

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, the break up of papers in 2005-2006 was, in arts – 7,605; in sciences – 5,625; in commerce and management – 1,115; in education – 599; in engineering and technology – 1,058; in medicine – 438; in agriculture – 1,119; in veterinary sciences – 180; in law – 182 and in others, which include music, art, library sciences, physical education, journalism, social work, etc., – 809. In the year 2005-06, the total number of doctorate degrees awarded was 18,736. With reference to the CSIR, I would like to apprise the House that the M.M. Sharma Committee did say that there was no connection between the CSIR, the research happening in CSIR and the universities. Sir, consultations are on to ensure that there is a connection between the two, that is, the universities and the CSIR.

Representation of non-teaching staff in universities

***388. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the demand of the All India University Employees Confederation, to provide representation to non-teaching employees in the decision-making bodies of the universities;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of the demand of the All India University Employees Confederation to provide representation to non-teaching employees in the decision-making bodies of the universities. A university is established either by the Parliament or by the State legislature concerned. Besides, under section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act 1956, the Central Government also declares, upon the advice of the UGC, an institution to be 'deemed-to-be-university'.

While universities established by statutes (both Central and State) function in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Acts, the institutions that are granted the status of 'deemed-to-be-university', function as per their Memorandum of Association and Rules of Association. These universities take their own decision with regard to the composition of their various decision-making bodies and as such the Government has no role with regard to providing representation to the non-teaching employees in their decision-making bodies.

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Sir, it is an era of democratisation. When the workers are getting their due place in decision-making in factories, why can't the non-teaching employees be given representation in decision-making bodies of universities? Since the UGC is funding various universities, can't they give some concrete directive in the form of recommendations in order to provide representation to non-teaching employees in the decision-making bodies of universities?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, the role of UGC is limited to evaluating the kind of financial support that the universities require, and based on the requests from universities, to disburse the funds to the universities. The universities are autonomous bodies and they have a functional autonomy within the broad education policy of the Government. They are guided by certain regulations. They can decide whether they would want the non-teaching employees on their bodies or not. Respecting the autonomy of universities and institutes, we do not have a major role to play in asking them to ensure that there is representation given to the non-teaching employees.

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Sir, the hon. Minister says that there is no role of the Government in providing an opportunity to the non-teaching staff of the university. But they can always given various recommendations, because they are funding the universities. This is one of the demands which is pending for the last one or two decades. The Government should give some sort of a directive to various universities. This is my suggestion.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, our role would be limited to definitely giving them the suggestions or the directions and asking them to consider it. Sir, the concerns of the hon. Member would definitely be conveyed to the universities.

श्री रत्ननारायण पाणि: महोदय, पहले के जमाने में तो शिक्षा दान को प्रोफेशन भी नहीं मानते थे, लेकिन आज के जमाने में शिक्षा दान व्यापार से बढ़कर हो गया है। जो घरेलू यूनिवर्सिटीज डीम्ड टू बी विश्वविद्यालय हैं, निजी विश्वविद्यालय हैं, उनके मालिक अपने आपको व्यापारी से बढ़कर सोचते हैं। ये लोग विश्वविद्यालयों के कर्मचारियों का शोषण कर रहे हैं, उनको तनख्वाह नहीं दी जाती है, उनके लिए सोशल सिक्योरिटी की कोई भी व्यवस्था नहीं होती है। माननीय मंत्री महोदया को इसके बारे में क्या कोई जानकारी है और उसको सुधारने के लिए सरकार की ओर से कोई कारगर उपाय किए जा रहे हैं?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, there could be two kinds of universities. One, the institutions which are set up by the Central law, and there could also be universities set up under the State Legislative Acts. So, if it is pertaining to the States, then the States can look into the universities and institutes and see if they could correct the wrong, if there is anything wrong there. Sir, pertaining to the Central universities, yes, probably, we could give the guidance and direction to them. But the deemed to be universities, again, Sir, they are free, they are autonomous and it is up to them to look into it. But, if there is anything that the hon. Member would like to bring to the notice of the Ministry, we would definitely look into it, Sir, and see what could be done. ... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, there is a long-pending demand of the All-India University Employees' Confederation that the aspirations of the non-teaching employees, their economic rights, their democratic rights have not been fulfilled. Sir, the question is, how to fulfil it. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is trying to realise that there should be a representation of the non-teaching staff in the decision-making bodies of the universities so that their economic rights and democratic rights are protected. This is what I want to know from the hon. Minister.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, every university, generally, has an authority that has the power to take decisions at their level with regard to the university and colleges affiliated to the university. In case of the Central universities, while the Court of a university is a supreme body, in some of them it is not so. For example, Sir, the Court of the Aligarh Muslim University is the supreme governing body and it has five representatives from the

non-teaching staff also. But, the Courts of certain Central Universities like those of the Viswabharati, Jamia Millia Islamia, Assam University, North-Eastern Hill University, which is NEHU, do not include representatives from the non-teaching staff. So, this is the decision which the university has to make and take by itself.

डा० (श्रीमती) नजमा ए० हेपतुल्ला: एकव्युअली मुझे पहले क्वेश्चन पर सवाल पूछना था, वह भी जरूरी था। But, I will ask a question on this subject which is very important. Slowly and gradually, especially, education and higher education is becoming a private enterprise. Now, the Minister has replied that they are autonomous; the universities are autonomous bodies. But, is the Government thinking of finding any kind of a regulatory body or a supervising body to see that there are no irregularities in education especially?

Secondly, Sir, the hon. Minister answered in this House today that we are still in the category of a developing country even after more than half a century. When the Minister and the Government think that we will be in the category of a developed country?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, it has nothing to do with the question. ...*(Interruptions)*... But, with reference to the first part of the question pertaining to the regulation of deemed to be universities, the fee regulation, Sir, there is Committee that has been set up under the Chairmanship of Mr. Shonde by the UGC which is looking into it. We are awaiting the recommendations of that Committee. Sir, once the recommendations come, it will be placed before the House.

डा० (श्रीमती) नजमा ए० हेपतुल्ला: क्या मैं दूसरा सवाल कर सकती हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: वह इससे रिलेटिड नहीं है। It is a valid question, but is not related to this.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: No Sir, it is an important question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: But, it is not related to it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: I am asking it because the Minister answered it today. But, it is related to everything, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... How long are we going to be considered a developing country, and showing figures which have got no relation to the world?

*389. [The questioner (SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI) was absent. For answer *vide* page 27]

Post-Matric scholarship for OBCs

*390. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is releasing Central assistance under the Post-Matric scholarship for other backward classes;

(b) if so, the details of the amount released during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) how much amount Government proposes to release in 2008-09, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.