

**Loss of study hours in JNU**

1355. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any survey or review of the loss of study hours and impact on general academic level due to non-educational political activities of a certain group of students in Universities like Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU);

(b) if so, the details of study loss and damage to students' academic pursuits due to anti-national slogans in JNU; and

(c) what preventive measures are being taken to keep up the academic level in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and stop effectively anti-national activities in JNU?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has reported that the academic session was not affected due to such activities. Further, Jawaharlal Nehru University is a statutory autonomous institution established by an Act of Parliament and governed by the Jawaharlal Nehru University Act, 1966 and Statutes and the Ordinances framed thereunder and is competent to take action in academic and administrative matters of the University. Regarding anti-national activities, the Universities, being autonomous organisations are competent to deal with them, along with local authorities.

**Centre of Excellence for Graphene at IIT-Madras**

1356. SHRI A. W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether IIT-Madras is planning a Centre of Excellence for Graphene, a carbon derivative pursued by multinationals like IBM and Samsung in race for the next electronic gadget building block, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether IIT-Madras is eying internationally well-known universities in the UK like the Manchester University, University of Cambridge and University of Warwick and also holding discussions with a large industrial houses to be roped in as the anchor investor and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Yes, Sir. IIT Madras is planning to se-up a Centre of Excellence for Graphene Application Research. Some of the areas the Centre will work are: