

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.

English medium, if so, by when, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): The extant National Policy of Education stipulates that the State Governments should adopt, and vigorously implement, the three-language formula which includes the study of a modern Indian language, preferably one of the Southern languages, apart from Hindi and English in the Hindi-speaking States, and of Hindi along with the regional language and English in the Non-Hindi-speaking States. Suitable courses in Hindi and/or English should also be available in universities and colleges with a view to improving the proficiency of students in these languages up to the prescribed university standards. The Policy further States every effort should be made to promote the development of Hindi. In developing Hindi as the link language, due care should be taken to ensure that it will serve, as provided for in Article 351 of the Constitution, as a medium of expression for all the elements of the composite culture of India. The establishment, in non-Hindi States, of colleges and other institutions of higher education which use Hindi, as the medium of education should be encouraged. It is pertinent to note that the 42nd Constitutional Amendment, 1976 brought about a fundamental change by transferring education from the State List to the Concurrent List recognizing the federal structure of our country and giving equal responsibility to both the Central and State Governments to promote education.

Presently, the Government is in the process of formulating a New Education Policy for which it carried out a highly participative, inclusive and multi-pronged consultation process, across 33 identified themes. A Committee under an eminent educationist will be appointed to prepare the final draft NEP.

Reducing weight of text and note books

1799. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that students in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KV) and CBSE schools are forced to carry unbearable weight while going to school in the form of text and note books;

(b) whether Government is aware that Kerala High Court had directed the State Government to lessen students' load by dividing each text book into two halves to be carried in the first and second halves of the year; and

(c) whether Government will consider this as a model to be adopted in KVs and recommend it to other States?