

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Autonomy is for progress and prosperity, not for deterioration and destruction. Therefore, in many cases if autonomy is not being used properly, may I know whether the institution is made to use it properly, and in case it is not using it properly, certain steps are to be taken to remedy the situation? The UGC, I know, Sir, has definitely given a grant of Rs. 40 lakhs, without getting audited statement, to the Gauhati University years back. And in many cases the students were not in the hostel, examinations were not held and degrees were issued. Therefore, under the circumstances, may I know this — the UGC is not a body which is above all these things also—whether the UGC has got certain guidelines and principles to see that proper measures are taken in case of re-appointment of teachers?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, this is a question independent of the question we are answering. We respect university autonomy. That means that, to some extent, even if there are decisions taken which are not to our liking, we will have to recognise that this autonomy normally covers them. But there is always a point beyond which one needs to look into the question. This is a different matter.

SHRI P. BABUL REDDY: Sir, the hon. Minister has given certain figures regarding the number of teachers re-employed in each university. But she did not give the rank. Are they all professors or are they below the rank of professor? Are the subjects those of Science or History and Geography also?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: We do not have these details.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A separate question is required for that.

SHRI P. BABUL REDDY: What is the policy required? It comes under that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. She has no details.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, since the hon. Minister is asking about the policy, it is very clear that Government cannot by itself have any policy for or against re-appointment. Re-appointment depends on the circumstances of each case, and a decision is taken on merit. Even from the list which we have given, it is clear that the numbers widely vary from university to university. So, no hard and fast rule can be laid down in this.

DR. R. K. PODDAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know whether the re-employed teachers are allowed to continue in their administrative positions like the Heads of Departments and also whether they are allowed to handle university funds and whether the University Grants Commission has given directives to State universities in this connection.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: No, they are not allowed to continue in their administrative position in the stipulated period.

*43. [The questioners (Shri Indradeep Sinha and Shri Suraj Prasad) were absent for answer vide Col. infra.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Both the hon. Members are absent. So, Dr. Shanti Patel, you have no chance of asking a supplementary.

Issue of coupons by the DTC

*44. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount for which DTC have issued ten paise and five paise coupons till 31st October, 1985;

(b) what is the amount spent by the D.T.C. in getting these coupons printed till 31st October, 1985;

(c) whether it is a fact that the value of coupons received back from commuters is more than the value of coupons issued; if so, what is the value of coupons lying with D.T.C. at present;

(d) what is the estimated value of coupons in circulation at present; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to do away with the coupon system?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) Up to 31st October, 1985, Rs. 89.10 lakhs worth 5 paise and 10 paise coupons have been issued.

(b) Rs. 8.30 lakhs has been spent for printing.

(c) No, Sir, Coupons worth Rs. 26.56 lakhs have been received back by the DTC from commuters.

(d) Coupons of the value of Rs. 62.54 lakhs are still with the commuters.

(e) Due to the continuing shortage of small change, there is no proposal to withdraw the scheme at present.

DR. C. SILVERA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, according to the annual report of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport for 1984, D.T.C. has incurred a loss of Rs. 484.28 crores. May I know from the Honourable Minister whose brain-work was that coupons worth Rs. 89.10 lakhs were issued costing Rs. 8.30 lakhs to the D.T.C. and thus increasing the losses. This is an apparent loss. On the other hand, if we go into the depth of the problem of D.T.C., D.T.C. had circulated money worth lakhs of rupees as the coupons exchange more than hundred hands daily. These coupons can be given in exchange everywhere in Delhi. In every shop these are accepted. The coupons have become a legal tender. May I know from the Government, whether the sanction of Reserve Bank of India or Ministry of Finance was taken before issuing coupons for circulation. If so, who are the persons responsible therefor?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we took the permission from the Ministry of Finance as well as from the Reserve Bank of India. I also agree with the hon. Member that Rs. 8.30 lakhs have been spent on printing of tickets. We are at the service of the citizens; and we do not want to cause any inconvenience to the public. It was decided to avoid further loss and inconvenience to the pub-

lic and, therefore, we went into the coupon system. This coupon system is available only for the city bus services so that the daily passengers in the buses do not feel any inconvenience.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary.

DR. C. SILVERA: No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mohunta.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, printing of these DTC coupons amounts to running of parallel currency to the currency which is already in vogue. I want to ask a question: did you seek the permission as to how much this currency could be printed and distributed? Whether these coupons were only meant for the D.T.C. or for the general purpose? As has been pointed out by Dr. Silvera that these coupons are being exchanged in shops to buy beedies, cigarettes, pan, etc. Whether permission was obtained that this could be a legal tender? If it was meant only for DTC, did you seek permission regarding the amount it would involve? Sir, if it was to be a legal tender, then, it is a very serious matter, because this would become an excuse for starting parallel currency. I think anybody is entitled to print these coupons.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is probably for the D.T.C. service. It cannot be exchanged in a shop for that matter. These coupons can be utilised only by the DTC passengers for their convenience and DTC convenience, because coin shortage is a well-known factor in the country. Yesterday, the Finance Minister himself has said that in the Lok Sabha about this problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Jain.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: Whether the permission was obtained about the amount involve in printing such coupons?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission has been obtained.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: Is it unlimited, Sir?

MR CHAIRMAN: You see the Minister has stated that you must ask the Ministry of Finance; and he is not the person.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: Whether he has taken permission or not?

MR CHAIRMAN: You are a very senior Member and you know what is the jurisdiction of different Ministries.

Now, Mr J. K. Jain.

श्री जी० के० जैन : सभापति महोदय, पहले तो मैं श्री राजेश पायलट को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि आज उनका पहला क्वेश्चन आकर है। सभापति महोदय, डी० टी० सी० के अन्दर अनेक चीजों की बहार आई हुई है। अभी स्वयं मंत्री महोदय ने वहाँ पर कुछ रेड्ज वर्गरेह की और दुनिया भर की चीजों, स्पेयर पार्ट्स आदि पकड़े हैं। क्या इनको जानकारों है कि क्कूपन इतनी जबरदस्त तादाद में फोक छपे हैं और दूसरी जो शाटर्जेज आफ कायन्ज की वजह से कई लाख रूपया बर्बाद हुआ है, क्या डी० टी० सी० ने फार्मिनांस मिनिस्ट्री से इस एमाउंट को रिडम्बर्स करने का कोई क्लेम किया है? यदि नहीं, तो क्यों नहीं किया? क्या मंत्री महोदय इसकी जानकारी देंगे?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, for the information of the House, the printing cost of this coupon is 1 naiya paise and we are only distributing 5 paise and 10-paise coupons. So, there are very little chances of bogus printing in this regard. Regarding taking over claim in the Finance Ministry, we are fighting for it so that they can help us.

SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Sir, may I know from the Hon'ble Minister whether they have approached the Reserve Bank for the coins? If so, what was the reply of the Reserve Bank?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have discussed it yesterday.

*45. [The questioner (Shri H. Hanumanthappa) was absent. For answer vide Col. 34-35 infra].

*46. [The questioner (Shri Nand Kishore Bhatt) was absent. For answer vide col. 35 infra].

Spurious and sub-standard goods purchased by the DTC

*47. **SHRI J. P. GOYAL:**

SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL†

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister of State for Surface Transport paid surprise visits to the different Delhi Transport Corporation depots and found spurious and sub-standard goods lying there;

(b) if so, what are the details of such goods discovered;

(c) what are the names of companies which supplied inferior goods to the Delhi Transport Corporation; and

(d) whether any responsibility has been fixed in regard thereto and what action is proposed to be taken against the staff of DTC involved and the supplier companies?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The surprise visit was made to the DTC's Patpar Ganj Depot on 28-10-85. During the course of inspection, cartoms containing soap were opened in the stores Department and random samples were seen which appeared to be spurious. Some spare parts were also seized which were suspected to be sub-standards or spurious.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ram Chandra Vikal.