

Title: Need to set up more Engineering Colleges and IIT's in the country -Laid.

SHRI SUDHANGSHU SEAL (CALCUTTA-NORTH WEST): Our country is facing an acute shortage of civil, mechanical and electrical engineers, supervisors and technicians due to launching of major infrastructure, industrial and building projects. It has become extremely difficult to recruit technical manpower and important organization like DMRC, NHAI, Indian Railways, BHEL and NTPC are losing their experienced engineers and other technical personnel to private sector companies which are offering very attractive salaries to them. Some of the private construction companies have recruited foreign engineers to meet their urgent requirement at a high price, after exhausting all the possible avenues of recruiting them locally. The situation will become even more acute as many more new highway, railways and airport projects, steel plants, mega power projects, new collieries and SEZ etc. are likely to come up. In this situation, all our development plans may get crippled unless urgent action is taken to meet the situation.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to set up more engineering colleges, ITI and double their intake for these courses starting from the next session. For this purpose a steep hike in budgetary provision is necessary.