

**Jha Committee to enquire into the Affairs
of the Jawaharlal Nehru University**

•85. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:f
SHRI JAGANNATHRAO
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for appointing the Jha Committee to enquire into the Jawaharlal Nehru University affairs and its terms of reference; and

(b) the progress made by the enquiry committee in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) The Jha Committee was appointed by the Executive Council of the Jawaharlal Nehru University in March, 1980 to make an assessment of its working and to recommend the directions for its growth and development in the future. The terms of reference of the Committee were: —

(i) to review the working of the University since its inception in the light of the objectives stated in the first Schedule of the Jawaharlal Nehru University Act;

(ii) to assess the achievements of the University in the realisation of these objectives and to suggest steps necessary to consolidate and imp-prove upon them;

(iii) to note handicaps, shortcomings and failures in the academic and administrative functioning of the University, to ascertain the reasons thereof and to propose re-

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Kalraj Mishra.

medies necessary for a more effective functioning of the University in future; and

(iv) to recommend the lines of growth and development of the University in the next decade, consistent with the objectives stated in the Jawaharlal Nehru University Act.

(b) In May 1981, the Committee has submitted what it called a "Status Report". The Committee has stated that it has gathered some material and designed some studies but was not in a position to formulate its opinion on various issues and enunciate its recommendations within the time allotted to it. The Executive Council of the University is yet to consider the "Status Report" of the Committee.

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Sir, I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether it is a fact that the Committee was given extension for three months in March 1981 and on the 14th May 1981 it concluded that it was convinced that it was not possible for it to perform the task assigned to it in the prevailing environment characterised by indifference, lack of concern and apathy, and, considering the magnitude and variety of challenges which the University was facing in the prevailing atmosphere, it felt that some hard decisions by ap-proprie authorities were necessary to remedy the situation and to enable the University to fulfil its statutory mandate effectively, and, if so, is it not a fact that the Council without assessing the work of the Executive Committee took some decision just to please Mr Jha who was a Member of the Executive Council?

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: It is correct to say that the Committee was asked to give its report within a year and then it asked for extension by another three months and it could not complete its work because of the apathy and indifference of the Univer-

sity authorities and there was hardly any report because as the honourable Member has said, without the Executive Committee's proper formation nothing could be done. So, the work is not complete as he has mentioned.

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Sir, my second supplementary is this; Is it a fact that the Government is not prepared to institute a Visitorial inquiry into the JNU affairs even though 161 Members of Parliament submitted a memorandum to the President of India, who is also the Visitor of the JNU? Is it because the first V.C. of J.N.U., Mr. G. Parthasarathy, is against inquiry into its affairs?

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL; I am not aware whether the gentleman that the hon. Member has mentioned is in favour or against it, because Mr. Parthasarathy never came to me to say anything. But I do not feel that we should not give the present Vice-Chancellor a chance to mend matters. He has come in very good faith. A number of times he said that he should be given a chance to mend the affairs there, and I think it will be unjust if it started all over again like This.

DR. SARUP SINGH: I think my friend was unfair in mentioning the name of Mr. G. Parthasarathy because he is not .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You need not defend him.

DR. SARUP SINGH: A Committee inquiry should never be held in a University unless exceptional circumstances are existing. However, Madam, will you kindly tell us as to why this Committee was appointed at all, and, secondly, why this Committee ' then was summarily asked to disappear from the scene? It is very awkward in a University like the Jawaharlal Nehru University. Delhi University would never do this. Have you gone into it?

Sir, one thing more if you permit me. It is an appeal to all of us here; When a student is punished in the University, Members of Parliament should not write to the President, requesting that his punishment should be withdrawn. It is unfair to a University. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: It is the Congress (I) member who ... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Siddhu. (*Interruptions*).

AN HON. MEMBER: Let the hon. Minister first reply to the question put.

MR. CHAIRMAN; This is only an advice. There is no question there, (*Interruptions*)

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: I would like to say that the least interference is done and the Visitor, as far as possible, keeps away from the academic. .. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: The question was, why was that committee constituted at all and why it disappeared suddenly? That was the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Nanda, there is an innuendo in it. There is no question. (*Interruptions*). I was not born yesterday. When a committee is appointed, there are terms of reference. Read them and you will find why it was appointed. (*Interruptions*)

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: Unfortunately, the Executive Councils of some Universities, under certain pressures of others, do appoint committees, and when those pressures are gone the committees also disappear. Is it a fact that this committee was also appointed under those pressures which are extraneous to the academic life of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, and when those pressures disappeared, then this Committee also met the same fate Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Same question. You should say: same question, same answer.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: But I would like to go into a little more detail, because this deals with our former Government. When the former Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, was there he had suggested that this committee should be formed, and this was a policy decision of the then Executive Committee to have a review of what had taken place in the last ten years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mathur.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : श्रीमन्, इस कमेटी में सारे मेम्बर ऐसे थे जिनका यूनिवर्सिटी से सम्बन्ध रहा है, कोई एक्जीक्यूटिव कौंसिल का मेम्बर था तो कोई प्रोफेसर था। एक तो यह कि क्या वह अपने कारनामों को देख सकते थे और दूसरे ऐसी कमेटी उपस्थित करने का औचित्य क्या था ?

दूसरा सवाल मेरा यह है कि क्या मंत्री महोदया को यह भी मालूम है कि जवाहरलाल नेहरू यूनिवर्सिटी एक विशेष प्रकार की राजनैतिक विचारधारा, कम्युनिस्टों की विचारधारा को फैलाने का अड्डा बना हुआ है जिसमें 36 कपल्स तो ऐसे एपाइन्ट किये गये हैं जिनका कभी इन्टरव्यू नहीं हुआ और 38 लोग ऐसे हैं जिनका कभी इन्टरव्यू नहीं हुआ ?

श्री सभापति : इसके लिए तो आपको अलग से नोटिस देना चाहिये ।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : एक एक्जीक्यूटिव रजिस्ट्रार हैं जो बवालफाइड नहीं हैं। मेरा कहना यह है कि इतने मामले हैं कि जिनमें लाखों रुपया का घोटाला हुआ है। लाइब्रेरी में और दूसरे फण्ड्स में हुआ है। इनके बारे में शिकायतें आई हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में ऐसी कमेटी बनाने का क्या औचित्य है जो स्वयं उसमें इन्वोल्व है ?

मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस प्रकार के जो घोटाले हुये हैं वे कितने हैं और क्या आप इस प्रकार के घोटालों को देखने का प्रयत्न करेंगे ?

श्रीमती शीला कौल : मान्यवर, यह बिलकुल सही न होगा अगर मैं इनकी बात मान लूँ। मैं आपको नाम बता देती हूँ उन लोगों के जो इस कमेटी में थे - एक तो श्री० एम० एस० गौर, डायरेक्टर टाटा इंस्टिट्यूट आफ सोशियल साइंसेज, बम्बई में। दूसरे थे प्रो० माथुर डायरेक्टर, नेशनल इंस्टिट्यूट आफ एजुकेशनल प्लानिंग एंड एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन और श्री एम० एस० स्वामिनाथन, फोरमली सेक्रेटरी, मिनिस्ट्री आफ एग्रीकल्चर एंड नाऊ मेम्बर प्लानिंग कमिशन और श्री जे० एन० कौल, नेशनल इंस्टिट्यूट आफ एजुकेशन, प्लानिंग एंड एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन, दिल्ली इसमें जवाहरलाल नेहरू यूनिवर्सिटी का अपना प्रोफेसर कोई भी नहीं है।

श्री सभापति : इन लोगों को पता नहीं कहां से मालूम हो जाता है।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : श्रीमन्, मैं बताऊँ कि जो मेम्बर थे वे कहां कहां से थे ?

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : श्रीमन्, इन बातों के बाद यह जान लेना जरूरी हो गया है कि प्रोफेसर कौन-कौन थे।

श्री सभापति : आप बता दीजिये कि कौन-कौन प्रोफेसर थे।

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Prof. M. S. Swaminathan was twice Member of the Executive Council. Mr. Mathur was also there on the J.N.U. Executive Council.

श्री सभापति : इससे क्या हुआ ?

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MAT-HUR: They were members of the Council. She said that they were never concerned with the University.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : कोई 20 साल पहले होगा ।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : श्रीमन्, इन्हीं के काल का है। जवाहर लाल नेहरू यूनिवर्सिटी को बने हुए ही कितने दिन हुए हैं ?

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know whether it is a fact that the Government has received a Memorandum in which serious allegations have been made against the Registrar of the University with *prima facie* evidence. If it is so, I would like to know from the Minister what action is going to be taken.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: It must be on its way. It has not reached me as yet.

*86. [The Questioner (Shri Krishna Nand Joshi) was absent. For answer vide Col. 36 infra.]

Encouragement to State Government to Start Shipping Lines

*87. SHRI M. R. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have any plan to encourage the State Governments like the Andhra Pradesh to start their own shipping lines, in view of the fact that large number of private and foreign shipping companies corner a large volume of shipping business; and

(b) whether the existing State owned companies have received any assistance from Central Government to improve their Shipping Industry?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Ship acquisition is a commercial decision to be taken

by a shipping company whether under the Public Sector or a private sector. Whenever ship acquisition proposals are received by S.D.F.C, they are examined on merits taking into account the viability etc. and thereafter the S.D.F.C.'s recommendations are examined by Government and decisions conveyed.

(b) The Karnataka Shipping Corporation and the Kerala Shipping Corporation have been granted financial assistance.

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA: Sir, today, most of the shipping business is enjoyed by the private companies and also by the foreign companies. I want to know whether the Government of India has got any scheme to assist the State Governments which are coming forward to start their own shipping lines. Secondly, even if the State Governments start their own shipping lines like the Kerala Shipping Corporation and the Tamil Nadu Shipping Corporation, in the first place, they are not experienced. They get all the money required from the Shipping Corporation and from the Government sources but they are not experienced. ■ So, is it not the duty of the Government of India to assist the State Governments which are trying to get into this business?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: Sir, it is for the State Government to consider and if any State Government wants to enter the shipping line they can approach the Shipping Development Fund Committee with proposals for acquisition of ships and those proposals will be considered. So far as the shipping industry or the shipping line is concerned, we have got in the public sector, two undertakings, one is the Shipping Corporation of India and the other is the Mueul Lines. I would like to inform the hon. Member that these two public sector shipping undertakings own 55 per cent of the total shipping tonnage today in the country and the remaining 45 per cent is owned by the private shipping companies. So far as the shipping Industry is concerned.