

be commensurate with the facilities provided. Charging of capitation fees or voluntary donations for gaining admission in schools and technical institutions is illegal.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has issued a notification in April 2003 allowing State level committees to determine fee of the technical institutions in the respective states for the year 2003-2004. CBSE has also issued circulars and instructions with regard to charging of capitation fees and related issues from time to time. State Education Boards are responsible for the schools in State sector.

Non-existent of technical education in North-East

1401. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether higher education, especially technical education is almost non-existent in the North-East; and

(b) if so, the action proposed in this regard for better development of the North-Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), there are 59 approved technical institutions functioning in the North-Eastern States (35 Diploma level institutions, 12 Degree level institutions and 12 Postgraduate level institutions) including two Centrally funded technical institutions, namely, National Institute of Technology (NIT), Silchar and North Eastern Regional Institute of Science & Technology (NERIST), Itanagar. In addition, one of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) is also located at Guwahati. For the benefit of students of North-Eastern States, 649 degree level and 339 diploma level seats have also been allocated for the academic year 2003-04 in various institutions in other States.