

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) DARPG as a nodal Department, forwards grievances to the concerned Ministries/Departments/State Governments. Redressal of grievances is done by respective Ministries/Departments and State Governments to whom they pertain. All Ministries/Departments/Organizations are directed to redress grievances of the citizens within a maximum period of 60 days from the receipt, and in case not possible, an interim reply with reasons for delay is to be provided. Regular review meetings are held in the Department for monitoring pendency of grievances in various Ministries/Departments. Under the federal principle of governance, grievances relating to State Governments are forwarded to them for appropriate action.

(b) and (c) A guideline has been issued to each Ministry/Department to nominate a Director of Public Grievances for ensuring proper action on public grievances. In case of inadequate reply and disposal of grievance by a Central Ministry, the citizen can approach the concerned Director of Public Grievances for resolution.

#### **Admission of foreign students in IITs**

\*59. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are planning to hold their entrance tests abroad from next year to admit foreign students;

(b) if so, whether the foreign students would be admitted in addition to our students or they are part of the total strength or there is any cap on foreign students to be admitted in IITs; and

(c) whether total number of seats available to Indian students would remain the same?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) With a view to improve the international standing of the IITs, the IIT Council has decided to provide opportunity for the eligible foreign students to study in the IITs. For this purpose, it has been decided to focus on the neighbouring countries like Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Singapore, UAE and Ethiopia. Under this initiative, JEE (advanced) exam will be conducted in these countries and eligible foreign students would be given opportunity to take the exam. Only such candidates who qualify in this exam would be offered admission to study in the IITs subject to the following:

- (i) The entire cost of admission of the foreign students may be recovered from the student fee which may or may not be covered by a scholarship. There shall be no additional cost to Government on account of these admissions.
- (ii) There shall be no reduction in the seats available for students in India while providing admissions to foreign students. These seats would be considered as supernumerary seats.
- (iii) There shall be no discrimination in giving facilities between Indian and foreign students.

Further, IIT Bombay has been designated as the National Coordinator for coordinating the visit of IIT teams to these Countries with the Indian Missions abroad, so that the students in these countries are made aware of the advantages of studying in the IITs. It is expected that the above initiative will become operational from academic year 2017-18.

**‘Make Your City Smart’ portal**

\*60. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has unveiled fourteen smart city mission projects recently, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has also launched ‘Make Your City Smart’, a crowdsourcing portal where ideas on urbanism will compete, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Smart Cities selected in Round 1 had identified certain projects (including 14 from Pune) for unveiling on 25th June 2016 *i.e.*, the first anniversary of the launch of Smart Cities Mission. Projects of several other 12 cities also got unveiled in respective cities. Details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Yes, Sir. A crowdsourcing portal “Make My City Smart” has been launched on the MYGov platform to assist the Smart Cities to seek citizens' participation in designing streets, junctions, parks etc. Competition is held with announced prizes to involve citizens, students, technical experts, teachers and persons from different walks of life to give creative inputs which can become the basis for design and implementation of projects through Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs).