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nature of the job. The UGC says that the nature of the job is like this, while the university says that the nature of the job is like that, and it is going on for the last 24-25 years. That is the point of contention. Therefore, we are examining it—whether the view taken by the UGC is correct, or the view taken by the university is correct, and whether it can be reconciled because it is very difficult to decide a matter which has been pending for the last 25—30 years. But we are trying to correct it. Now, so far as the second part is concerned, both the UGC and the JNU are governed by Acts of Parliament. the UGC has a certain role to play, and the universities have to function as per a certain framework. In defining the qualifications, the mode of appointments, the pay scales and other regulations, the UGC, under the Constitution, has been given these powers to coordinate and to determine the quality of education. They distribute grants; they approve the number of positions; therefore, they have a role to play. This is how the University Grants Commission plays its role.

श्री रवि संकर प्रसाद: सभापति महोदय, मंत्री जी के उत्तर से यह स्पष्ट है कि प्रथम दृष्टि में यूनिवर्सिटी ग्रांट्स कमीशन का मत कुछ और है। यह विशेष शोध का विषय है। आदरणीय मंत्री महोदय यह जानते होंगे कि जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय उच्चतर शिक्षा एवं शोध के एक प्रतिष्ठित संस्थान के रूप में स्थापित किया गया था। भारत सरकार काफी बड़ी राशि अनुदान के रूप में देती है स्वायत्तता के बावजूद और गाहे-बगाहे कई अनियमितताओं की शिकायतें भी आती रहती हैं। इस विश्वविद्यालय ने बड़ी संख्या में प्रशासकों को पैदा किया है, अच्छे राजनेताओं को पैदा किया है। लेकिन पिछले कई वर्षों से गिरावट के काफी संकेत दिखाई पड़े हैं। तो आदरणीय मंत्री जी से मेरा विनम्र आग्रह है कि क्या जे.एन.यू. के पूरे कार्यकाल के संबंध में कोई जांच का प्रस्ताव सरकार करती है क्योंकि इतनी बड़ी संख्या में सरकार अनुदान देती है और उसका सही सदुपयोग उचित उद्देश्य के लिए हो रहा है?

डा. मुरली मनोहर जोशी: यह काम यूनिवर्सिटी ग्रांट्स कमीशन करता है। वह विश्वविद्यालयों के अध्ययन के स्तर की जानकारी रखे और यदि वहां किसी प्रकार की कोई कमी है तो उसको पूरा करे। अगर माननीय सदस्य के पास कोई ऐसी स्पष्ट शिकायतें हैं और उनका आधार है तो वह हमें और विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग को भेजें। अवश्य ही उनका निराकरण किया जाएगा।

*122. [The Questioner (Shri Ved Prakash P. Goyal) was absent for answer vide page. 30.....*infra*]

UGC Assistance to Guwahati and Dibrugarh Universities

*123. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what financial assistance has been offered by UGC to the Guwahati and Dibrugarh Universities during last three years; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to support the two Universities financially in the near future and how?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) & (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Regarding UGC assistance to Guwahati and Dibrugarh Universities asked by Shri Drupad Borgohain

(a) The grants paid by UGC to the Guwahati and Dibrugarh Universities during the last three years are as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of University	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Dibrugarh University	88.44	50.12	157.98
Guwahati University	81.35	151.47	147.79

(b) Plan and Non-Plan grants to the State Universities which are set up by Acts of State Legislatures, are provided by the concerned State Governments. UGC provides only development grants to eligible State Universities as per the prescribed norms and that too, only for a part of their requirements. It is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to provide adequate development and maintenance grants to the universities established by them. Guwahati University and Dibrugarh University are the State Universities established by the Acts of State Legislature of Assam and the Commission shall continue to support these Universities as per the UGC's guidelines.

SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Guwahati University is the oldest and premier university in Assam. It being a State University, the State Government of Assam has to bear the main expenditure and UGC provides financial help to the State universities for development and modernisation purposes. Sir, in the Ninth Plan period, the Guwahati University had asked for Rs. 17 crores for development purposes from the UGC. From the reply given by the Ministry it appears that in the last three years only Rs. 3,80,61,000/- (Rupees three crores, eighty lakhs and sixty-one thousand) have been sanctioned. Moreover, Plan posts, sanctioned by the UGC, have been discontinued due to financial constraints of the University. Further, the regional office of UGC has no authority to help the Universities in the field of development. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he will ask the

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UGC to sanction the full amount of Rs. 17 crores, asked for by the Guwahati University, whether he will help retaining the Plan posts sanctioned by the UGC for Guwahati University, and whether he will give more powers to regional UGC office at Guwahati as regards the developmental work in the University.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, the maintenance of Guwahati University, both for developmental and plan purposes, mainly rests with the Government of Assam. It is a State University, and it is run according to the provisions of the Assam University Act. Its total responsibility lies with them. But, the University Grants Commission, from time to time, assists all the State Universities depending upon the resources available and the plans and projects which they send to us. The UGC examines their projects and depending upon the resources available, it sanctions the amount. If there is any specific complaint that a particular proposal has been denied, although the funds were available with the University Grants Commission, the hon. Member can bring it to my notice, and I will certainly examine it. But the main responsibility of all the State Universities lies with their respective State Governments. The Central Government is already funding a large number of Central Universities in the North-Eastern region. Therefore, I think the Government of Assam should concentrate more on the State Universities.

SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Sir, my second supplementary is, Dibrugarh University is located in natural oil and tea producing areas of Assam. In the University, Diploma course in oil technology is there but there is no such course in tea technology. As the University is located in natural oil and tea producing areas, courses on these two technologies should be there. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether his Ministry will look into the matter to introduce post-graduate degree courses for oil and tea technologies in Dibrugarh University, and help the University authority to do so. This is my second supplementary.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, the grant of these courses which are of technical nature lies in the purview of All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE). If these courses are to be processed—there is a proposal by the University and the Government of Assam—and if the AICTE approves of it, then the UGC will simply consider whether these degrees can be granted and in what manner. It is a good proposal, and I do believe that if this is drafted in a proper manner and proper agencies are involved, there are fairly good chances of these courses coming up.

श्रीमती सविता शारदा: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि अभी 26 जनवरी को भूकम्प के कारण साउथ गुजरात यूनिवर्सिटी जो कि सूरत में है उसकी बिल्डिंग को काफी नुकसान हुआ है और उस के जितने कार्यकर्ता वहाँ रहते हैं उस समय उनके मकान भी काफी टूट गए हैं, तो क्या उनके लिए मंत्री महोदय ने सहायता देने के विषय में विचार किया है?

डा. मुरली मनोहर जोशी: सभापति महोदय, अभी 18, 19 फरवरी को हमने गुजरात की सारी शिक्षा संस्थाओं में जो भी नुकसान हुआ है उसका मूल्यांकन किया गया था और उसमें गुजरात राज्य के 11 विश्वविद्यालयों के कुलपतियों को वहाँ बुलाया गया था तथा उनके नुकसान का मूल्यांकन किया गया। मुझे यह बताते हुए हर्ष हो रहा है कि जितना मूल्यांकन उन्होंने किया था उसका दुगना पैसा हमने उनको दिया हुआ है। पचास करोड़ रुपये की राशि गुजरात के सारे विश्वविद्यालयों के पुनर्निर्माण के लिए दी गई है।

श्री रामचन्द्रैया रुमन्दला: सभापति महोदय, विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग द्वारा विभिन्न विश्वविद्यालयों को सहायता राशि प्रदान की जाती है। यह राशि विभिन्न मदों पर खर्च करने के लिए दी जाती है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग द्वारा विश्वविद्यालयों को अनुदान देने के मामले में क्या प्रक्रिया अपनाई जाती है?

मैं दूसरा प्रश्न यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह कैसे निर्धारित किया जाता है कि अमुक विश्वविद्यालय को कितनी राशि अनुदित की जाए?

डा. मुरली मनोहर जोशी: सभापति महोदय, उसके लिए एक निर्धारित प्रक्रिया है जिसके अनुसार विश्वविद्यालयों की आवश्यकताओं का मूल्यांकन होता है। कुछ ऐसी मदें हैं, जैसे वहाँ की तनख्वाहें इत्यादि की राशि है, तो वह राज्य सरकारों को जाती है, किसी विभाग के लिए विशेषरूप में किसी प्रकल्प के लिए निश्चित की जाती है, वह उस विश्वविद्यालय को उस काम के लिए दी जाती है और इस प्रकार से विभिन्न प्रकल्पों के लिए विभिन्न प्रकार से राशियाँ दी जाती हैं। उसका सदुपयोग होता है या नहीं होता है उसके आधार पर फिर अगले साल उनकी राशि को निर्धारित किया जाता है। यह जरूर पाया गया है कि कुछ राज्यों में जो राशि सीधे सरकार को दी गई है वह पूरी राशि विश्वविद्यालयों तक नहीं पहुँची है। ऐसे मामले ध्यान में आए हैं और सरकार उन पर कार्रवाई करती है।

MISS MABEL REBELLO: Sir, the Ambani-Birla Report says that financial assistance should be denied to the universities and colleges of higher education. What will happen to the Dibrugarh University. They cannot generate money themselves, and they will not be able to look after their students for higher education. What does the Minister propose to do, if that Report is implemented, because they are the ones who have appointed this Commission and they have

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got the report. Please let me know, Sir, what they plan to do. Do they want to close down all these universities and colleges so that the students of North-Eastern States do not get any opportunity to get better education?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, this subject has been discussed thoroughly in this very House last week, and I have given my views and the views of the Government as to what the Government have about higher education. Sir, the Government has a role in higher education and it is not going to withdraw its role. But, the Government will certainly welcome the participation... (*Interruptions*)...

MISS MABEL REBELLO: Sir, such a voluminous report is there. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, I say, all these issues are to be discussed with a cool mind and in a cool atmosphere. This is a very delicate and very important subject. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MISS MABEL REBELLO: When will you apply that cool mind? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please hear the reply first. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, it is not fair for a Minister to reply like this. ...(*Interruptions*)... He may answer or he may not ...(*Interruptions*)... But the way in which he is trying to cast aspersions on the Members is not fair. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, I am not casting aspersions against anybody...(*Interruptions*)... I am not casting aspersions... (*Interruptions*)...

MISS MABEL REBELLO: It will be frozen, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him complete his reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, every time he is replying ...(*Interruptions*)... He is behaving as if he is a teacher and we are students. ...(*Interruptions*)

This is not the way. We are all on an equal pedestal. Someone should not try to speak from a higher pedestal. It is absolutely wrong. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, I seek your protection. This is a very important question.

What I have been appealing is that we should discuss it in a very cool and dispassionate manner. It is not an aspersion against anybody. I require a very considered and very thoughtful opinion of this House because this subject

was discussed a couple of days ago in this very House, and we have been discussing it.

I have already said that Government has a role in all sectors of education, including higher education. Government is not withdrawing from that. But Government will certainly welcome the participation of the communities and beneficiaries of the educational system. We want resources. As the earlier questions have clearly exposed, there is need of funding various universities, and I do recognise that there is need of funding them. We want to mobilise resources from all sections of the society, including those who have benefited by education. So, we will mobilise resources from all sectors, and Government will also contribute, depending upon the augmentation of funds. The higher the funds, the greater will be the contribution from the Government.

Primary education in rural areas of North-Eastern States

*124. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made under the scheme for universalisation of primary education in rural Assam in terms of the number of children educated and their percentage in relation to total population, the primary school buildings constructed and other parameters during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 and the current year in Assam and other North-Eastern States; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on universalisation of primary education in Assam and other North-Eastern States during these years, indicating the Central contribution thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Regarding primary education in rural areas of North Eastern States

(a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) which aims to achieve universal primary education is being implemented in nine districts out of 23 districts in Assam. These nine districts, which have female literacy rate less than the national average of 38.3, are predominantly rural in character. DPEP is under implementation in four districts namely Darrang, Dhubri, Morigaon and Karbi Anglong under Phase-I since 1994 and in five districts namely Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Goalpara, Kokrajhar and Sonitpur under Phase-II since 1996.