

being introduced which heating include mandatory installation of solar water systems through amendment of building bye-laws, rebate in property tax or electricity bills; setting up of Akshay Urja Shops in various districts for sale and service of renewable energy products including solar energy systems and devices. Other measures include technology upgradation to reduce cost, improve efficiency and reliability; support to training programmes, seminars/symposia; and publicity and awareness campaigns.

Opportunities for professional education in the country

*10. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry's survey on opportunities for professional education in the country reveals that some States are lagging behind in terms of seat availability per lakh population and in a communication to Chief Ministers suggested to shape up and open new institutes, increase intake, start new branches and courses and provide incentives for starting private institutions;

(b) if so, States that are lagging behind the national average in terms of educational opportunities; and

(c) the steps these States have taken to increase and bring them at least at par with the national average to remove the regional disparities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) As per information provided by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), 18 States have enrolment capacity of less than national average of 68 per lakh population in degree level technical courses and 16 States have enrolment capacity of less than national average of 31 per lakh population in diploma level technical courses.

The States, which are lagging behind the national average in terms of diploma level seats in technical education as approved by AICTE are Bihar, Assam, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Manipur, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir. The States, which are

lagging behind the national average in terms of degree level seats in technical education as approved by AICTE are Nagaland, Mizoram, Bihar, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Orissa, and Madhya Pradesh.

The Minister of Human Resource Development in his communication to the Chief Ministers of 12 large States, where intake capacity in technical education institutions is below the national average, has requested them to initiate urgent action and programmes so that they come up on par with the national average. Among the corrective steps suggested are the establishment of new institutions especially in backward areas, expansion of intake in existing institutions, opening of new branches and courses especially in emerging areas, grant of incentives for the establishment of bona-fide non-government institutions of good quality, strengthening of infrastructure and faculty development in existing institutions and improvement and expansion of secondary education.

The exact steps being taken or proposed to be taken by these States to raise their intake on par with the national average, have not yet been received by the Central Government from these States.

Vice-Chancellor in Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages

*11. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Vice-Chancellor in Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages is vacant for long time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received any representation seeking intervention in the administration; and

(d) whether Government would spell out a definitive time-frame within which they can appoint a regular Vice-Chancellor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d) The position of the Vice-Chancellor of the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL) which is at present