

RAJYA SABHA

***SUPPLEMENT**

TO

SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

Thursday, July 27, 2017/ Shravana 5, 1939 (Saka)

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Indian Institutes of Information Technology (Public Private Partnership) Bill, 2017 - *Contd.*

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: If we did not become practical, as the Hon'ble Member was speaking just now, that situation will arise before the country. You want it under PPP in the ratio of 50-35-15. Why will it invest 15 percent, until and unless the Private Sector gets ownership rights or management? This is unfortunate that after so many years not even a single university, not even a single institute of our country is of global level.

Those who pass engineering, are doing jobs for 5,000 rupees at toll tax. The country will not be in a very good position until and unless you link education with employment. The entire money of our country is going to foreign. You were compelled to allow 100 percent FDI in Defence Sector, because people said that they will not invest until they get full ownership rights. Then who will invest for 15 percent share? Private Sector has 80 percent participation in education today, but you are not encouraging Private Sector. You set such

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harsh terms for Deemed University which can not be fulfilled by anybody. Why don't you become practical? If you want PPP through 50, 35 and 15 ratio, you will not be able to open even a single institute. You give the offer to Private Sector, they will make entire investment. I want you to re-consider it with cool mind.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: This Bill is regarding governing the IITs under the PPP model. It has also been decided to allow more admission to the foreign students. I want to know whether there is any move for establishment of IITs Secretariat in IIT Gwalior. Total twenty institutes are going to function, and one among them is Srirangam IIT which is in Tiruchirappali, Tamil Nadu. I want to know the measure of the Ministry in upgrading the curriculum of IITs to meet the evolving information technology scenario. We must become a real power in software by innovating possible utilities. I would also like to know about the pattern of our utilization of the fees collected, the donation collected, etc. We have to follow a certain uniformed syllabus all over the country. The children from South are very much deprived of a fair chance because only the influential few and the rich people can afford to send their children to costly institutions providing coaching for the entrance examinations, which are not affordable for the poor children.

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: It has been mentioned in this Bill that the recurring expenditure in the first five years of operation will be made available by the Central Government. The Government needs to clarify a point that if some recurring expenditure still exists after these five years, whether those costs be transferred to students via increase in fees. Vested interests should not stifle the growth of the Institute or the careers of the students. An another point in this Bill is that the industry peers would look into the funding and mentoring of the start-ups. But, it should be ensured that the start-ups are encouraged and allowed to function on their own without any external pressures. There should be a mechanism in place in an Institute, including regular audits, to ensure that funds are not misappropriated. Many IITs, including IIT, Kalyani, in Bengal, do

not have their own building and occupy rental premises, resulting in operational problems. There are increasing number of incidents of allegations of harassment and humiliation, illegal promotions and gender discrimination. Therefore, these are very serious issues which need to be addressed and a proper grievance redressal mechanism has to be developed in all the 20 IIITs. We need to look at the underlying reasons behind rising number of suicides in college campuses.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: This Bill declares the existing 15 IIITs as the institutes of national importance and also empowers these institutions to confer degrees to the students. I oppose the very concept of the PPP model in the field of education because it will amount to creeping privatization in education. I think, this Bill provides the greatest say to the industrial partners in deciding the content of education and also in governing the educational institution only by spending mere 15 per cent of the total expenses. The States have a lesser say in these institutions as per the formulation of the various clauses in this Bill. Our country has made tremendous achievements in the field of education and, all these achievements are being made not because of the private institutions but because of the public-funded institutions in our country. A recent report has revealed that the quality, credibility and viability of our professional education is seriously affected due to the privatisation of education. In these institutions, 52 per cent of the total seats are lying vacant. The present Bill is missing three important points which are reservation policy in admission, fee structure and whether it is the merit or the money which is being considered as a criterion for admission.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: I think the hon. Minister has brought this Bill with a very good intention. We have to improve our science and technology. So, we have to conduct more research and for that we have to have a good number of big universities. The Information Technology Institutes established under PPP model, are now being given the status of institutions of national importance. This would enable the universities to give degrees and it would also provide them with some sort of autonomy. The Kurnool Institute is also being given the status of institution of national importance.

Today, this sector is facing stagnation in our country and this situation has arisen because like in other sectors we pay scant regard to research and innovation in IT sector in India.

The other countries who were far behind us are now marching ahead because they pay full attention to research and innovation in IT sector and keep developing new platforms. The hostile global reasons have further compounded the IT crisis in India. I request that Government to take immediate and appropriate steps to arrest this crisis. I request that Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology should be declared as an institution of national importance.

SHRI VEER SINGH: The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research has been declared as an institute of National Importance. The Finance Minister has declared to set up an IISER in Odisha in his 2015 budget speech to promote the quality education and research in the field of science. The technical education plays a vital role in the overall education system in India. Education should be promoted for the development of any country; therefore the Government should pay more attention to the quality institutes and higher education. The quality of education being provided under official system is awful. If correct education is provided to the children at primary level, then the children can brightened the future of the country. Two types of education system is prevailing in the country, one is for poor children and other for the higher ups. I would request that a same syllabus be maintained in all the schools. No attention is paid to poor students. Lakhs of student go abroad for the study, and they spend lot of money for it. If the education level is raised similar to the level of other countries, then our children will stop going abroad for education and consequently lot of money will be saved.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: It is stated that in the public-private participation, Central Government would contribute 50 per cent and State Government would contribute 35 per cent, which means out of total funding, 85 per cent will be contributed by Centre and State Government. Remaining 15 per cent will be contributed by the industrial partner, who will have the power to co-create the

program as per the requirement of the industry. The industrial partner will also actively participate in the governance of the institute. It means that partner will have say in the Governing body and it will nominate a representative in the Board of Governors. It is not advisable. The private partner should not be allowed active participation in the governance of the institute. Another issue is related to the funding and monitoring the start-up of the institute. I hope that reservation policy will also be implemented as per the various provisions.

As per the Report of the Parliamentary Committee on Welfare of Backward Classes presented on 23rd December, 2015, only four IITs- IIT, Allahabad; IIT, Gwalior; IIT, Jabalpur; and, IIT, Kanchipuram are implementing the reservation policy. Apart from these, none of the other institutions are following the reservation policy. I request the Government to kindly address these two issues. I would like to know the reasons behind giving authority of governance to industry despite having a stake of 85 per cent by the Government. These issues need to be addressed.

SHRI D. RAJA: The very purpose of this Bill is to declare certain IITs established under PPP as institutions of national importance. I am opposed to the very concept of public-private partnership which is nothing but a privatization of such institutes. Dominance by industry and private sector in the name of the so-called Board is unacceptable to us when 85 per cent funding comes from the Government compared to the industry's contribution of mere 15 per cent. Government should make it clear whether it stands for reservation or not. The public-funded institutions keep on citing non-availability of suitable candidate as the main reason for not having adequate representation for SCs and STs. The Board must consist of adequate representation from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I strongly support the Indian Institutes of Information Technology (Public-Private Partnership) Bill, 2017. The object of the Bill is very good. India dreams to become one of the top information technology leaders and regain what it had

thousands of years ago. The issue of reservation is a different thing. According to my understanding, every institution is open to all citizens irrespective of gender, caste, creed, disability.

In these institutes, candidates irrespective of domicile, social or economic background will be allowed. The Institute is totally not-for-profit legal entity. Contribution of the Government of India, State, Industrial partner is 50 percent, 35 percent, 15 percent respectively. My question here is: to what extent are you going to attract the industrial partner to participate in this? This is a good scheme as you are not making it to be totally private. 15 percent contribution by industrial partner is insignificant Their participation in the Board is also insignificant. But my doubt is, to what extent will an industrial person be attracted to this scheme? You want to attract an industrial partner who has got some knowledge which will be useful for your institute. I want to know what attractions you are going to give him. Suppose, nobody comes forward, then, what will happen? At 15 places, you are providing institutes of national importance. So, you must give Andhra Pradesh two, not one. Funding is also very vague. What approximate funding is the Government of India proposing? How much proportion do you expect to the State as also the industry? I want the hon'ble minister to clarify this.

DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: IITs have become a premier institutions in the world. But, if you see the total ranking in the world, none of the IITs come within the first 100 ranks. So, this speaks about the quality of education in our country. Now private partnership is being introduced. This scheme is really most welcome. Now with this Bill, there would be many people who would like to participate in it not only as a business but because of knowledge, because of improvement in HRD, human resources. I request that, at least, in each State, wherever the IITs are there, they reserve 25 per cent seats for that State's students on merit only. This is a historical Bill. I once again welcome this Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY), replying to the debate, said: Most of the members have participated in the debate on this bill, supported and have given their suggestion. I welcome their suggestion. Our Government is fully stressing on the subject of humanities. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister said that if the subject of humanities is not stressed upon then Man will merely become robot in this era of technology. On one hand you raise the matter of increasing the employment and if curriculum and related things as per the requirement of industries are not included, there will be problem in increasing the employment.

An Honourable Member has pointed out renewal of it's curriculum and common syllabus. Question of pattern of utilization was also raised. We have made an arrangement of continuous Corpus fund therein so that expenditure can be met through that fund. The private sector plays a vital role in increasing level of education. We have maintained the importance of PPP. Subjects like Start-up, Artificial and Metallurgical will be included in this. Kalyani Campus's land has been located. IIIT has possession on the land of Kalyani and construction of boundary wall has been completed. I agree with the views of Patil Sahab. Our government is heading towards that direction so that we can establish ourselves as top education institute in the world. India will be the largest country with young population in near future.

We have covered 15 institutes under this model to provide more employments and opportunities to the youth. Regarding establishment of these institutes in backward areas under Article 370 and Article 371, I would like to state that 2 IIITs have been set up-one in Senapati district in Manipur and another in Guwahati in Assam. Regarding dropout from IIITs, I would like to state that Government have done a lot to increase placements through AICTE. As far as skill development is concerned, I would like to state that it is the top priority and the greatest achievement also of our Government. IIITs are going to prove very effective in this direction

under PPP mode. Regarding provision of reservation to SCs and STs, it has been ensured very clearly under Clause 14 itself. All our 15 institutes are doing well. As far as attraction of different companies toward participation for 15% is concerned, I would like to state that nowadays so many institutes like TCS, Genpact, etc. are participating under PPP mode for development of these institutes. Process of setting up 3 institutes in Bhagalpur, Bhopal and Surat is going on so that much more Graduate and Master engineers may be prepared. The suggestions from all of you are welcome for enhancement of IIITs.

The motion for consideration of the Bill was adopted.

Clauses etc., were adopted.

The Bill, was passed.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

1. Demand to take Necessary Steps for Completion of a Bridge on Kolhapur-Ratnagiri State Highway across the River Panchganga

SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: The Shivaji Bridge of river Panchganga is 140 years old. It has become weak and River Panchganga is presently heavily flooded. This bridge can collapse any time. PWD, Maharashtra had started the construction work of a new bridge there but the Archaeological Survey of India stopped that construction work as the site of construction was falling within 100 meters of an ancient archaeological site. Safety and security of human lives must be taken care of. So, changing the clauses of AMASR Amendment Bill will help many projects at large.

2. Demand to grant the Funds for Construction of Bus Stands at Certain Places as Proposed by the Tamil Nadu Government

SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Tamil Nadu is one of the most urbanized States in India. In view of the growing demand for transport, the Government of Tamil Nadu has felt the need to construct new Bus Stands in seven Corporations and seven Municipalities. Out of 124 Municipalities, Bus Stands are available

only in 112 Municipalities. I urge upon the Government to grant the amount demanded by the State Government of Tamil Nadu at the earliest, for the construction of Bus Stands at above places.

3. Demand to take Immediate Measures to improve Quality of Food and Other Catering Services Provided to Passengers in the Trains

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: CAG in it's recent report has said that services of railway are not up to the mark. It has pointed out the lack of cleanliness and hygiene in railways. Quality and quantity of food is compromised by the contractors. In spite of Grievance Redressal System complaints regarding substandard food and overcharging have increased. Catering Policy of 2017 mandates a zero-tolerance policy on poor quality meals.

4. Demand to open Banks or Post Offices in All the Villages in the Country for “Less Cash and Cash Less” Economic Transactions

SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: More than 70% of country's population resides in villages, but there are so many villages where there is neither post office nor bank. The facility of post office or bank in all such villages where there is less than 1500 population should be provided by Government. The small villages with only one post office agent in the post office there must be provided building and necessary staff for banking work by postal department. The villages where there is no post office must be provided small branches of banks. Only then 100 percent rural population may be engaged in less cash and cash less transactions. I request to take necessary steps in this direction.

5. Demand to Conduct an Inquiry into the Alleged Fraud in the Procurement of Masmeeen (Dried Tuna) and Take Measures for Immediate Payment of the Dues of Masmeeen Fishermen in Lakshadweep

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: It is alleged that the LCMF and its cooperative marketing societies have duped the poor fishermen by offering better rates for masmeeen (dried tuna) and refusing to pay even a single pie. The poor fishermen of Lakshadweep are under

severe hardship as their only source of income, masmeen is deposited with the LCMF and the price is not paid even after constant appeals and protests. There are also allegations about the manner in which the procurement of masmeen (dried tuna) is handled by the LCMF.

Centre's intervention is requested to the urgent release of the price of masmeen, dried tuna to fishermen and to conduct an inquiry into the alleged fraud in the procurement of masmeen and dried tuna by LCMF. Urgent measure is also solicited to ensure transparency in the functioning of LCMF as a cooperative entity.

6. Concern over the Diversion of Funds Collected as Clean Energy Cess for Purposes other than they were allocated

PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: The clean energy cess was levied under the Finance Act, 2010 and India ratified it in November, 1993. However, less than half of the pooled amount has been given to the National Clean Energy Fund and only around Rs.10,000 crore of that fund has been given out for projects. The present Government cut the flow of funds towards the National Clean Energy Fund. The response by the Finance Ministry has indicated that the unspent National Clean Energy Fund amounting to Rs.56,700 crore have also been diverted towards compensating the States for implementation of GST. It is India's moral obligation under international law to ensure that proceeds obtained under the fund are used for the purposes for which they were levied. Furthermore, the death of the fund will pose a challenge to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. I, therefore, urge the Government to urgently clarify its position in this regard.

(Shri Jairam Ramesh associated)

**7. Demand to include the Army Recruitment Office (ARO),
Amethi in the List of Non-Military Stations**

DR. SANJAY SINH: In the entire Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, ARO Amethi is the only ARO located in a place where no other military units are located. Even NCC Units are also not located in Amethi. Military services are not available in Amethi and the nearest military station is Allahabad which is far away. Amethi is not listed in the list of Non-Military Stations. Personnel posted with ARO Amethi are deprived of basic/authorised military services in Amethi. Since Amethi is not listed in the list of Non-Military Stations, these personnel are not being allotted SFA or given NAC for claiming HRA. I request the Government of India to include Amethi in the list of Non-Military Stations.

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

rssynop@sansad.nic.in

ERRATA TO THE SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE DATED

27th July, 2017

Page No.	Line No.	Correction
140	33	Read 'Colemn' as 'Coleman'.