST, and PD categories are not filled, a limited number of candidates are admitted to a preparatory course of one-year duration on the basis of a further relaxation of qualifying criteria. On successful completion of the course, the students are offered direct admission to the undergraduate

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

programme in next year against the unfilled reserved seats for the year of Joint Entrance Examination (JEE).

The University Grants Commission is implementing two schemes which provide free coaching classes for students belonging to weaker sections to prepare them for various examinations, namely:—

- (i) Establishment of Residential Coaching Academies for Minorities/SC/ST and Women in Minority dominated areas in Central Universities.
- (ii) Remedial Coaching schemes for SCs, STs, OBCs (non-creamy layer), Minorities.

In addition to the above, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has a scheme of coaching for Scheduled Tribes students to promote a more level playing field, and give them a better chance to succeed in competitive examination, and to enable them to appear in competitive examinations and succeed in obtaining an appropriate job in the public/private sector.

Free Coaching and allied assistance for candidates belonging to minority communities being implemented by Ministry of Minority Affairs and the scheme has been made comprehensive keeping in view the emerging trends of employment in the area of economic reforms, liberalization and globalization.

Central Sector Scheme of Free Coaching for SC and OBC students has been implemented by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to enhance their skills and capabilities for ensuring rapid economic development and integration in the national mainstream.

Installation of anti-collision devices

*352. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have decided to install anti-collision devices in the railway network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including the number of such devices installed so far to avoid accidents;
- (c) the amount allocated/sanctioned/utilized on these devices, during last two years and this year; and
- (d) the action taken by Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir. Railways have installed Anti-Collision Devices (ACD) on Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) as a pilot project in the year 2006 which is undergoing trials.