

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2876  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2025**

**RESTRUCTURING THE GOVERNANCE OF ISI**

**2876. SHRI BAPI HALDAR:**

**Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government plans to restructure the governance of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), including changes to its governing bodies, academic representation and senior appointments and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether there is any proposal to change the status or location of ISI's headquarters in Kolkata and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) whether any steps are being taken to ensure that any such proposal does not dilute the academic autonomy, federal character and historic role of ISI as a premier national institution, if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE [RAO INDERJIT SINGH]**

- (a) Yes Sir. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has prepared a draft 'Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) Bill, 2025' to introduce a comprehensive new legislation, for upscaling the existing legislation Indian Statistical Institute Act, 1959 to the level of governing legislations of other peer Institutions of National Importance (INIs) such as IITs/IIMs with the objective of overhaul and modernization of the Institute's governance framework by enhancing its autonomy and accountability. A copy of the draft 'The Indian Statistical Institute Bill, 2025' has been placed on Ministry's website for further pre-legislative consultation till 15 December 2025. The draft Bill contains, inter-alia, details of governing framework including**

**proposed governing bodies, academic representation and procedures for senior appointments.**

**(b) There is no such proposal under consideration to shift the location of ISI's headquarters from Kolkata. In the draft Indian Statistical Institute Bill 2025 which is presently placed for pre-legislative consultation, the location/registered office of the Institute has been clearly indicated in the long title. The proposed legislation upscales and strengthens the governing framework of ISI, reiterates the declaration of ISI as an Institution of National Importance, and provides for incorporation of ISI as a body corporate, and also introduces framework of statutory bodies for effective governance. Moreover, the Bill enables the Institute to set up centres and campuses in India and abroad to expand its academic and research reach.**

**(c) The ISI Bill 2025 is intended to enable ISI to emerge as a globally recognised centre of excellence in statistical and allied disciplines. The draft legislation is founded upon the guiding principles of Excellence, Effective Governance, Autonomy and Accountability. The statutory authorities of the Institute namely the Visitor, the Board of Governors, an Academic Council, the Director, Centre-Directors and the Registrar and their roles and responsibilities have been incorporated in the proposed statute. The Board of Governors will be an empowered and leaner body consisting of 11 members and having a balanced representation of internal and external members. The Bill introduces and streamlines the channels of accountability at various level. It provides provisions for review and inquiry by the Visitor, review of medium-term and long-term plan by the Board, and submission of annual performance report and annual financial report by the Director. The Bill provides for recognition of the Centres of the Institute (which will be specified by the Board) and grant them a degree of autonomy. The Centres of the Institute will be given adequate financial, administrative and academic powers, so as to enable them to attain autonomy in their decision making and functioning through their respective Management Councils. By aligning ISI with the legal and governance framework of other peer Institutions of National Importance, the ISI Bill 2025 intends to enhance institutional autonomy and accountability and also strengthen its capacity to deliver world-class education, research, and policy support.**

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