

RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 12th July, 2004/Asadha 21, 1926 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MEMBER SWORN

Shri V. Hanumantha Rao (Andhra Pradesh)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

IIT students leaving India

***81. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:†**
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that twenty per cent of the IITians are still leaving India inspite of globalisation and liberalisation;

(b) whether Government have any statistics indicating the number of IITians who have left India during the last three years, year-wise and institution-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to stop this brain-drain?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) No record of the number of IITians leaving the country is being maintained centrally. Most of the students go abroad for higher studies or employment after completing their under graduate studies.

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Rama Muni Reddy Sirigireddy.

(c) While some students passing out from Indian engineering and technology institutions including IITs go abroad for higher studies as well as employment, many of the students having gone abroad do return to India after a certain period and either take up employment in various sectors or establish their own industries which further creates employment opportunities. Several measures have been taken from time to time by the Government to minimize the outflow of professionals from various fields and also to attract Scientists and technologists settled abroad to return to India. Some of these measures are:—

- (i) Setting up of more centres of excellence/advanced studies in the universities and academic institutions.
- (ii) Science and Technology based training for entrepreneurial development.
- (iii) Invitation to distinguished men and women of Indian origin settled abroad for short term technical assignments to assist in frontier and emerging areas of Science and Technology.
- (iv) Increasing the number and amount of fellowships for M. Tech. programme as a result of which, more students have started joining the M. Tech. programme.
- (v) Early Faculty Induction Programme which aims at attracting bright and young under-graduate students in Engineering and Technology/ Pharmacy/Architecture etc. to take teaching as their career.
- (vi) Appointment of NRIs and persons of Indian Origin in the permanent faculty positions in the IITs.
- (vii) IITs have also established Innovation and Incubation Centres which encourage students to start their own enterprises after graduation.
- (viii) Encouraging graduate students to continue work on sponsored research projects which have been funded by various agencies.
- (ix) Conduct of counseling sessions for career options of students and taking necessary steps for recruitment of students in Indian industries and organizations registered in India.

However, in the present scenario of globalisation and liberalization, movement of technical personnel across the national boundaries is not only inevitable but in many cases could give positive benefits to this

country. It is neither feasible nor desirable to put a regulatory framework for the movement abroad of IIT graduates.

SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Sir, the hon. Minister, in his reply, has said that several measures have been taken from time to time by the Government to minimise the outflow of professionals from various fields. Sir, we continue to lose our best and brightest IITians at almost the same rate as we did 15 years back, in spite of taking so many measures. This has been proved by the recent study conducted by the Tata Consultancy Services. In the light of this, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India would think of making it mandatory that every IITian and other professional students, after completing their degrees, should work in the country for at least three years. If not, the reason may be given.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, on the face of it, it certainly looks as if some regulatory step should be taken. But considering the changing times, and now that the question of a global context has been brought to bear upon this, it is not very feasible, and also not very advisable, that we restrain our professionals from going abroad, because they go and they come back. It is very difficult to restrain them because that is not possible, physically also it is not possible.

There is another aspect of it, that these people become a resource when they go out of this country. In many respects, I think, the IITians and other professionals, have gone abroad and carved out a niche for themselves in many other countries, and I don't think it is possible to restrain them from doing that.

SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Sir, I agree with the Minister's reply, but we have to utilise their services and use their brains and efficiency. For instance, we can absorb these professionals as scientists, in ISRO, ONGC, CSIR and many other organisations, and utilise their talent.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, creating avenues for absorbing them is one thing, but to prevent them from going anywhere is not perhaps desirable.

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडे: माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहूंगी कि देश के अलग-अलग आईआईटीज में लेक्चरर एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर्स, सब-प्रोफेसर्स के काफी पद खाली हैं और जो प्रतिभाशाली विद्यार्थी हैं, वे यहां से अपनी पढ़ाई पूरी करने के बाद सीधे विदेश जा रहे हैं। मैं मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहूंगी कि क्या इन विद्यार्थियों की प्रतिभा को मदेनजर रखते हुए उन्हें आईआईटीज के इन पदों पर रखने की कोशिश की

जाएगी? मैं यह भी पूछना चाहूंगी कि आपने यह जो उत्तर दिया है कि no record of number of IITians leaving the country is being maintained Centrally. तो क्या अपनी प्रतिभा को अपने देश में लगाने के लिए रिकार्ड रखने की कोशिश की जाएगी?

श्री अर्जुन सिंह: सभापति जी, मैंने अभी निवेदन किया है कि आज के संदर्भ में हम यह मानकर नहीं चल सकते कि जो लोग बाहर जा रहे हैं, उससे देश को नुकसान हो रहा है बल्कि अब तो काफी ऐसा भी नजर आता है कि जो यहां से ट्रेनिंग लेकर बाहर जाकर अपनी स्थिति बनाते हैं, उसका भी देश को सीधे लाभ मिलता है। इसलिए मैं नहीं समझता कि इन पर किसी प्रकार का प्रतिबंध लगाया जाए।

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडे: जो पद खाली पड़े हैं, उनको भरने के लिए, प्रोफेसर्स रखने के लिए, क्या कोई व्यवस्था की जाएगी?

श्री अर्जुन सिंह: पदों को भरने की व्यवस्था इससे भिन्न है, वह अपनी जगह है। लेकिन जो आवश्यकता है, उसको पूरा करने की कोशिश करेंगे। यह जो प्रश्न पदों का आया है, यह उसमें कहीं नहीं है।

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडे: विद्यार्थी खुद कहते हैं कि हम जाना चाहते हैं लेकिन बुलाया नहीं जाता।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, हो गया, अब छोड़िए।

SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the hon. Minister enlighten us as to what is the average cost per student, from the moment he joins the IIT till the time he passes out that the country incurs on him; and whether a framework will be set up that, at least, that much that is spent on him he returns to this country in some form?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, the whole concept has changed and in that changed concept I have made the submission, and I think in the overall balance of consideration trying to restrain our young men from going abroad would not be ultimately in the interest of the country.

Statutory authority for private TV channels

*82. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:†
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a separate statutory

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Prof. Alka Balram Kshatriya.