

(f) if so, the step taken to fill up the vacancies with proper qualified engineering graduates/diploma holders?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. On recommendation of National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT), which is an apex advisory body set up by Government of India to advise it on issues relating to Vocational Training, Government has issued orders that institutes seeking affiliation from NCVT must apply for a minimum of two units or multiples thereof a trade at a time and appoint two instructors, one for each unit, as per norms. Out of these two instructors, one instructor should be with Diploma/Degree in relevant branch of engineering from recognised board/university and experience as prescribed by NCVT.

(c) and (d) As seating capacity in Government and Private ITIs is growing @ 10% every year and with an average instructor - trainee ratio of 1:16, the new norms will provide teaching/training jobs to around 3000 such graduates every year and this would help in improving the quality of teaching/training standards in these institutes.

(e) and (f) As on 30.6.2011 country has 9025 Government and Private ITIs with total seating capacity of 12,69,552. Around 79,000 instructors are engaged in providing skill training in these institutes. As the decision was taken in 2010, the State Governments have been advised to appoint at least 50% instructors of ITIs with Diploma/Degree qualifications which is expected to happen over a period of time.

National Tea Wage Board for tea labourers

†1835. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has data with it regarding the number of tea labourers (permanent labourers) in the country;

(b) whether the tea labourers are being paid uniform wages all over the country;

(c) whether Government has constituted a National Tea Wage Board for the tea labourers of Darjeeling, Duars, Assam and rest of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Tea Board under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has reported that the total number of workers employed in tea plantations in India is 1.26 million out of which 1.03 million are permanent labourers.

(b) No, Sir. The Plantations Labour Act, 1951 is being implemented by the respective State Governments. Since plantations fall under the category of schedule employment the rate of wages are fixed by the State Governments concerned. As such the wages vary from state to state and region to region.

(c) to (e) The Government of India had constituted only one Wage Board for the Tea Plantation workers in the year 1960. After 1960, no Wage Board has been constituted by the Ministry of Labour & Employment.

The Second National Commission on Labour recommended that there should be no statutory or non-statutory Wage Boards as it was felt that the interest of workers can be protected by negotiations and collective bargaining because Central Wage Board for Tea Plantation Workers being a non-statutory Committee would have no binding force of law and therefore, it would be difficult to get the recommendations of such boards implemented.

Shortage of skilled workers

†1836. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortage of skilled workers along with those unemployed is going up;

(b) the effort being made to enhance the skills in the private and public sectors; and

(c) the names of these disciplines for which the centres to enhance the skills have been opened in the States in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) As per the findings of survey conducted by National Sample Survey Office in 2009-10, employment has increased from 459 million in 2004-05 to 465 million in 2009-10.

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