

[2nd March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

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Friday, the 2nd March, 2001/11 Phalgun, 1922 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Appointment of Co-ordinator in JNU

*121. SHRI RAJU PARMAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Co-ordinator (Eval.) at JNU has been filled up, without following the prescribed rules and procedures;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government / UGC have taken a serious note of the same and have directed the JNU to revert the incumbent to the post to his parent office; and

(c) if answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in affirmative, what are the details thereof and what action Government propose to take in the matter, in the event of non-compliance of the direction by the JNU?

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

Statement

The University Grants Commission and the Jawaharlal Nehru University have differing perceptions about the functions and responsibilities of the post of Co-ordinator (Evaluation). The Ministry of Human Resource Development is now seized of the matter.

SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not only in the JNU, but in many other universities of India also, the guidelines issued by the Ministry are not being followed strictly. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether appointments to high posts like Co-ordinator (Evaluation), which is sensitive in nature, are really governed by the strict norms laid down by the UGC, the instructions issued by the Ministry of Department of Personnel and the UPSC. If not, whether the Government would evolve a system of consulting the UPSC

and the DOPT while filling up such top posts, in order to have transparency. If not, the reasons therefor.

डा. मुरली मनोहर जोशी: श्रीमन्, विश्वविद्यालयों का सारा कार्य संचालन पार्लियामेंट के एक्ट के मुताबिक होता है और उसमें उनके यहां नियुक्तियों, योग्यताओं, पे-स्केल्स इत्यादि के लिए नियम, परिनियम और अनेक वैधानिक व्यवस्थाएं दी गई हैं। इसलिए जो कुछ होता है, वह उसी के अनुसार होना चाहिए और यू.जी.सी. की जो गाइडलाइंस होती हैं, रेगुलेशन्स होते हैं, उसके अनुसार होना चाहिए, यही व्यवस्था है। विश्वविद्यालय स्वायत्तशासी संस्थाएं हैं और उनके क्रियाकलाप दुनियाभर में इसी तरह से चलाए जाते हैं, यहां भी हम ऐसे ही चलाते हैं।

SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Sir, my second supplementary is relating to the promotion to the post of Professors in the M.S. University, Baroda. While appointing Professors under the UGC's Career Advancement Scheme, there has been a gross violation of the UGC norms and guidelines, which are required to be followed in the case of appointment and promotion to the post of professor. I had even written a letter to the Chairman of the UGC with regard to the appointment. But I have not received even an acknowledgement of my letter, from the Chairman of the UGC. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would instruct the Chairman of the UGC to have a thorough probe into the appointment of Professor in the M.S. University, Baroda, so that the people...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This question does not arise out of the main question.

SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Sir, it has happened in many universities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. This supplementary does not arise out of the main question.

SHRI RAJU PARMAR: That is okay. But, Sir, obviously...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. It is not a question of 'obvious'; then, you can refer many universities.

SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Sir, the people of excellent academic career have been...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a specific question the answer should also be specific and the supplementary should be on that.

SHRI RAJU PARMAR: My intention in referring to it is that it is not only happening in the JNU, but it is happening in other universities also.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please...(*Interruptions*)... That is all right. We have a specific case before us. If you ask about other things, the Minister may not be ready for that.

SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Sir, the question is whether there are any prescribed norms for such appointment and whether those norms are followed; that, perhaps, has not yet been answered by the hon. Minister.

श्री. मुरली मनोहर जोशी: श्रीमन्, मैंने अपने उत्तर में कहा था कि विश्वविद्यालयों में नियुक्तियों के लिए, उनकी योग्यताओं के लिए, उनके कार्य विभाजन के लिए, उनके वेतनमानों के लिए सभी विश्वविद्यालयों के एक्ट्स में, अधिनियमों में व्यवस्था दी गई है और उसी के अनुसार काम होता है। जहां नहीं होता हो, उसकी अगर शिकायत आती है तो उसकी जांच होती है और यदि कोई ऐसी शिकायत माननीय सदस्य हमारे पास लाएंगे तो हम उसकी जरूर जांच करेंगे।

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Sir, I have a very simple question. The hon. Minister, in his reply, mentioned about the functions and responsibilities of the post of Co-ordinator (Evaluation). It is said that the JNU and the UGC have different perceptions. What are those perceptions, please? The reply says, "...have differing perceptions..." What are those perceptions and how do they differ?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: The difference in perception is that the JNU has said that certain posts should be classified like this, and the UGC says that they do not agree with that type of classification. Now, it has come to the Ministry and we are examining it.

SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Sir, there is a differing perception between the JNU and the UGC, but may I know what the Government's perception is?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: The Government's perception will be the proper perception after we make the necessary enquiries. We are looking into the matter. We have to consider this because it is a matter resting since 1974.

MISS MABEL REBELLO: How much time would the Government take?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am going to call you. Why are you rising before my calling?

MISS MABEL REBELLO: Sir, the Minister says, "There is difference in perception and they are seized of it". But how long does it take? There is a specific question that the JNU's Co-ordinator (Evaluation) was appointed by flouting all rules and regulations. The Government is seized of the matter, how

long will the Government be seized of the matter? There is favouritism and corruption. If the Co-ordinator (Evaluation) is appointed like this, he will perpetuate corruption and all sorts of things like this in the university. What does the Minister propose to do in this regard?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, as far as corruption is concerned, if any complaint regarding corruption is brought to the notice of the Ministry, it will be attended to very speedily. But, so far as this matter is concerned, this matter has been brought to our notice very recently, say, a couple of months ago. *(Interruptions)*

MISS MABEL REBELLO: How much recently? One month, two months, two years, please specify.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: The point is when you attend to a complicated issue, which has a history, which has a long background, it takes a long time to sort it out. It has a bearing on so many other things. Such issues cannot be decided merely on the basis of excitation. They have to be decided with a cool mind. *(Interruptions)*

श्री सूर्यभान पाटील बहादुर: सभापति महोदय, राज्य हो या केन्द्र हो, वहाँ जो भी पद भरे जाते हैं, उनके लिए कुछ नॉर्म्स हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या जो भी पद भरे जाने थे, उनके बारे में विश्वविद्यालय की ओर से इम्प्लॉयमेंट एक्सचेंज को सूचित किया गया था? क्या इसी के माध्यम से सभी पदों का निर्धारण होता है?

डा. मुरली-मनोहर जोशी: सभापति महोदय, विश्वविद्यालयों की जो व्यवस्थाएँ हैं वे उनके कानूनों में और उनके ऐक्ट्स में पूरे तौर पर व्याख्यायित हैं, पूरे तौर पर उनमें उनकी व्यवस्था की गई है। अगर कहीं पर उसका उल्लंघन होता है तो हमारे पास वह मामला आता है, हम उसकी जांच करते हैं और हमारी एजेंसीज उसके बारे में निर्णय देती हैं। जहाँ तक इस बात का सवाल है कि ऐसा होता है कि नहीं होता है, तो हमारा अनुमान है कि जो कानून बनाए गए हैं, उनके मुताबिक काम चल रहा है और अगर कहीं ऐसा नहीं हो रहा है तो हमारे पास शिकायत लाइए, हम उसकी जांच करेंगे।

SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Sir, the word 'classification' has been used. Is it based on qualifications or on ideology? The second question I would like to put is, when the JNU is an autonomous body, why should the UGC interfere in its affairs?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, this classification is not on the basis of any ideology. I am afraid, the hon. Member always tries to see ideology even when there is only an administrative problem. So, at least, there should be some time when ideology should be kept out. This classification is on the

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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: