

5. IITs have a very good track record in international terms when it comes to research publications/citations and are rated very high on this count. But this does not count for more than 30% weightage.
6. IITs are also affected on faculty student ratio as some of the agencies count research staff as faculty. Since as of now IITs do not have a large non-faculty research staff with PhDs, they get adversely affected by such calculations. This also accounts for about 10% to 15% weightage in some cases.
7. Computation of citations is fairly disparate for different agencies and they are themselves refining and modifying the same from time to time.
8. Most agencies do not consider important areas of contribution of IITs like contribution of alumni (top 10 in the world), impact on national development goals, entrepreneurship generation, etc. where IITs have excelled compared to others in the world.
9. In some cases, complete data is not taken (like industry income set to 0 in a recent survey for one IIT), which seriously affect the rank.

Expert Committee on MDMS

*56. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has constituted an Expert Committee to review, monitor and improve the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDMS) which caters to more than 120 million children across the country; if so, the composition thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to bring improvement in MDMS; and

(c) whether Government has asked all the States to ensure quality, safety and hygiene under MDMS and has reminded them to create safer kitchen and storage areas as well as ensure prior testing of meals by teachers, conduct social audits, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) The Government has constituted an Expert Committee on 22nd August, 2013 to review, monitor and enhance the effectiveness of the Scheme with the following Terms of Reference:—

- (i) Access, safety, hygiene and quality aspects in the implementation of the MDMS.
- (ii) Mechanisms in place for ensuring convergence with Ministry of Health and

Family Welfare, Food and Public Distribution, Drinking Water and Sanitation, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj etc.

- (iii) Governance mechanisms in place and their effectiveness in the implementation of MDMS.
- (iv) Review mechanisms in place to ensure effective monitoring and evaluation of the scheme.
- (v) Mechanisms in place for community participation in the Scheme and its effective monitoring.

The Committee is headed by the Human Resource Development Minister and consists of the following members:—

- (i) Minister of State, Elementary Education, MHRD.
- (ii) Education Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan and Meghalaya.
- (iii) Directors of National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, and Nutrition Foundation of India, New Delhi.
- (iv) Representative of UNICEF.
- (v) Representative of Swami Sivananda Memorial Institute, New Delhi.
- (vi) Shri N.C. Saxena, Office of Supreme Court Commissioner, and Shri Biraj Patanaik, Principal Advisor to Office of Supreme Court Commissioners on Food Security.
- (vii) Prof. Shantha Sinha, Ex-Chairperson, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights.
- (viii) Ms. Tulasi Munda, Adivasi Vikas Samiti, Serenda, Odisha.
- (ix) Shri Haleem Khan, Ex-Chairman, MP Madarsa Board, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- (x) Ms. Annie Namala, Centre for Inclusive Education, New Delhi.
- (xi) Dr. Sheetal Amte, Baba Amte Foundation, Anand Van, Chandrapur, Maharashtra.
- (xii) Representatives of Akshay Patra Foundation, Bangalore, NAIK Foundation, Thane, and Naandi Foundation, Hyderabad.
- (xiii) Secretaries of Departments of School Education and Literacy, MHRD, and Food and Public Distribution, Ministries of Women and Child Development,

Health and Family Welfare, Consumer Affairs, Rural Development, Social Justice and Empowerment, Tribal Affairs, Drinking Water and Sanitation, Minority Affairs, and Panchayati Raj.

(xiv) Chief Executive Director, Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

(xv) Additional Secretary (EEI), Department of School Education and Literacy, Member Secretary.

(b) The following initiatives have been taken by the Government to bring improvement in MDMS:—

(i) The web enabled MIS portal for MDM has been launched and States/UTs have fed annual data for about 12.12 lakh schools.

(ii) A major effort has been initiated for capacity building of cook-cum-helpers as master trainers. The Ministry of Tourism is imparting the ten day full time training through the Institutes of Hotel Management (IHMs) and the Food Craft Institutes (FCIs). NGOs have also been involved for training of cook-cum-helpers. They have so far conducted training for 470 cook-cum-helpers in 5 States.

(iii) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been involved in the Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee of the Mid-Day-Meal programme especially on the aspect of regular testing of food samples under the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme.

(iv) Allocation of free foodgrains to States/UTs under MDM Scheme for the whole year.

(v) The instructions to States for improvement include:—

(a) Setting up Management Structures by State at various levels *viz.* State, District, Block etc. with clear roles and responsibilities for strengthening of the Scheme.

(b) Procurement of pulses and ingredients of branded and Agmark quality and supply to schools.

(c) District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meetings under the Chairmanship of Member of Parliament from the district.

(vi) Steps have been taken for creating greater awareness about the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme. The new MDM Website (www.mdm.nic.in) has been launched.

(vii) The implementation of the Scheme is rigorously monitored through 41 independent Monitoring Institutes like IIT Chennai, XLRI Jamshedpur

and Viswa Bharati. In addition, 16 Joint Review Missions have been conducted in the current year in collaboration with the leading experts on nutrition in the country.

(c) The Government has on 22nd July, 2013 reiterated the MDMS Guidelines to ensure strict compliance with quality, safety and hygiene norms under the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme and also issued additional instructions through these Guidelines to further strengthen these aspects. The salient points of the guidelines *inter-alia* include:—

- (i) Mandatory tasting of meal by at least one teacher before it is served to the children.
- (ii) Quality supply of ingredients and their safe storage in the schools. The States have been provided with a model kitchen-cum-store design for suitable adaptation in their States.
- (iii) Preparation of a comprehensive contingency Health Plan to deal with any untoward situation.

The MHRD has conducted social audit of the Scheme on a pilot basis in two districts *viz.* Chittoor and Khammam of Andhra Pradesh during 2012-13. The findings have been very useful for enhancing the effectiveness of the Scheme. It has been decided to extend social audit to 9 other States during the current year.

Disaster management training in schools

*57. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that school children are being imparted disaster management lessons, both in Government and private schools in Delhi, to meet any kind of eventuality during such disasters, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether such a training is also being imparted to students of other States of the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether such students would be provided with certain gadgets for use during such eventualities, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Sir. School children are being imparted education in disaster management in all schools of Delhi comprising:—

- I. Regular mock drill on disaster management/fire safety;