

## RAJYA SABHA

*Friday, 19th November, 2010/28th Kartika 1932 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

### RE : DEMAND FOR CONSTITUTION OF JPC

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 141. ... *(Interruptions)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): सभापति महोदय ...*(व्यवधान)*... सभापति महोदय ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 141. ... *(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we have asked for JPC. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 141. ... *(Interruptions)*... The House is adjourned till 12.00 hours.

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The House then adjourned at one minute past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

#### Opposition to semester system

\*141. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi University has introduced semester system in 13 under-graduate science courses;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Delhi University Teachers' Association (DUTA) is protesting against the semester system; and

(c) if so, what amicable settlement the Ministry is making to reign in DUTA on semester system?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) Semester system has been introduced in 13 under-graduate science courses conducted by the

University with effect from the academic session 2010-11 after due approval of its statutory bodies, viz. Academic Council and Executive Council. The Delhi University Teachers' Association (DUTA) has been protesting against introduction of semester system in the University. The University of Delhi is a statutory autonomous body established by an Act of Parliament and governed by the Delhi University Act, 1922 and the Statutes and Ordinances framed thereunder. As the University enjoys full autonomy, it is within its competence to enforce its decision.

#### **Commercialisation of education**

†\*142. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that commercialisation of education is taking place rapidly;
- (b) if so, the detail is thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to check this commercialisation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) It has been stressed in National Policy on Education as well as in several judicial pronouncements that education is a not-for-profit activity and commercialization of education is to be avoided. The National Policy on Education 1986 (as modified in 1992) encourages non-governmental and voluntary efforts in education, while preventing establishment of institutions which intend to commercialise education. Several pronouncements of the Supreme Court of India have also cautioned against commercialization of education while reasonable surplus for institutional development is permissible.

Government has taken several steps to curb commercialization of education. Section 13 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 clearly prohibits collection of any capitation fee. As regards higher educational institutions, a legislative proposal namely "The Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010" has already been introduced in the Parliament.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.