

Maintaining Staff-Student Ratio in Technical and Management Institutions

11. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the technical and management institutions given accreditation by the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) have not been maintaining proper staff-student ratio;

(b) if so, the details of such institutions, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by Government to press these institutions to maintain a healthy staff-student ratio?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) According to AICTE, they have not received any complaint that accredited institutions are not maintaining prescribed staff-student ratio. As per the policy of the National Board of Accreditation, AICTE, the institutions are expected to continue to maintain the standards on the basis of which accreditation was accorded to individual programme. If any time, the Board finds that the accredited programmes are no longer in conformity with the required criteria, the accreditation status may be revoked. All the existing institutions, including those given accreditation, are required to submit compliance report alongwith mandatory disclosures on annual basis, which includes faculty details in all subject areas. In case, the staff-students ratio for a particular programme is found to be less than the ratio prescribed by AICTE, then at the time of extension of approval, the approved intake of such programmes is reduced in proportion to the faculty strength.

Differential fee Structure in Professional Courses

12. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether each State/UT has its own fee structure for professional courses like MBBS, engineering and architecture;

(b) if so, whether it is Rupees eighty five thousand per annum for a B.E./Architecture seat in one State, in another it is Rupees thrity five to forty thousand;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether such high fees are beyond the reach of students hailing from poor families and rural areas;

(e) if so, whether Government would set up a National Commission to frame a reasonable and uniform fee structure throughout the Country which is affordable for the poor; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, and not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (f) It is true that each State/UT has its own fee structure for professional courses as fees for such courses are decided by the State Level Fee Committees, hence it varies from State to State. Since no details about fee structure are maintained centrally, the extent of variation in fees between one State or the other is not known. To help poor students, State Government have their own schemes like scholarships etc.

The All India Council for Technical Education, *vide* its notification dated March 9, 2006, has constituted a Fee Committee headed by Justice Shri Ranganath Mishra, former Chief Justice of India to consider fixing norms and guidelines for charging tuition and other fees.

World Bank funded projects for upgrading education

13. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank funded projects worth Rs. 1800 crore for upgrading education facilities has run into rough weather following turf war between the officials of the Ministry of HRD;

(b) if so, the main projects affected and the reasons therefor;

(c) by when Government would be able to resolve this issue so that World Bank funds for projects are available; and

(d) by when Government would be able to utilize the funds fully?