

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1782  
ANSWERED ON- 07/08/2024**

**Discriminatory Memo at IIT Kharagpur**

**1782 Ms. Dola Sen:**

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed IIT Kharagpur's February 13, 2020 memorandum regarding a panel of Foreign Examiners for PhD thesis evaluation mandatorily consisting of at least 3 examiners of 'Non-Indian' Origin;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any action against this discriminatory practice, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has provided any directives to the IIT Kharagpur administration to revoke this memorandum, considering that many Indian-origin academics are based worldwide and could be involved in the thesis evaluation process; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (d): Indian Institutes of Technology Kharagpur is an autonomous Institution governed by Institute of Technology Act, 1961 and the statutes framed thereunder. The Senate of the Institute, which is primarily concerned with the academic affairs, have the control & general regulation and is responsible for the maintenance of standards of instruction, education and examination in the Institute and exercises powers and perform duties as per the provisions of the Statutes. The Senate, which is headed by Director, as Chairman in ex-officio capacity, also has the power to make arrangements for the conduct of examinations, appoint examiners, moderators, tabulators etc. and also to declare the results of the examinations or to appoint committees or officers to do so and to make recommendations to the Board of Governors regarding conferment or grant of degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions.

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