

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 195
ANSWERED ON-05/08/2026

Digitalisation and reform of AICTE approval process

195 Dr. M. Thambi Durai:

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

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any review of the existing approval and accreditation framework of technical institutions regulated by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to ensure greater transparency, accountability and time-bound disposal of applications;
- (b) whether Government proposes to introduce a fully digital and time-bound mechanism for processing approvals, inspections, compliance reports and grievance redressal under AICTE;
- (c) whether Government is considering issuance of revised guidelines to simplify the approval process and reduce procedural delays faced by technical institutions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the timeline by which the proposed reforms are likely to be implemented?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 195 ANSWERED ON 05.08.2026 ASKED BY DR. M.
THAMBI DURAI, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING
“DIGITALISATION AND REFORM OF AICTE APPROVAL PROCESS”**

(a) to (d): The All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), a statutory body under the Ministry of Education, grants approval for conducting courses in Technical Education at diploma, undergraduate and post graduate levels to Technical Institutions, Institutions deemed to be Universities and standalone institutions in accordance with the provisions of the AICTE Act, 1987 and rules & regulations made thereafter.

AICTE periodically reviews the existing approval framework based on feedback received from technical institutions, State Governments, affiliating universities/boards, statutory bodies, industry and other stakeholders. The objective of these reviews is to simplify regulatory procedures, enhance transparency and accountability, promote ease of compliance (ease of doing business), reduce procedural delays and ensure the timely disposal of applications.

Department of Higher Education has constituted Dr. K. Radhakrishnan committee for strengthening the assessment and accreditation of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) including technical institutions. The Committee submitted its report and recommended to align accreditation with NEP 2020, suggested to shift from 8-point scale to simplified “Accredited” or “Not Accredited” model.

To ensure transparency in process, timely disposal of applications and reduce procedural delay, AICTE has implemented a fully digital, technology-driven e-governance system covering the complete approval lifecycle, including online submission of applications, digital scrutiny, technology enabled inspections, workflow-based processing, online communication, electronic issuance of approval letters and digital grievances redressal mechanism. It has significantly improved transparency, accountability and credibility in AICTE approval process.

AICTE regularly reviews and updates its regulatory framework to simplify the approval process, to reduce delays and enhance ease of compliance for technical institutions. AICTE issues regulatory guidelines through Approval Process Handbook. Any changes in APH based on rationalization of regulatory provisions, simplification of documentation requirements (ease of doing business), increased digital processing, minimization of physical interface etc. Details are available in AICTE Approval Handbook 2024-27 which can be accessed at <https://aicte.gov.in/sites/default/files/approval/APH%20Final.pdf>.
