

# INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GANDHINAGAR

2019

**Subject:** Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5647

Sr. No.	Question	Answer
(a)	the number of patent rights granted to academic/R&D institutions including Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Sciences(IISc), Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) in the country during the last five years;	IIT Gandhinagar has filed 21 patents during the last five years. However, no patent has been awarded till date.
(b)	new initiatives being taken by the Government to promote research works in the country in this modern age of stiff competition and Intellectual Property Right regime;	IIT Gandhinagar has implemented many initiatives for undertaking research in disciplines of Engineering, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences. Till date 78 projects have been completed and 172 projects are ongoing. Some major initiatives are : 1. A major initiative named 'Maker Bhavan' to facilitate hands on learning as a culture is being established at the Institute. 2. Research Park established with the support from Department of Science and Technology is intended to be enabler towards the goal of Research output implemented in the field.
(c)	the mechanism in place to prevent repetition and wasteful research works in the country	At IIT Gandhinagar research is shared and coordinated through office of Dean, Research & Development. Further emphasis is given to publications in peer reviewed journals.
(d)	whether any help in this regard has been sought from the IITs and other institutions and if so, the details thereof; and	MHRD may kindly reply.
(e)	whether any funds have been earmarked/proposed to be earmarked by the Government to improve or to make the new technology error free, if so, the details thereof?	MHRD has provided generous support for equipment and research by the students in general, which is often utilized after due planning to develop new technology for societal benefits.

**Subject:** Rajya Sabha provisionally admitted Question Dy. No. S4114 to be replied on 18.07.2019 regarding “mental health of higher education institutions”

Sr. No.	Question	Reply
(a)	the number of counsellors of psychologists working in Higher Educational Institutions (HEI)	Counselling services at IITGN has two qualified and experienced counsellors available 24x7 on the campus to ensure student well-being and mental health. In addition, Head of Counselling Services, Prof. Bhaskar Datta and Prof. Joycec Mekie, Associate Head, are also available for counselling.
(b)	the average number of Counsellors or psychologists per HEI	MHRD may kindly reply.
(c)	the steps being taken to improve mental health workforce in HEIs?	<p>IIT Gandhinagar is committed to the wellbeing of its students and ensures that they have opportunities for holistic development and free access to the Institute’s counselling services. The Counselling Services consist of experienced faculty members, qualified full-time counsellors residing on campus, as well as student guides. The Counselling Services provides a variety of services to students which are aimed at fostering independent thinking and responsibility. The counselling team offers assistance to students to address academic, personal or interpersonal issues. With an aim to provide students a genuine and empathetic environment for their overall growth and well-being, the counselling services are available to all the students round the year. In addition, each student is assigned a Faculty Advisor. Further, the Student Affairs Office Staff and other resources support the counselling services and are available to students to address various requirements beyond their academic needs. Some of the main functions of the Counselling Services are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) <b>Counselling Sessions:</b> Students are encouraged to meet the Institute counsellor for any assistance on emotional, interpersonal and personal problems. Sometimes, the counsellor identifies any student in need of help, and approaches him/her. In some cases, the faculty or student guide refers students to the counsellor.</li> <li>ii) <b>Viva Voce Initiative:</b> Every student is an independent individual and we value his/her likes, dislikes, views, and concerns. Viva voce sessions aim to identify students' needs, concerns and suggestions. It is conducted once every semester for all undergraduate students for which they get a Pass/No Pass grade.</li> <li>iii) <b>Student Guides:</b> Each year, the Counselling Services carefully selects a few students as Student Guides. They help the students from junior batches to adjust within the Institute. When a student enters the Institute, there are possibilities for confusion, unsolved questions and adjustment issues in the new environment. Student Guides play the role of a friend, guide and mentor to make them feel at home. They meet fellow students (initially every week then as and when required) to help them to get acquainted with the new environment. If they identify any student who needs additional help, they can refer him or her to counselling service. Generally, there are four student guide coordinators and sixteen student guides from all the student batches.</li> </ul>