

Plight of a new University abandoned by the State and the Centre

DR. M.N. DAS (Orissa): Sir, I refer to a very unique situation in the sphere of higher education. The title of my Special Mention is "Plight of a new university abandoned both by the State and the Centre. Sir, Orissa which is a major State of the Indian Union, with near 4-crore population, has fewer universities compared to some other States. After decades of demand, the Orissa Government finally established a University at Vyasa Vihar, in Balasore, in July 1999, and named it after Vyasa Kabi Fakir Mohan Senapati who is acknowledged as the Father of modern Oriya prose literature. Under Section 2F of the UGC Act, 1956, this University was included in the list of Indian Universities. Unfortunately, due to financial constraints of the State Government, teaching departments were not established, and the University functions only as an affiliating University. In such a situation, the University Grants Commission does not provide grants under section 12B of the UGC Act, and the Central Government also does not come forward with financial assistance.

The University was established with an objective to offer new courses like Master of Computer Application, Master in Computer Science, Information Technology, Marine Biology, etc., besides postgraduate studies in Science and Humanities. The realisation of all such hopes appears remote on account of the non-availability of financial assistance, both from the State and the University Grants Commission.

A newly established and recognised University direly needs essential infrastructure in terms of land, buildings, laboratories, staff, library and many other basic requirements. Hopes of millions appear to be belied. Even after three years of the founding of the University, it suffers from total negligence. I appeal to the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development kindly to rescue the Fakir-Mohan University of Orissa before it is too late. The Government of Orissa needs direction and guidance from the Centre in respect of qualitative response towards higher education. Thank you.

Starvation deaths in Orissa

SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR (Karnataka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was astonishing and agonising to hear the shocking news of starvation deaths in a village of Kashipur district of Orissa. It is a matter of concern that news of starvation deaths is still pouring in, even after 54 years of independence. We had a lot of discussions on over-production of foodgrains, excess

stocks of foodgrains in the godowns across the country and distribution of excess stocks through the public distribution system. After all these discussions and the follow-up actions by the Government, it is hurting that the Government could not prevent these deaths. Is there something wrong in the mechanism set up to manage this situation?

The Central Government blames the State Government for this type of lapses saying that distribution is the responsibility of the State Government. But my question is: Is it not the responsibility of every Government, every individual, to help, at least, those who are dying of hunger? At a time when people are dying like a bunch of ants, it is a pity that one Government is shifting the responsibility to the other. The core question is: Who should protect the citizens' right to live? The local authorities say that they had supplied 2 kilograms of foodgrains to every family. Hundreds of tonnes of foodgrains become waste and perish during transition. Is it not the responsibility of the Governments, both at the Centre and in the State, to supply these foodgrains--before they become unfit for human consumption--free of cost to these people who are living in the regions which are identified as the worst-affected areas by natural calamities, sometimes, by flood and, sometimes, by severe drought.

Let me take this opportunity to bring to the notice of this august House that the expenditure on supply of free foodgrains in the districts like Kashipur across the country will not come even to 10 per cent of the UTI scam or any other scams that we have experienced in recent times.

Under the circumstances, I strongly urge the hon. Prime Minister to evolve a system by which the authorities, under the supervision of the Government, Central or State, should hold a minimum stock of foodgrains for supplying in those areas which are facing extremely critical situations, and they be empowered with some powers to identify and supply the foodgrains on the basis of *post facto* approval by Government, as the cost would be negligible as mentioned above. Thank you.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Goa) : Sir, I fully associate myself with what Shrimati Bimba Raikar has stated.

DR. M.N. DAS (Orissa) : Sir, I also associate myself with what Shrimati Bimba Raikar has stated.

SHRI ANANTA SETHI (Orissa): Sir, I also associate myself with what Shrimati Biriba Raikar has stated.

Lack of security for sensitive Government organisations

डा. कुमकुम राय (बिहार) : सभापति जी, पिछले एक साल में भारत जैसे गरीब किन्तु विकासशील देश के पांच सैन भंडारों में लगी आग और अब तमिलनाडु के उत्तरी अरकोट जिले में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की विस्फोटक बनाने वाली फैक्ट्री में हुआ विस्फोट प्रमाणित करता है कि सरकारी क्षेत्र के इन अति-संवेदनशील प्रतिष्ठानों में सुरक्षा की कितनी अधिक खामियां हैं। तमिलनाडु के विस्फोट में मारे गए अनेक कर्मचारी हमारी गंभीर चिंता, दुख का विषय हैं। आखिर क्या कारण हैं कि इन सार्वजनिक क्षेत्रों के प्रतिष्ठानों में आग से अरबों रुपयों का नुकसान हो रहा है। कानपुर, भरतपुर जैसे ठिकानों के बाद सूरतगढ़ जैसे अग्रिम मोर्चे के शस्त्र भंडार में भी आग लग गई। एक और चौंकाने वाली घटना उस समय हुई जब हमारे रक्षा सचिव हैदराबाद के भारत डायनेमिक्स लिमिटेड का निरीक्षण करने गए थे और वहीं एक एंटी टैंक मिसाइल चल पड़ी। उस घटना में भी एक वरिष्ठ तकनीशियन की मौत हुई थी। तमिलनाडु एक्सप्लोसिव लिमिटेड कोई साधारण प्रतिष्ठान नहीं है। यहां अति आधुनिक किस्म के डायनामाइट बनाए जाते हैं जिनका उपयोग खनन कार्यों में भी होता है। समुद्र की सतह के नीचे और खदानों के भीतर नियंत्रित विस्फोट करने के लिए भी यहां डायनामाइट की छड़ें बनाई जाती हैं। इस प्रकार के अति-महत्वपूर्ण संस्थानों की सुरक्षा प्रणाली का दोष माफी के काबिल नहीं है।

अतः मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करूंगी कि इस प्रकार के संवेदनशील सार्वजनिक प्रतिष्ठानों की सुरक्षा व्यवस्था की समीक्षा कर अभेद्य सुरक्षा प्रणाली विकसित की जाए और इस में जो भी धन लगाया जाए क्योंकि महत्वपूर्ण एवं कीमती उपकरणों का निर्माण ही आवश्यक नहीं बल्कि उन का रख-रखाव एवं उन की सुरक्षा भी आवश्यक है। विस्फोट की जांच में दोषी पाए गए व्यक्ति को भी दंडित किया जाए किन्तु भविष्य में ऐसे किसी संस्थान में विस्फोट न हो, ऐसी सुरक्षा व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए।

श्री सुरेश पचौरी (मध्य प्रदेश): सभापति जी, मैं माननीय सदस्या के विशेष उल्लेख के साथ अपने को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU (Pondicherry): Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

Declaration of open sky policy by Government of India

श्री रामचन्द्रैया रत्नमदला (आंध्र प्रदेश) : आंध्र प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री ने केन्द्रीय नागर विमानन मंत्री से अपील की है कि हैदराबाद से सीधी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई सेवा से जुड़ सके इस के लिए खुला आकाश नीति लागू की जानी चाहिए। हैदराबाद को यूरोप और चीन के बीच मुख्य सम्पर्क केन्द्र के रूप में विकसित किया जाना चाहिए। हैदराबाद सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी और पर्यटन की दृष्टि से विकसित हो रहा है। इंडियन एअर लाइंस की सप्ताह में तीन उड़ानें हैदराबाद और