

The Hindu

Fill vacancies in govt. departments

M. Mallikarjun Kharge, Leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha, on Sunday asked the State government to fill the 60,000-odd vacancies in government departments before the end of its tenure and solve the unemployment problem among the educated youth.

He was inaugurating a programme to mark the end of the training programme for the newly recruited engineers, linemen and other staff of the Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company.

Mr. Kharge said that filling vacancies would ensure that the programmes and development works of the government was implemented in time and reached the people.

He said that senior Ministers like Energy Minister D.K. Shivakumar should take the initiative to ensure that government departments implemented the provisions of Article 371(J) of the Constitution providing 8 per cent reservations in employment to those from the Hyderabad Karnataka districts in other districts.

Mr. Kharge said that although reservations in employment as per the provisions of Article 371(J) of the Constitution had been extended in districts in Hyderabad Karnataka also, many government departments and quasi-government departments were not implementing them.

“To undo this injustice to the people of Hyderabad Karnataka, Mr. Shivakumar should take the lead and raise the issue in the Cabinet and force the government to issue notifications and orders.”

Mr. Shivakumar promised Mr. Kharge that all the vacancies would be filled before the end of the tenure of the present government at least in his department. “When I took over charge, of the total 49,000 sanctioned posts in the Energy Department, 35,000 were vacant. Of them, 11,900 posts have been filled and the notification to fill another 10,300 posts have been issued. Before the end of the term of the government, the remaining too will be filled,” he said.

Mr. Shivakumar said that the Cabinet was likely to take another decision to make municipalities and corporations compulsorily use LED bulbs and tube lights for street lights and this would go a long way in saving of

power. Medical Education Minister Sharanprakash Patil and Gescom managing director M. Muniraju were present.