

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

- (b) whether punishment has been awarded to the guilty by the probe body?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) and (b) Sir, the report of the Justice Roopanwal Commission alongwith memorandum of Action Taken thereon has been laid before both the houses of the Parliament on 15.12.2016. It has suggested various pro active actions to be taken to avoid suicides on campus.

#### **Food under Mid Day Meal Scheme**

81. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any financial assistance is provided for construction of kitchen-cum-store for cooking and safe storage of food grains in schools under the Mid Day Meal Scheme and if so, the details thereof;

- (b) the number of students benefited, people employed and budget allocated by Government to the States under the scheme along with the cooking cost per day per children reimbursed/incurred during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

- (c) whether Government has set up any monitoring mechanism to ensure that quality food is served to students and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRAKUSHWAHA): (a) Under the Mid Day Meal Scheme, the Central Government started providing 100% Central Assistance for construction of kitchen-cum-stores at a flat rate of ₹ 60,000/- per unit since 2006-07. The norms for kitchen-cum-stores has been revised from month of December, 2009 and the cost of construction of kitchen-cum-stores is now determined on the basis of plinth area norms and the State Schedule of Rates prevalent in the State/UT on sharing basis. The revised norms prescribe 20 sq. mtr. plinth area for construction of kitchen-cum-stores in schools having upto 100 children; for every additional 100 children, additional 4 sq. mtr. plinth area will be added. States/UTs have the flexibility to modify the slab of 100 children depending/upon local conditions.

- (b) The details of State-wise number of children benefited, cook-cum-helper engaged and fund released by the Government to the States/UTs under the scheme during the last three year are given in the Statement-I and II, respectively (*See* below). Under the scheme, the cooking cost per day per child during the last three years is as under:—