

- (b) if so, the guidelines for the financial assistance;
- (c) how many States have received such assistance;
- (d) whether any proposal for financial assistance from the State Government of Kerala has been received; and
- (e) if so, what steps have been taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, envisaged financial assistance to the State Governments/UTs for offering various vocational courses in their schools at higher secondary stage including courses on Hotel Management and Catering Technology. However, no assistance has been given to any State/UT since 2007-08. No proposal for financial assistance has been received from the State Government of Kerala during 2008-09.

Establishment of model schools

†1124. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any scheme has been formulated to establish model schools in States by Government;
- (b) if so, the number of proposed schools, State-wise and the basis on which this number has been determined; and
- (c) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The scheme envisages setting up of 6000 model schools at the block level at the rate of one school per block. The first phase of the scheme to set up 2500 schools by the State Governments in educationally backward blocks was launched in November, 2008.

Guidelines regarding refund of fees

1125. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the guidelines issued by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) regarding refund of fees to candidates withdrawing from the courses run by the technical institutions approved by it;
- (b) whether Government is aware that large number of colleges refuse to refund fees and confiscate it when students seek withdrawal from the courses run by them; and
- (c) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the details of corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken for preventing such commercialization of education system?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has issued Public Notices from time to time (24.04.2007, 14.03.2008 and 18.06.2009), laying down the guidelines for refund of fees to candidates withdrawing from the courses run by the technical institutions approved by it. A copy of the Public Notice issued on 18.06.2009 is placed in the statement (See below).

(b) and (c) As per information given by the AICTE, 1456 representations/complaints relating to non-refund of fees and/or non-return of original certificates have been received by them (as on June, 2009). Out of these, 656 representations were not related to AICTE and have been forwarded to the concerned organisations. Notices have been issued to the remaining 800 institutions. Out of these, 569 institutions have already complied with the requirements of the Notice. Reminders are being issued by the AICTE in the remaining cases. Non-compliance with the Public Notice is kept in view while granting extension of approvals/increase in intake by the Council so that action can be taken through reduction in intake or by not extending the approvals.

Statement

All India Council for Technical Education

(A Statutory Body of the Government of India)

7th Floor Chandernagore Building, Janpath, New Delhi-110 001

Ph. : 011-23724151-57 Website : www.aicte.

Advt. No. : DPG/06/(02)/2009

PUBLIC NOTICE

Attention to AICTE Approved Technical Institutions, regarding matters concerning charging of fees, refund of fees and other students related issues

All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has been empowered *inter-alia* under section 10 (n) of AICTE act to “take all necessary steps to prevent commercialization of technical education”, In compliance with the provisions under AICTE Act and in the light of directions of Govt. of India issued under section 20(1) of AICTE Act *vide* letter No. (U.1 (A) Section), it has been decided to issue instructions to the AICTE approved Technical Institutions, in the matters concerning students.

Whereas it has come to the notice of the AICTE that AICTE approved Technical Institutions are admitting students to technical education programmes long before the actual starting of an academic session; collecting full fee from the admitted students; and retaining their school/institution’s leaving certificates in original; and

Whereas, Institutions are also reportedly confiscating the fee paid if a student fails to join by such dates; and

Whereas certificates in original are being detained by institutions to force retention of admitted students; and

Whereas the time limit for students to join the course/programmes is also being advanced in some cases unrealistically so as to pre-empt students/candidates from exercising other options of joining other institutions of their choice.

In the event of a student/candidate withdrawing before the starting of the courses, the wait listed candidates should be given admission against the vacant seat. The entire fee collected from the student, after a deduction of the processing fee of not more than Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One thousand only), shall be refunded and returned by the Institution to the student/candidate withdrawing from the programme. It would not be permissible for institutions to retain the School/Institution Leaving Certificate in original. Should a student leave after joining the course and if the seat consequently falling vacant has been filled by another candidate by the last date of admission, the institution must return the fee collected with proportionate deductions of monthly fee and proportionate hostel rent, wherever applicable.

Any violation of instructions issued by the AICTE, shall call for punitive action including withdrawal of approval and recognition of erring institutions. AICTE shall on its own or on receipt of specific complaints from those affected shall take all such steps as may be necessary to enforce these directions.

Aggrieved parents/students are advised to contact/communicate in this regard to Deputy Director (Public Grievances), AICTE.

MEMBER SECRETARY

Promotion of Sanskrit

†1126. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the current education system, the worst sufferers are Indian languages among which Sanskrit language has suffered most that makes us acquainted with the age old antiquity and Indianness and has become obsolete;

(b) if so, whether Government is making any concrete and effective plan for the promotion of Sanskrit; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government of India is giving full impetus for development of Indian languages both in schools and universities. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Human Resource Development offers 32 languages, of which 20 are Indian languages including Sanskrit. The Board offers a course of communicative Sanskrit at Secondary level and two courses named as Sanskrit Core and Sanskrit Elective at the Senior Secondary level. About 3519 schools offer Sanskrit at Secondary level and 767 schools at Senior Secondary level. For promotion of Sanskrit, Government has set up institutions like Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan (MSRVP) at Ujjain for preservation, conservation and development of oral tradition of Vedic studies and study of Vedas through Pathshalas and Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan (RSKS), for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.