

fees to be charged by technical and professional higher educational institutions at undergraduate and post-graduate level and to regulate and oversee the implementation. The State Governments are responsible to ensure that all the colleges located in the State abide by the fees fixed by the State Fee Fixation Committee.

The University Grants Commission [UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010] which came into operation from 26.05.2010 also contains provisions for regulating admissions and fees in institutions deemed to be universities. Para 6.5 of these Regulations provides that, “The level of the fees charged for the courses offered In deemed to be universities shall have a reasonable relation to the cost of running the course. The fee structure shall be displayed in the prospectus and on the institution’s website”.

The UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 stipulate that the fixation of fees in Private Universities shall be in accordance with the norms/guidelines prescribed by the UGC and other concerned statutory bodies. The UGC is enforcing these provisions.

(e) and (f) Government has introduced the Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational institutions and Universities Bill, 2010 in the Lok Sabha which provides for the prohibition of certain unfair practices in technical educational institutions, medical educational institutions and universities including private universities to protect the interest of the students admitted to these institutions. It also provides for criminal liability and civil penalties for charging capitation fee or donations. The charging of fees over and above what is declared in the prospectus is also made punishable in the Bill.

Delay in issuing of certificates by technical institutions

1348. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of ITIs and technical institutions in the country are lagging behind in issuing certificates to the students who get through the examinations, even after lapse of several years;

(b) whether such incidents have come to the knowledge of the Ministry;

(c) if so, the reasons for not issuing the certificates;

(d) the number of institutions identified in this regard; and

- (e) the corrective measures being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) As per the information given by the Directorate General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour and Employment, students, who are admitted in the National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) affiliated Trades/Units, complete their training and pass the All India Trade Test are issued provisional Certificates by the State Directors immediately after declaring the result. The National Trade Certificate is issued to such students upon receipt of request from the State Directors.

To make the process faster, the States have been requested to forward the details of the students passing the examinations immediately after the declaration of result.

Use of LPG for cooking mid-day-meals

1349. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that at most of centres of mid-day-meal, wood is used as main fuel for cooking;
- (b) whether Government proposes to assist State Governments in encouraging LPG at all centres;
- (c) whether Government proposes to consider providing separate funds to purchase LPG chulhas/stoves of appropriate size and also meet 75 per cent expenditure on regular LPG use; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to assist State Governments in meeting security deposit for LPG cylinders and regulators or alternatively ask Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to instruct oil companies not to charge these deposits from MDMS centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) In 72% of the schools across the country, the mid-day-meal is cooked with fuels other than gas. One time Central assistance @ Rs. 5000/- per school is provided to the States and Union Territories for the provisioning of kitchen devices (Stove, Chulha, etc.), containers for storage of foodgrains and other ingredients and utensils for cooking and serving. The funds are provided for replacement of these kitchen devices every five years. In addition