

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the year 2003-04, 4610 Government colleges and 12275 Non-Government colleges were reported to be functioning in the country.

(c) The admission capacity in a college is fixed in accordance with the norms of the concerned State Government and University affiliating such colleges.

(d) In the year 2003-04, approximately 87 lakh students were enrolled in all these affiliated colleges.

Paucity of technical experts

†1260. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is paucity of technical experts against the requirement of technical industry in the country;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard and the number of institutions imparting technical education in the country; and

(c) the average number of students to whom technical education is imparted annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) The ratio of graduates in technical education to overall population is less in India compared to that in developed countries. The number of engineering degree colleges (as on 1.12.2004) approved by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) is 1355 with sanctioned annual intake of about 4.59 lakhs.

Mushrooming of Management Institutes

1261. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of management institutes have mushroomed in the country; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to protect interests of the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The Government supports expansion of management education as demand for managerial manpower is growing. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has been mandated to assure quality in management education. It has laid down strict norms and standards for establishment of new management institutes and their intake. The quality of these institutes is constantly monitored. For awareness of students, a list of approved technical institutes has been made available on the website of AICTE (www.aicte.ernet.in). AICTE also publishes notices, from time to time, in leading newspapers, cautioning all concerned to check the approval status of technical institutions before joining them.

Schools covered under Mid-day Meal Scheme

1262. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools presently covered under the mid-day meal plan, State-wise;

(b) the nature of deficiencies that have been brought to Government's notice in the scheme; and

(c) whether these have been fully addressed, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) State/UT-wise numbers of primary schools being covered under the Mid-day Meal scheme are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Some of the main deficiencies have been in terms of:

- * provision of infrastructure for the programme;
- * observance of hygiene; and
- * wholesome quality of the food served.