

aided engineering institutes and Affiliating Technical Universities (ATUs) in Focus States. Focus States covered under the project are 7 Low Income States (Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh), 3 Hill States (Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand), 8 North-Eastern States (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura) and Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. All Government and Government aided engineering institutes of these focus States are going to be covered under the project depending upon meeting the eligibility criteria by these institutes.

(b) As Odisha is one of the focus States, all Government and Government aided engineering institutes from the State of Odisha may participate in the project subject to meeting the minimum eligibility criteria.

Lack of skills and knowledge of engineering graduates

1796. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of students getting enrolled in engineering colleges has been dipping due to a near-stagnated job market;

(b) whether one out of three engineering graduates is not getting campus placements due to lack of required skill and knowledge of specific jobs; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) There is overall decline in the number of enrolled students in engineering colleges, over the past 3 years, but there has been an increase in enrolment in some branches like Computer Science. This can be attributed to the market demand for specific skill-set.

(b) and (c) As per the data collected by AICTE, for the year 2014-15, out of 7.37 lakh students who passed, 3.47 lakh students have been placed through campus placements. AICTE has been taking measures to impart required skill and knowledge of specific jobs thereby enhancing their employability through interventions such as:

- (i) Aligning the syllabus as per the requirements of the industry;
- (ii) Implementing the Employability Enhancement Training Programme (EETP) in collaboration with BSNL; and
- (iii) Implementing the National Employability Enhancement Mission (NEEM) to offer on the job practical training to enhance employability of engineering graduates.

In addition to it, AICTE has recently signed an MoU with private professional network, LinkedIn, aiming at outlining the mutual cooperation between AICTE and LinkedIn for helping in job placement for the students of AICTE approved colleges.

Engineering graduates lacking required skills for jobs

1797. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a majority of students graduating from engineering institutes do not have the required skills and knowledge for specific jobs;

(b) whether the present engineering courses do not meet the practical requirement and expectations of companies offering placement; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) and (b) No such information is available with the Ministry.

(c) The Government, through AICTE, has been constantly analysing the standards of education in the technical education and has been taking measures to impart required skill and knowledge of specific jobs thereby enhancing their employability through interventions such as:

- (i) Aligning the syllabus as per the requirements of the industry;
- (ii) Implementing Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY);
- (iii) Implementing the Employability Enhancement Training Programme (EETP) in collaboration with BSNL; and
- (iv) Implementing the National Employability Enhancement Mission (NEEM) to offer on the job practical training to enhance employability of engineering graduates.

In addition to it, AICTE has recently signed an MoU with private professional network, LinkedIn, aiming at outlining the mutual cooperation between AICTE and LinkedIn for helping in job placement for the students of AICTE approved colleges.

Education in Hindi medium

†1798. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government is considering to provide education from primary to higher level in Hindi medium rather than

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.