

Vacant teaching positions in IITs and NITs

3528. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that nearly half of all teaching positions in IITs and over half in NITs are lying vacant across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) Approximately 41.9% and 49.6% of regular faculty posts are vacant in 16 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and 30 National Institutes of Technology (NITs) respectively. However, the Institutes are engaging faculty on contract and visiting faculty to tide over the shortages. The main reason for the faculty shortage in the IITs and NITs is that while the minimum qualification for faculty recruitment in these Institutes is a Ph.D., many of the students after completion of their B.Tech./M.Tech. programmes, get placements in companies/corporations and do not opt for the teaching profession.

(c) Arising of vacancies and filling up thereof is a continuous process. The IITs plan suitable strategies to attract and retain quality faculty members which *inter-alia* include year-round open advertisements, holding of selection committee meetings through video conferencing, invitation to alumni, scientists, faculty from India and abroad to reach out to potential candidates, advertisements in international journals to attract the attention of professionals abroad, introducing outstanding young faculty awards, etc. Further, Government has decided to allow faculty working under the Central Government or Central Autonomous Bodies, to join the newly set up Central Education Institutes on long-term deputation, for a period of ten years. The Institutes are also free to appoint Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) to permanent faculty positions.