THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b)   Question does not arise.

Students of rural areas in IITs

79.   SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:
       SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA:
       SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)   whether Government is aware that the number of students from rural area entering the prestigious IIT courses is abysmally low *viz.* less than 25 per cent as compared to the number of students from urban areas; and

(b)   if so, the steps taken by Government to increase the number of students from rural areas to enter into IITs across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) and (b) Admission in IITs in the Undergraduate courses is done on the basis of rank in the Joint Entrance Examination (Advanced). As per the data obtained from IIT-Bombay and IIT-Guwahati which conducted JEE(Advanced) 2015 and JEE(Advanced) 2016 respectively, nearly 75% of the candidates admitted in IITs are from urban areas as against 25% from rural areas. One of the reasons for the disparity is better schooling and coaching facilities in urban areas which help students to prepare well for the entrance examinations. With a view to helping those students who do not have access to such facilities, IIT-Delhi is going to implement a scheme called IIT-PAL. Main features of the scheme are:–

(i)   Lectures by IIT Professors to students of class XI & XII in Math and Science to help them prepare for JEE Exams.

(ii)   Availability of material and video content through dedicated DTH.

Enquiry into death of research scholar in Hyderabad Central University

80.   DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)   whether the enquiry into the circumstances leading to the death of Rohith Vemula, the research scholar of Hyderabad Central University has been completed and if so, the findings thereof; and