

## Technical education council to complete inspections by June 30

The All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) will complete all its inspections for new technical institutes in the country by June 30, AICTE chairman R.A. Yadav said here Sunday.

Yadav said the AICTE had made comprehensive arrangements to complete all inspections for new technical institutions all over India by June 30 so that these could start functioning from this session (2008-09) itself.

He was addressing delegates from technical and management institutes from the northern region at a seminar on 'Excellence in technical education' here.

AICTE is the agency under the ministry of human resource development that gives the clearance for new technical and management institutes in the country.

'Despite the proliferation of technical institutions at state and national level, there is a dearth of quality engineers and technicians of international standards in India,' Yadav pointed out.

Calling for a greater interaction between technical institutes and industry, Yadav said students in these institutes should be taught courses as per industry requirements.

'The technical education system is not keeping future needs and trends in mind. Just attaining a degree or a diploma is not enough in this era of globalisation. Lateral entry from a polytechnic to an engineering college and from an industrial training institute (ITI) to a polytechnic is very burdensome and very less students opt for that,' Yadav told IANS.

'Our top think tank is ignoring the need to mould the available human capital in efficient direction. Efficient human capital is one thing that makes IITs, IIMs, Harvard, Cambridge and MIT distinguished in the vast gamut of colleges,' he said.

He said less number of proposals for new technical institutes were coming from the region, especially Punjab, which was worrying.

Yadav pointed out that 1.3 million students were currently enrolled in technical institutes across the country.

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