GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 61 ANSWERED ON 21.07.2025

Assistance to Indian Students Association Abroad

61. Shri Krishna Prasad Tenneti:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the list of Indian Student Associations in foreign countries that are recognized by the Government of India, country-wise;
- (b) the details of financial assistance provided by the Government to such Associations at abroad during the last five years and the current year, country-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken any initiative to increase collaboration with these Associations for welfare of Indian students who are studying in foreign countries; 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): Numerous Indian Students Associations exist and operate in different countries across the world. Government of India through its Embassies/Consulates abroad interacts and engages with these Indian Students Associations for connecting with the Indian Students studying in educational institutions in their countries of accreditation. However, Government of India does not accord any formal recognition to these Indian Students Associations.
- (b): Government of India, through its Embassies/Consulates abroad, regularly support and collaborates with Indian Students Associations abroad for promoting Indian cultural traditions and students' welfare measures in foreign countries. However, there is no specific financial assistance that is provided on a sustained basis to such Indian Students Associations abroad.
- (c) and (d): The Indian Students Associations constitute crucial pillars of the student outreach endeavours and initiatives conducted by the Government of India. Indian Embassies and Consulates abroad maintain regular contacts with Indian students and their Associations enrolled in foreign Universities. This commences as soon as new Indian students are enrolled in foreign Universities. They are invited to participate in Welcome Ceremonies organized by Indian Embassies and Consulates. Indian Missions/Posts also organize Orientation Programmes when Heads of Indian Missions/Posts brief the Indian students on challenges and threats, if any, that they may confront during their stay in the foreign lands and how to take preventive measures. Heads of Indian Missions/Posts and other senior Embassy/Consulate officials also visit foreign Universities and Educational Institutions in their respective countries of accreditation to regularly

interact with Indian students and Indian Students Associations. During these visits and events, Indian Embassy/Consulate representatives invite Indian students to register on the relevant Government of India portals besides discussing measures to promote welfare of Indian students with the respective University authorities. Indian Students Associations abroad are increasingly playing a partner role in the efforts of this Ministry to engage with Indian students studying abroad.
