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## Seeking Inputs for LSUQ No. 1273 regarding Dedicated Mental Health Counselling Centers for answer on 28.07.2025 - reg.

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Director Secretariat <director.office@iiserkol.ac.in>

Fri, Jul 25, 2025 at 11:03 AM

To: firoj.khan12@gov.in

Cc: DEVENDRA SHARMA <devendra.kumarsharma@nic.in>, Ramesh Officer <rk.sharma59@nic.in>, HEM RAJ <hemraj.edu@gov.in>, Director IISER Kolkata <director@iiserkol.ac.in>, Rangeet Bhattacharyya <rangeet@iiserkol.ac.in>, Anuradha Bhat <anuradhabhat@iiserkol.ac.in>

Bcc: Aakash Nirmal <aakash.nirmal@iiserkol.ac.in>

Dear Sir / Madam,

Greetings from IISER Kolkata!

As desired, please find appended below the replies from IISER Kolkata on the mail received from the Ministry on the above captioned subject for your kind attention please.

With regards/ PS to Director, IISER Kolkata  
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### **Answers to the captioned subject from IISER Kolkata**

(a) The total number of Institutes of National Importance having dedicated mental health or counselling centers with full-time professional counsellors or clinical psychologists;

**Answer:** Yes – IISER Kolkata has a dedicated mental health and counselling support system, including:

- i. Two (2) full-time counsellors/clinical psychologist on direct contractual basis
- ii. One (1) counsellor/clinical psychologist engaged in project mode
- iii. One visiting psychiatrist, available once weekly

(b) The total number of such institutes that have implemented a mental-health screening module such as questionnaires or peer-assessment programmes during student induction or periodically;

**Answer:** Currently, there is no periodic mental health screening being conducted. However, a proposal for implementing a structured assessment module has been submitted and is under consideration.

(c) The total number of institutes having 24×7 helpline or tele-counselling services, either in-house or via partnerships with platforms like Your DOST or Tele-MANAS;

**Answer:** Yes – 24×7 helpline and tele-counselling services are accessible through: (a) Your DOST (b) Tele-MANAS platforms

(d) Whether any centralized audit or annual report is produced to track student uptake, session usage, and impact evaluation across these institutions; and

**Answer:** No centralized audit or annual tracking report is prepared presently. However, the counsellors maintain individual case records for all students accessing support services.

(e) whether the Government has any plans to ensure that all Institutes of National Importance comply with minimum mental-health infrastructure standards by 2026?

**Answer:** IISER Kolkata currently maintains minimum required mental health infrastructure. Further planning and compliance measures toward 2026 standards fall primarily under the purview of institutional administration, and steps are being considered as part of ongoing development.

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**Answers from IISER Kolkata for the Lok Sabha Question Diary No.299 regarding establishment of Universities, Colleges and Standalone Institutions – reg.**

- (a) the details of new IITs, IIMs, AIIMS, Central Universities and Technical Institutes which have been established in India during the last ten years and the current year;

**Reply: Not Applicable, IISER Kolkata was established in the year 2006.**

- (b) the state-wise distribution of the establishment of these institutions;

**Not Applicable**

- (c) the details of budgetary allocation for Higher Education Infrastructure Development in the Union Budget 2025-26 and its comparison with real expenditure of previous years;

<b>Reply:</b>	<b>GRANT-IN-AID</b>			
<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Grant-in-Aid General (OH-31)</b>	<b>Grant-in-Aid Salary (OH-36)</b>	<b>Creation of Capital Assets (OH-35)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Budget allocated for F.Y. 2025-26	57.00	72.00	48.00	177.00
Real Expenditure for F.Y. 2024-25	60.27	69.58	50.00	179.85

- (d) the measures taken to address the faculty shortage and research funding constraints in newly established and existing IITs and IIMs:

**Reply: IISER Kolkata floats rolling advertisements to receive applications throughout the year, facilitating faster processing and appointment of eligible candidates in required subject areas. Further, Special Recruitment Drives are organized to enhance faculty diversity, including outreach to underrepresented groups. To mitigate the shortage of faculty in few subject areas, honorary, visiting and adjunct faculty from reputed institutions, both national and international, are engaged to augment teaching and research capabilities. Also, initiatives such as the Ramanujan Fellowship and INSPIRE Faculty Scheme helps the Institute to actively promote and attract early-career researchers.**

**The Institute provides Academic and Research Fund (ARF) to the faculty members for research. Institute-level start-up grants and Professional Development Account from Projects (PDAP), a component of project overheads, is provided as Institutional support for research. Faculty members are routinely encouraged to proactively engage with industry for funded research projects and consultancy. Also, faculty members regularly submit proposals to both international and domestic funding agencies to attract research funding.**

- (e) the details of incentives provided to attract the international faculties;

**Reply:** The Institute encourages short-term and long-term visiting positions with honorarium, travel, and local hospitality to eminent international scholars. Appointment of Foreign Nationals for a fixed period on contract basis is permissible. Guest housing, office space, and other administrative facilities may be provided to visiting international faculty. Moreover, the Global Initiative of Academic Networks (GIAN) scheme also supports short-term courses delivered by international faculty in collaboration with this Institute.

- (f) the details of policies which promote the Multidisciplinary Research, Startup Incubation Centers, and AI- Based Learning Modules in Premier Institutions; and

**Reply:** IISER Kolkata promotes interdisciplinary research across Departments. The departments collaborate in joint research, writing proposals, and joint supervision of PhD students and BS-MS students. RISE Foundation at IISER Kolkata.

Supported by the Department of Science and Technology under the NIDHI-TBI Scheme, the RISE Foundation at IISER Kolkata embarked its journey in the year 2022 to foster a vibrant innovation ecosystem at IISER Kolkata and its surrounding regions, with its vision to provide (a) Science translation, innovation and an entrepreneurship window to East and North-East India and (b) a mission to develop and nurture a science-based innovation ecosystem across all socio-economic levels in the region.

BS-MS in Computational and Data Sciences [CDS] course has been launched at IISER Kolkata which will enable the students to learn the skill of building such tools.

- (g) whether the government plan to bridge the gap between public and private Higher Education Institutions and ensure equal access to world-class education for students from economically weaker sections?

**Reply :** The Government has been actively working to bridge the gap between public and private higher education institutions (HEIs) to ensure equitable access to world-class education, including students from economically weaker sections (EWS).

Government of India has declared 10% reservation for EWS students through the 103<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment in all central government-run and private non-minority institutions, ensuring lower-income students are prioritised in admissions. EWS Reservation is implemented at IISER Kolkata to benefit students from the economically weaker sections.

**Answers from IISER Kolkata for the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.371 regarding "Employment in Higher Education Institutions" – reg.**

**Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 371** [To be answered on 02.02.2026]

**Question: The steps being taken by the Government to make students studying in higher education institutions as employment oriented?**

**Answer:** (a) The Government of India has taken several proactive steps to make students in higher education institutions employment-oriented. Under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, emphasis has been placed on holistic and multidisciplinary learning, integration of skill development modules, and promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship.

IISER Kolkata, in alignment with these directives, has introduced career counselling, industry internships, and entrepreneurship development programmes to enhance employability among students.

**Question: Whether the curricula are being updated in accordance with the requirement of industries, and if so, the details thereof;**

(b) Yes, curricula are being regularly updated in accordance with industry requirements.

At IISER Kolkata, course structures are revised periodically to incorporate emerging areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Climate Studies, and Biotechnology. Industry experts are invited to interact with faculty and students, and feedback from alumni working in diverse sectors is integrated into curriculum design. This ensures that students are equipped with contemporary knowledge and practical skills relevant to industry needs.

**Question: The number of students who have benefitted from skill development programmes during the last three years and whether a statement has been prepared in this regard and..**

(c) During the last three years, a significant number of students have benefitted from skill development programmes conducted under national initiatives such as Skill India, Digital India, and Atal Innovation Mission, as well as institution-led workshops and training.

At IISER Kolkata, over 1,200 students have participated in structured skill development activities including coding bootcamps, laboratory skill enhancement, communication workshops, and entrepreneurship training.

**Question: If so, the details thereof; State-wise?**

(d) Yes, a statement has been prepared in this regard. The details are as follows:

<b>State/Institution</b>	<b>Number of Students Benefitted (Last 3 Years)</b>	<b>Key Programmes Conducted</b>
West Bengal (IISER Kolkata)	1,200+	Skill development workshops, industry internships, entrepreneurship training, coding and data science bootcamps

The Government remains committed to strengthening the employability of students in higher education institutions through continuous curriculum reforms, skill development initiatives, and industry-academia collaborations. IISER Kolkata, along with other IISERs, is actively contributing to this national endeavour.

**Answers from IISER Kolkata for the Lok Sabha Question Diary No.40 regarding Quality and Affordability of Higher Education – reg.**

- a) whether the ministry has conducted any recent survey on rising tuition fees in public and private universities;

**Reply:** No. Please note that, as per Letter No. F.No. 50-02/2017-TS-VII dated 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017, issued by the Ministry of Education (formerly known as the Ministry of Human Resource Development), the Fee (Tuition Fees in this respect) is hiked by 10%.

- b) details about steps being taken to ensure equitable access to quality faculty and infrastructure in rural institutions;

**Reply :** IISER Kolkata follows the minimum eligibility criteria as per the uniform recruitment norms laid down by the Ministry of Education for faculty recruitment at IISERs. The Institute may set higher norms for faculty recruitment taking into account the specific requirement of the individual department. Further, IISER Kolkata has state-of-the-art teaching and research infrastructure. This helps to maintain comparable academic standards. The Institute tries its best to ensure a family conducive environment for women faculty.

- c) whether there in a guidelines to regulate the cost of online and hybrid degree programs under NEP 2020;

**Not Applicable**

- d) how many percentage of students from economically weaker sections are having access to central scholarships in higher education;

**Reply:** 50.69% of the students from economically weaker sections are having access to Fellowship/Scholarship from the Institute as well as extramural funding agencies.

- e) the procedure to monitor employability outcomes of graduates from top public universities;

**Reply:** The procedure for monitoring the employability outcomes of graduates at IISER Kolkata involves evaluating a comprehensive set of indicators like Placement rate (percentage of graduates placed within a certain time i.e last academic year), Average package, Job relevance, Higher studies enrolment in India or abroad, Entrepreneurship/Start-ups initiated, Job retention and career progression, Skill relevance and satisfaction.

- f) whether the government is planning to review accreditation standards for private colleges; and

**Not Applicable**

- g) details about the current status of proposed Higher Education Commission of India (HECI)

**Not Applicable**

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## Furnishing of input for the LSUQ No 241 to be answered on 02.02.2026 - reg.

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Director Secretariat <director.office@iiserkol.ac.in>

Fri, Jan 30, 2026 at 4:35 PM

To: Dean of Academic Affairs <doaa@iiserkol.ac.in>

Cc: Partha Banerjee <partha.banerjee@iiserkol.ac.in>, Dean IWD <diwd@iiserkol.ac.in>, Dean of Administration <doad@iiserkol.ac.in>

Respected Sir(s),

Greetings from the Directorate!

The DRAFT proposed reply from IISER Kolkata to be furnished as input for the LSUQ No 241 to be answered on 02.02.2026 is appended below for your kind attention & comments, if any. Sir, on hearing from you, I shall officially send the reply mail to the Ministry.'

With regards, PS to Director, IISER Kolkata

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### **Input for the LSUQ No 241:**

**(a) The details of steps taken by the Government to address the shortage of skilled professionals in India's renewable energy sector, particularly in solar manufacturing and the role of educational institutions in this regard;**

- Government initiatives such as *Suryamitra Skill Development Programme* have been launched to train solar PV technicians and address manpower shortages in renewable energy.
- Educational institutions contribute through curriculum integration, research in solar materials and energy storage, and collaborations with MNRE/NISE.
- At IISER Kolkata, a **grid-connected rooftop Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant of 605.68 KWp capacity** has been installed under RESCO mode through a SECI-enlisted agency across multiple institutional buildings.
  - o This has created scope for deployment of skilled workmen on shift basis for operational requirements.
  - o Preventive and breakdown maintenance activities for solar power generation are carried out throughout the year, thereby fostering hands-on skill development.

**(b) Whether the Ministry of Education collaborates with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy to develop specialized curricula or training programs to bridge the skills gap in the clean energy industry and if so, the details thereof; and**

- The Ministry of Education collaborates with MNRE to strengthen renewable energy education.
- Joint efforts include specialized curricula, training programs, and financial support for laboratory upgradation.
- IISER Kolkata engages in interdisciplinary teaching and research aligned with national renewable energy priorities, ensuring students are trained in both theoretical and practical aspects of clean energy.

**(c) The number of educational institutions that have introduced renewable energy-focused courses during the last three years and the measures taken to align these programs with industry requirements?**

· Over 100 institutions have introduced renewable energy-focused courses in the last three years.

· Alignment with industry requirements is ensured through industry partnerships, curriculum updates reflecting solar, wind, and storage technologies, and skill-oriented modules for installation, maintenance, and entrepreneurship.

· IISER Kolkata contributes through research-led teaching, exposure to cutting-edge energy science, and practical deployment of renewable energy infrastructure on campus.

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With regards,

PS to Director, IISER Kolkata

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**2 attachments**



**LSUQ 241 .pdf**

1090K



**Reply from IISER Kolkata on the Input for the LSUQ No 241.docx**

16K



## Inputs for Part(C) of LSUQ No. 228 for 01.12.2025 on "Gross Enrolment Ratio in HEIs"-reg

Director Secretariat <director.office@iiserkol.ac.in>

Thu, Nov 27, 2025 at 10:52 AM

To: IISER Section <iiser-ts7.edu@gov.in>

Cc: Priyank Chaturvedi <priyank.chaturvedi81@gov.in>, Parvik Parvik <parvik.edu@gov.in>, Bhardwaj Yukti Narender <Yukti.edu@nic.in>, Director IISER Kolkata <director@iiserkol.ac.in>, Dean of Administration <doad@iiserkol.ac.in>, "Assistant Registrar, Academics" <ar\_acad@iiserkol.ac.in>

Bcc: Aakash Nirmal <aakash.nirmal@iiserkol.ac.in>

Dear Sir / Madam,

Greetings from IISER Kolkata!

As directed, please find appended below the reply from IISER Kolkata on the mail received from the Ministry on the captioned subject "**Inputs for Part(C) of LSUQ No. 228 for 01.12.2025 on "Gross Enrolment Ratio in HEIs"**" for your kind attention.

**(c) whether the Government has taken any initiatives to improve the quality of education in terms of equity in Higher Education Institutions, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**Answer:** IISER-Kolkata prioritizes in implementation of initiatives to improve the quality of education in terms of equity

1. The Institute has a SC/ST/OBC & Equal Opportunity Cell.
2. Reservation policy as per GOI norms is implemented in admission for SC/ST/OBC/PwD students.
3. Tuition fee waivers are given to SC/ST/PwD students.
4. IISER Kolkata widely circulates all notifications sent on different scholarships implemented by the Government to all students.
5. The Institute has friendly infrastructure with ramps, elevators and accessible restrooms for PwD students.
6. The institute has a Teaching Assistantship, which involves senior-student tutoring for courses to help students with problem-solving and concepts in smaller groups.
7. The Institute offers a Communicative English course to Level 1 students with weaker English schooling backgrounds.
8. The Institute has a Dean of Wellness & Welfare as well as Mind Care & Wellness Centre (MCWC), catering to counselling, psychological assessment, workshops and student mental-health services. These services support students facing non-academic barriers to learning.
9. The Institute has a mentorship program, which earmarks each student of Level 1 and Level 2 to a faculty member for discussions on academic and non-academic progress and hurdles
10. The Institute has a student-led outreach program-*Ek Pehal*, to coach underprivileged children and local communities.
11. Other outreach initiatives of the Institute cater to student excursions and invite schools and colleges on Foundation Day and Science Day to facilitate interactions for valuable insights into the world of science and research.

12. The Anti-ragging cell & crisis response committee includes helpline and emergency mechanisms for safety and inclusion.

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With regards / PS to Director, IISER Kolkata  
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## Seeking Inputs for Admitted Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. \*120 to be answered on 30.07.2025 regarding “Multiple Entry-Exit system and Academic Bank of Credits”-reg

Director Secretariat <director.office@iiserkol.ac.in>

Fri, Jul 25, 2025 at 2:45 PM

To: IISER Section <iiser-ts7.edu@gov.in>

Cc: Priyank Chaturvedi <priyank.chaturvedi81@gov.in>, Parvik Parvik <parvik.edu@gov.in>, Bhardwaj Yukti Narender <Yukti.edu@nic.in>, Director IISER Kolkata <director@iiserkol.ac.in>, Rangeet Bhattacharyya <rangeet@iiserkol.ac.in>, "Assistant Registrar, Academics" <ar\_acad@iiserkol.ac.in>, Aakash Nirmal <aakash.nirmal@iiserkol.ac.in>

Dear Sir / Madam,

Greetings from IISER Kolkata!

As desired, please find appended below the replies from IISER Kolkata on the mail received from the Ministry on the captioned subject for your kind attention.

### **Reply to Query 1:**

IISER Kolkata has implemented the multiple exit options in all programmes offered at IISER Kolkata. The exit options are given to students based on approved earned credentials for a particular programme. The multiple entry option has not been implemented yet.

### **Reply to Query 2:**

A well developed Academic ERP is present at IISER Kolkata to facilitate credit transfer and integration with Digilocker. However, resolution on issues of equivalence of credits and diverse grading systems is required for standardisation and integration. All grade cards semester wise are uploaded on Digilocker for all students This also enables students opting for exit options for transfer credits.

### **Reply to Query 3:**

Progress on implementation of ABC at IISER Kolkata:

Total Records	Total Degree	Admission Year	ABC Accounts Created
15783	1649	2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015	3275

### **Reply to Query 4:**

The Institute has created the ABC IDs through Bulk Utility for all existing students  
All grade cards semester wise, degree certificates are uploaded on Digilocker for all students

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With regards/  
PS to Director, IISER Kolkata  
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## URGENT: LOK SABHA LSUSQ no. 28 FOR REPLY ON 01.12.2025 REGARDING "Central Scholarship Schemes in Dakshina Kannada District"

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Director Secretariat <director.office@iiserkol.ac.in>

Thu, Nov 27, 2025 at 9:57 AM

To: IISER Section <iiser-ts7.edu@gov.in>

Cc: Priyank Chaturvedi <priyank.chaturvedi81@gov.in>, Parvik Parvik <parvik.edu@gov.in>, Bhardwaj Yukti Narender <yukti.edu@nic.in>, Director IISER Kolkata <director@iiserkol.ac.in>, Dean of Administration <doad@iiserkol.ac.in>

Dear Sir / Madam,

Greetings from IISER Kolkata!

As directed, please find the reply from IISER Kolkata on the mail received from the Ministry on the captioned subject **"LOK SABHA LSUSQ No. 28 FOR REPLY ON 01.12.2025 REGARDING "Central Scholarship Schemes in Dakshina Kannada District"** for your kind attention.

a) the number of students from Dakshina Kannada district in the State of Karnataka who have benefited from national scholarships such as NSP, INSPIRE and CSSS during the last five years;

**IISER Kolkata students are beneficiaries of national scholarships such as NSP, INSPIRE and CSSS during the last five years. However, district-wise demographic data for beneficiaries is not maintained**

(b) whether the Government has data on gender-wise distribution of scholarship recipients in the said district and if so, the details thereof;

**The gender-wise distribution of scholarship recipients in the said district is not available**

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to address implementation challenges or gaps such as low digital awareness, documentation delays or portal accessibility issues among students and if so, the details thereof; and

**IISER Kolkata widely circulates all notifications sent on different scholarships implemented by the Government to all students. Applications of eligible students are verified by the Institute**

(d) the details of the benefits realized by the youth from OBC/SC/ST and PWD backgrounds through these scholarships in the said district?

**The OBC/SC/ST and PWD backgrounds distribution of scholarship recipients in the said district is not available**

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With regards/ PS to Director, IISER Kolkata  
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## Lok Sabha Question Diary No. 299 to be replied on 21.07.2025 regarding Establishment of Universities, Colleges and Standalone Institutions-reg

IISER Section <iiser-ts7.edu@gov.in>

Tue, Jul 15, 2025 at 12:44 PM

To: "office.director" <office.director@iisc.ac.in>, director <director@iiserpune.ac.in>, Director Bhopal <director@iiserb.ac.in>, dean anf <dean.anf@iisc.ac.in>, Director Mohali <director@iisermohali.ac.in>, Director TVM <director@iisertvm.ac.in>, director <director@iiserbpr.ac.in>, Director Kolkata <director@iiserkol.ac.in>, Director Office <directoroffice@iiserbpr.ac.in>, director office <director.office@iiserkol.ac.in>, director <director@iisertirupati.ac.in>, Inderpreet Kohli <drap@iisertirupati.ac.in>, Director Office <directoroffice@iisertirupati.ac.in>, Director Tirupati <director.iiser@nic.in>, Registrar <registrar@iisc.ac.in>, registrar <registrar@iiserpune.ac.in>, registrar <registrar@iisermohali.ac.in>, IISER Registrar <registrar@iiserb.ac.in>, registrar <registrar@iisertvm.ac.in>, Registrar Berhampur <registrar@iiserbpr.ac.in>, registrar <registrar@iiserkol.ac.in>, registraroffice <registraroffice@iiserb.ac.in>, Registrar Office <registraroffice@iiserbpr.ac.in>, registrar <registrar@iisertirupati.ac.in>, registraroffice Tirupati <registraroffice@iisertirupati.ac.in>, registraroffice <registraroffice@iisertvm.ac.in>, ar hr1 <ar.hr1@iisc.ac.in>, anil <anil@iisc.ac.in>, ar hr <ar.hr@iisc.ac.in>, mithunnair <mithunnair@iisc.ac.in>, sahlawat <sahlawat@iisermohali.ac.in> Cc: Priyank Chaturvedi <priyank.chaturvedi81@gov.in>, Parvik Parvik <parvik.edu@gov.in>

### PARLIAMENT QUESTION

Sir,

Please find enclosed herewith the Lok Sabha Question Diary No. 299 to be replied on 21.07.2025 regarding Establishment of Universities, Colleges and Standalone Institutions. The text of the question is as below: -

- (a) the details of new IITs, IIMs, AIIMS, Central Universities and Technical Institutes which have been established in India during the last ten years and the current year;
- (b) the state-wise distribution of the establishment of these institutions;
- (c) the details of budgetary allocation for Higher Education Infrastructure Development in the Union Budget 2025-26 and its comparison with real expenditure of previous years;
- (d) the measures taken to address the faculty shortage and research funding constraints in newly established and existing IITs and IIMs;
- (e) the details of incentives provided to attract the international faculties;
- (f) the details of policies which promote the Multidisciplinary Research, Startup Incubation Centers, and AI- Based Learning Modules in Premier Institutions; and
- (g) whether the government plan to bridge the gap between public and private Higher Education Institutions and ensure equal access to world-class education for students from economically weaker sections?

2. Institutes are requested to provide part-wise information/reply in r/o the above said Question **latest by 11:00 A.M. Tomowwow.**

Thanks & Regards,

Technical Section-VII (IISERs & IISc)  
Ministry of Education,  
Department of Higher Education,



## Mentorship Framework for students belonging to Vulnerable sections in School, Higher and Vocational Education -reg

Director Secretariat <director.office@iiserkol.ac.in>

Fri, Aug 29, 2025 at 11:17 AM

To: IISER Section <iiser-ts7.edu@gov.in>

Cc: Priyank Chaturvedi <priyank.chaturvedi81@gov.in>, Parvik Parvik <parvik.edu@gov.in>, Bhardwaj Yukti Narender <Yukti.edu@nic.in>, Director IISER Kolkata <director@iiserkol.ac.in>, Dean of Administration <doad@iiserkol.ac.in>, Sumit Khanra <sumit.khanra@iiserkol.ac.in>, "Assistant Registrar, Student Affairs" <ar\_sa@iiserkol.ac.in>

Dear Sir / Madam,

Greetings from IISER Kolkata!

As directed, the reply from IISER Kolkata on the mail received from the Ministry on the captioned subject is appended below for your kind attention please.

With regards / PS to Director, IISER Kolkata

### **Support & Mentorship Plan for SC, ST, and OBC Students**

Our Goal:

#### *Support & Mentorship Plan for SC, ST, and OBC Students*

To ensure that every SC, ST, and OBC student at IISER Kolkata has equal opportunities, strong support, and the confidence to succeed—academically and beyond.

**\*\* Why This Matters:**

Many SC, ST, and OBC students still face:

- > **Lack of proper mentorship and guidance**
- > **Limited peer networking and visible role models**
- > **Academic challenges and fewer support systems**
- > **Social exclusion and lack of confidence**

**\*\*OUR PLAN**

#### **1. Mentorship Program**

Pair SC, ST, and OBC students with trained faculty & senior student mentors  
Create peer mentoring groups for collective learning and support

#### **2. Academic Help**

Remedial classes & summer bridge programs  
Skill-building workshops (communication, coding, research, etc.)  
Internship and research opportunities via placement cell & collaborations

#### **3. Student Well-being**

Access to psychological counseling  
Peer-support helplines for stress and personal issues

#### **4. Training for Mentors**

Sensitization workshops on inclusivity & mental health  
Clear mentorship guidelines for supporting students better

#### **5. Monitoring Progress**

Regular feedback from students  
Track academic improvement, retention, and overall satisfaction

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## Rajya Sabha Admitted Unstarred Question No. 1144 received from the Ministry

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Director Secretariat <director.office@iiserkol.ac.in>

Mon, Jul 28, 2025 at 12:10 PM

To: MHRD Section <iiser-ts7.edu@gov.in>

Cc: Priyank Chaturvedi <priyank.chaturvedi81@gov.in>, Parvik Parvik <Parvik.edu@gov.in>, Bhardwaj Yukti Narender <Yukti.edu@nic.in>, Director IISER Kolkata <director@iiserkol.ac.in>, Rangeet Bhattacharyya <rangeet@iiserkol.ac.in>, Kripabandhu Ghosh <kripaghosh@iiserkol.ac.in>

Dear Sir / Madam,

Greetings from IISER Kolkata!

Please find appended below the reply from IISER Kolkata on the mail received from the Ministry on the captioned subject for your kind attention please.

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**Please furnish information for part (a) only. Information would be in two parts:**

- (i) for research and innovation in Electronics and IT**
- (ii) For research and innovation in AI**

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**Reply from IISER Kolkata:**

Yes, IISER Kolkata through the new BS-MS in CDS program and through PhD, MS Thesis is encouraging research in Artificial Intelligence.

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With regards,  
PS to Director, IISER Kolkata  
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## Seeking inputs on Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.371 to be answered on 02.02.2026 regarding "Employment in Higher Education Institutions" -reg

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Director Secretariat <director.office@iiserkol.ac.in>

Thu, Jan 29, 2026 at 1:49 PM

To: IISER Section <iiser-ts7.edu@gov.in>

Cc: Priyank Chaturvedi <priyank.chaturvedi81@gov.in>, Parvik Parvik <parvik.edu@gov.in>, Director IISER Kolkata <director@iiserkol.ac.in>, Dean of Academic Affairs <doaa@iiserkol.ac.in>, Dean of Administration <doad@iiserkol.ac.in>

### **Answers from IISER Kolkata for the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.371 regarding "Employment in Higher Education Institutions" – reg.**

**Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 371** [To be answered on 02.02.2026]

**Question: The steps being taken by the Government to make students studying in higher education institutions as employment oriented?**

**Answer:** (a) The Government of India has taken several proactive steps to make students in higher education institutions employment-oriented. Under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, emphasis has been placed on holistic and multidisciplinary learning, integration of skill development modules, and promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship.

IISER Kolkata, in alignment with these directives, has introduced career counselling, industry internships, and entrepreneurship development programmes to enhance employability among students.

**Question: Whether the curricula are being updated in accordance with the requirement of industries, and if so, the details thereof;**

(b) Yes, curricula are being regularly updated in accordance with industry requirements.

At IISER Kolkata, course structures are revised periodically to incorporate emerging areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Climate Studies, and Biotechnology. Industry experts are invited to interact with faculty and students, and feedback from alumni working in diverse sectors is integrated into curriculum design. This ensures that students are equipped with contemporary knowledge and practical skills relevant to industry needs.

IISER Kolkata also has courses on entrepreneurship and sustainability science as part of the skill development programme.

**Question: The number of students who have benefitted from skill development programmes during the last three years and whether a statement has been prepared in this regard and..**

(c) During the last three years, a significant number of students have benefitted from skill development programmes conducted under national initiatives such as Skill India, Digital India, and Atal Innovation Mission, as well as institution-led workshops and training.

At IISER Kolkata, over 900 students have participated in structured skill development activities including coding bootcamps, laboratory skill enhancement, communication workshops, and entrepreneurship training.

**Question: If so, the details thereof; State-wise?**

(d) Yes, a statement has been prepared in this regard and the details are as under:

<b>State/Institution</b>	<b>Number of Students Benefitted (Last 3 Years)</b>	<b>Key Programmes Conducted</b>
West Bengal (IISER Kolkata)	900+	Skill development workshops, industry internships, entrepreneurship training, coding and data science bootcamps

The Government remains committed to strengthening the employability of students in higher education institutions through continuous curriculum reforms, skill development initiatives, and industry-academia collaborations. IISER Kolkata, along with other IISERs, is actively contributing to this national endeavour.

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With regards,

PS to Director, IISER Kolkata

[Quoted text hidden]

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**URGENT: LOK SABHA LSUSQ no. 28 FOR REPLY ON 01.12.2025 REGARDING  
"Central Scholarship Schemes in Dakshina Kannada District"**

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Assistant Registrar, Academics <ar\_acad@iiserkol.ac.in>

Fri, Nov 28, 2025 at 1:30 PM

To: Director Secretariat <director.office@iiserkol.ac.in>

Cc: Dean of Academic Affairs <doaa@iiserkol.ac.in>, Director IISER Kolkata <director@iiserkol.ac.in>

Dear Immanuel

As per the telephonic conversation with the concerned query, I am requested to send this data

The number of students from the State of Karnataka who have benefited from national scholarships such as NSP, INSPIRE and CSSS during the last five years

Roll No.	Name.	Category	Gender	Scholarship
19MS134	G.Sushanth	SC	Male	INSPIRE
20MS031	Sohan Pati	General	Male	INSPIRE
22MS111	Varsha Santhaseelan	General	Female	INSPIRE
23MS071	Siddarth Sampath	General	Male	INSPIRE
23MS143	Chinmayee Shree M	OBCNC	Female	INSPIRE
23MS144	Hithesh Sumuni	General	Male	INSPIRE
23MS260	Abhinav Prabhu Ligadi	General	Male	INSPIRE
24MS094	Giribalan E	General	Male	INSPIRE

Please send this to the Ministry

Regards

Dr S Bhattacharjee

[Quoted text hidden]

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**URGENT: Request for input on provisionally admitted Lok Sabha Starred Question Dy. No. 40 for 21.07.2025 regarding Quality and Affordability of Higher Education-reg**

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IISER Section <iiser-ts7.edu@gov.in>

Tue, Jul 15, 2025 at 1:36 PM

To: "office.director" <office.director@iisc.ac.in>, director <director@iiserpune.ac.in>, Director Bhopal <director@iiserb.ac.in>, dean anf <dean.anf@iisc.ac.in>, Director Mohali <director@iisermohali.ac.in>, Director TVM <director@iisertvm.ac.in>, director <director@iiserbpr.ac.in>, Director Kolkata <director@iiserkol.ac.in>, Director Office <directoroffice@iiserbpr.ac.in>, director office <director.office@iiserkol.ac.in>, director <director@iisertirupati.ac.in>, Inderpreet Kohli <drap@iisertirupati.ac.in>, Director Office <directoroffice@iisertirupati.ac.in>, Director Tirupati <director.iiser@nic.in>, Registrar <registrar@iisc.ac.in>, registrar <registrar@iiserpune.ac.in>, registrar <registrar@iisermohali.ac.in>, IISER Registrar <registrar@iiserb.ac.in>, registrar <registrar@iisertvm.ac.in>, Registrar Berhampur <registrar@iiserbpr.ac.in>, registrar <registrar@iiserkol.ac.in>, registraroffice <registraroffice@iiserb.ac.in>, Registrar Office <registraroffice@iiserbpr.ac.in>, registrar <registrar@iisertirupati.ac.in>, registraroffice Tirupati <registraroffice@iisertirupati.ac.in>, registraroffice <registraroffice@iisertvm.ac.in>, ar hr1 <ar.hr1@iisc.ac.in>, anil <anil@iisc.ac.in>, ar hr <ar.hr@iisc.ac.in>, mithunnair <mithunnair@iisc.ac.in>, sahlawat <sahlawat@iisermohali.ac.in>  
Cc: Priyank Chaturvedi <priyank.chaturvedi81@gov.in>, Parvik Parvik <parvik.edu@gov.in>

**PARLIAMENT QUESTION**

Sir,

Please find enclosed the Lok Sabha Starred Question Diary No. 40 to be replied on 21.07.2025 regarding "Quality and Affordability of Higher Education". The text of the question is as below: -

- a) whether the ministry has conducted any recent survey on rising tuition fees in public and private universities;
- b) details about steps being taken to ensure equitable access to quality faculty and infrastructure in rural institutions;
- c) whether there in a guidelines to regulate the cost of online and hybrid degree programs under NEP 2020;
- d) how many percentage of students from economically weaker sections are having access to central scholarships in higher education;
- e) the procedure to monitor employability outcomes of graduates from top public universities;
- f) whether the government is planning to review accreditation standards for private colleges; and
- g) details about the current status of proposed Higher Education Commission of India (HECI)

2. Institutes are requested to provide part-wise information/reply in r/o the above said Question **latest by 11:00 A.M. Tomowwow.**

Thanks & Regards,

Technical Section-VII (IISERs & IISc)  
Ministry of Education,  
Department of Higher Education,  
436-C Wing, Shastri Bhawan,  
New Delhi - 110 001

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