

Database on Foreign Universities

1124. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce some form of regulatory framework for foreign educational institutions operating in India;

(b) if so, whether there have been any complaints of malpractices by such institutions;

(c) whether Government have any database on foreign universities operating in India and the students on their rolls; and

(d) whether any Committee has been set up for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission has framed draft Regulations for the entry into and operation of foreign universities/educational institutions in India. The draft Regulations are under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) No database on operation of foreign universities operating in India is being maintained centrally at present. However, the Government has constituted a committee called 'Committee for Promotion of Indian Education Abroad' with the twin objective of promoting Indian education abroad and regulating operations of foreign educational institutions in India.

Reduction of Seats in Engineering Colleges

†1125. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Council of Technical Education has taken a decision to reduce the number of seats for students in engineering colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise, especially in respect of Chhattisgarh; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to provide adequate facilities in engineering colleges by the All India Council of Technical Education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) As per the

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

information furnished by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), they have not taken any decision to reduce number of seats for students.

(c) The primary responsibility for providing adequate facilities and infrastructure in the engineering colleges is with the institutes themselves that are verified by the AICTE as per its norms and standards during its visits conducted by the Expert Committees. However, AICTE operates various schemes, viz., Modernisation and Removal of Obsolescence, Thrust Area Programmes in Technical Education, Research & Development, Schemes to improve quality of technical teachers, etc. under which financial support is provided to institutions.

Improvement in Technical Education

†1126. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a need to effect large scale improvement in the technical education sector;

(b) if so, whether Government have chalked out any draft plan for effecting such reforms; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the above plan and what decision has been taken by Government for seeking co-operation of the private sector in implementation of the said plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) Improvement in technical education in the country is a continuous process and this is achieved through the implementation of the National Policy on Education (NPE) and the Programme of Action (PoA). It includes coordinated and planned development of technical education as embodied in the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Act, 1987. For the improvement and development of technical education, AICTE operates several schemes such as Modernization and Removal of Obsolescence, Thrust Area Programme in Technical Education, Research and Development Programme, Entrepreneurship and Management Development Programme, Early Faculty Induction Programme, Quality Improvement Programme, Accreditation of courses etc. Apart from the initiatives on the part of the AICTE, recent initiatives taken to improve and strengthen technical education system include strengthening and

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