

Enrolment of Ph.D. Programmes

1282. DR. G. RANJITH REDDY:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION

शिक्षा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that enrolment of Ph.D. programmes at IITs has come down;

(b) if so, the reasons behind this downward trajectory among best Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) colleges in the country;

(c) the number of Ph.D. applications in IISc during the last five years and the current year, year-wise;

(d) the reasons that students are not registering for Ph.D. programmes in the above premier Institutions in spite of having record faculty strength and huge research funds; and

(e) the efforts being made by the Government to reverse this trend?

Email

FTS-1333153

IS(TE)

Parliament Unit

Question : Unstarred: Diary No : 3534: Answer Date: 11/12/2023

From : Question Branch A [REDACTED] >

Wed, Nov 29, 2023 10:31 AM

Subject : Question : Unstarred: Diary No : 3534: Answer Date:
11/12/2023

To : Parliament Unit <[REDACTED]>

LOK SABHA

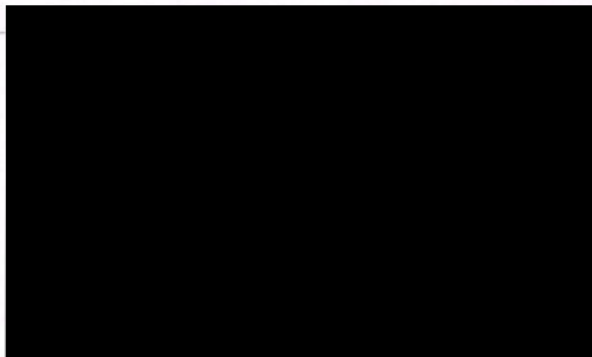
D.No 3534

Ministry to which the day has been allotted : EDUCATION
Sitting on the : 11/12/2023

Enrollment of PH.D Programmes

Will the Minister of EDUCATION

- (a) whether it is true that enrolment of Ph.D. programmes at IITs has come down;
- (b) if so, the reasons behind this downward trajectory among best STEM colleges in the country;
- (c) the number of Ph.D. applications in IISc during the last five years and the current year, year-wise;
- (d) the reasons that above premier Institutions in spite of having record faculty strength and huge research funds students are not registering for Ph.D. programmes; and
- (e) the efforts being made by the Government to reverse this trend?





IITJammu: Lok Sabha Starred/Unstarred Question Diary No. 3534 to be answered on 11/12/2023 regarding " Enrollment of Ph.D Programmes".

1 message

Dear Sir,

Please find the below mention point-wise reply for the IIT Jammu

(a) whether it is true that enrollment of Ph.D programmes at IITs has come down

Ans: Yes.

(b) if so, the reasons behind this downward trajectory among best STEM colleges in the country;

Ans: The selection process adhered to by different IITs is more rigorous and strict. Further, of late, Generally, it has been observed that there is a clear degeneration in the quality of students who are registering for the Master's degree in STEM. Many master's students are leaving the degree in between for public sector jobs thereby reducing the number of students who graduate and looking to do Ph.D. These trends create challenges in getting an adequate number of students who are able to qualify the entrance process and secure admission in Ph.D. As Ph.D. is a long drawn-out process, and securing a job is easier as the opportunities increase, it is but natural that there will be a drop in the number of aspirants.

(c) the number of Ph.D applications in IISc during the last five years and the current year, year-wise;

Ans: Not relevant for us.

(d) the reasons that the above premier Institutions despite having record faculty strength and huge research funds students are not registering for Ph.D. programmes:

Ans: Some of the important reasons are as follows:

- Due to the easy and high scholarships offered by the universities abroad, candidates prefer to go abroad to get a degree.
- Many candidates are bagging government and public sector jobs and higher salary packages in private industries too.
- Lack of good quality M. Tech students graduating from institutions who are interested in pursuing higher studies.
- Strict admission process in many IITs

(e) the efforts being made by the Government to reverse this trend?

Ans: Suggestions given below:

- Popularization of STEM Education in India: Often higher mathematics that is associated with STEM education turns off many school students and they get attracted to commerce and arts. Currently very few schools and colleges in urban areas are aware of advances in subjects like biology and electronics, which need modest mathematics. Further, a large number of software packages are available that eliminates the use of higher

mathematics in many domains. If the students are educated of these possibilities there is a high chance that they will choose STEM as their career option.

- Funding options: The fellowship given to Ph.D. students is quite low in comparison with full time jobs. This distracts many good students. A hike in the fellowship amount to students can attract good Students towards research.
- Funding STEM activities in education institutes as well as promoting interactions between industry and educational institutes will strengthen the interest of students towards STEM.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sir,
With reference to trailing mail, it is requested that the inputs may please be expedited and furnished to this Ministry by today positively please.

[REDACTED]