GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2923 ANSWERED ON 26/03/2025

Fee hike in public institutions

2923 Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the recent fee hikes in IITs, IIMs, and Central Universities, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of instances of fee hikes in IITs, IIMs and Central Universities in the last five years;
- (c) whether it is fact that there has been a decline in enrolment from SC, ST, OBC, and EWS students due to fee hikes in higher educational institutions; and
- (d) whether the reduction in Government funding to higher educational institutions contributing to rising fees, if so, the steps taken in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): IITs, IIMs and Central Universities are autonomous institutions established by Acts of Parliament and are governed by their respective Act, Statutes, Ordinances, Rules and Regulations made thereunder. These institutions decide their fee structure through their statutory bodies as per the procedure laid down in their Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations.

IIT Council last revised the tuition fee for the Under-Graduate (UG) program in IITs in the year 2016. Fee in Central Universities and IIMs in the last five years has been decided by each institute's statutory body taking into consideration the need to supplement funds for meeting rising operational costs, to introduce new academic programmes, and to ensure provision of high quality education.

In order to make higher education affordable, scholarships, financial aid, fee relaxations, academic allowances are provided to students from the socially as well as economically weaker sections of the society. For instance, IITs provide for complete tuition fee waiver in UG program for SC/ST and PwD students and full remission of fee for economically weaker students (whose family income is less than Rs.1 lakh per annum) and also 2/3rd remission of fee for other economically weaker students (whose family income is between Rs.1 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh per annum). In year 2024-25, more than 37% of the students have received full waiver/ full remission and more than 10% of the students have received 2/3rd remission in tuition fee of UG program in IITs.

Government has mandated Central Higher Education Institutions to comply with the statutory provisions of the Central Education Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006, as amended from time to time, for admission of reserved category candidates. The Government provides financial assistance to these higher educational institutions under salary, recurring and capital assets heads with special focus on the newly established institutes with limited Internal Revenue Generation (IRG). This funding support has facilitated the higher educational institutions to provide access to quality higher education to all sections of the society.

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