

**Demand for modernization and all-round development of Women's Institute of Technology (WIT), Darbhanga**

**श्रीमती धर्मशीला गुप्ता (बिहार):** महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान दरभंगा, बिहार में केवल महिलाओं के लिए समर्पित डॉ. एपीजे अब्दुल कलाम महिला प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (WIT) की ओर दिलाना चाहती हूँ। महिलाओं के उत्थान एवं सशक्तिकरण के लिए पूर्ण रूप से समर्पित उत्तर-पूर्व भारत का यह एक महत्वपूर्ण एवं एकमात्र संस्थान है।

हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी के नेतृत्व में पिछले 10 वर्षों में शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में हर ओर विकास हुआ है। कई नए प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान खोले गए, पुराने संस्थानों का जीर्णोद्धार किया गया और भविष्य में कई संस्थानों के निर्माण की अनुमति प्रदान की जा चुकी है।

अतः मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहती हूँ कि इस महिला प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (WIT), दरभंगा के आधुनिकीकरण एवं सर्वांगीण विकास हेतु भी आवश्यक दिशा निर्देश देने का कष्ट करें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member, Shri S. Selvaganabathy (Puducherry), associated himself with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Shrimati Dharmshila Gupta.

Dr. Bhagwat Karad; not present. Shri Dorjee Tshering Lepcha.

**Demand to include twelve left out communities of Sikkim in the Scheduled Tribe category**

SHRI DORJEE TSHERING LEPCHA (Sikkim): Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Sikkimese people are categorized into three ethnic groups, namely, Lepcha, Bhutia and Nepali. In all, there are 20 indigenous tribes living in Sikkim. The earliest available Census of 1891 enumerates Nepali ethnic group as 63.3 per cent, Bhutia as 16.06 per cent and Lepcha as 18.9 per cent. The King of Sikkim had recognized Bhutia, Lepcha and all groups under Nepali as Tribes. Sikkim merged with India in 1975. In 1978, the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order enlisted only Bhutia and Lepcha as Scheduled Tribes in Sikkim. This not only led to delisting the tribes of Nepali origin from Scheduled Tribes but also led to the Nepalis losing their seat reservation in the State Assembly. In 2003, two communities from the Nepali ethnic group, namely, Limbu and Tamang were granted Scheduled Tribes status. Indigenous population of Sikkim is coming down fast. Unless some safeguard is provided, the indigenous population will soon be overwhelmed and their political rights may also be affected. There are 12 left out communities from Nepali ethnic group which are required to be given the status of Scheduled Tribes. If these communities are made tribals, then Sikkim can be declared a tribal State. Thereafter, like other North-Eastern States, only the tribals will