

नतीजा यह होता है जब यू.पी. बोर्ड से लड़के आते हैं, जो बहुत ही ब्रिलिएंट लड़के होते हैं, उन्हें भी दिल्ली में दाखिला मिलने का मौका नहीं मिल पाता है। इसलिए क्या मंत्री जी स्वयं यह उचित नहीं समझते कि सारे देश में एक जैसा समान पाठ्यक्रम हो, ताकि लोगों को बच्चों के दाखिले के लिए समान अवसर मिल सके?

श्री कपिल सिब्बल: माननीय सदस्य की जो बात है, मैं उससे बिल्कुल सहमत हूँ कि सारे देश के, हर एक स्कूल में एक कोर करिकुलम होना चाहिए। उसी संदर्भ में हमने तय किया है, पार्टिकुलरली साइंस स्ट्रीम में, जहां पर बायोलॉजी, मैथमेटिक्स, फिजिक्स एंड केमिस्ट्री में वह कोर करिकुलम तैयार हो चुका है और एन.सी.ई.आर.टी. ने उस पर सहमति भी दे दी है। वह अगले academic session से लागू होगा। हम कॉमर्स में भी कोर करिकुलम बनाने जा रहे हैं, जो सभी स्कूलों में लागू होगा। हमें उम्मीद है कि कॉमर्स का वह कोर करिकुलम सितम्बर, 2011 तक तैयार हो जाएगा और उसको भी अगले academic session में लगाएंगे।

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल: सभापति जी, जब तक यह लागू नहीं हो रहा है...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: देखिए, जवाब आ गया है...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल: यू.पी. बोर्ड, बिहार बोर्ड, एम.पी. बोर्ड, राजस्थान बोर्ड के...(व्यवधान).... कई मुद्दे हैं...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One question at a time. ...*(Interruptions)*... ऐसे कैसे होगा? यह अलग सुझाव है, आप लिखित में दीजिए...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल: जब तक समान नहीं हो रहा है, तब तक आप आदेश दीजिएगा कि यू.पी. बोर्ड, बिहार बोर्ड, एम.पी. बोर्ड राजस्थान बोर्ड को...(व्यवधान).... पांच परसेंट...(व्यवधान).... कम अंकों पर...(व्यवधान).... एडमिशन की छूट कर दीजिए...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: अगर आपको कोई सुझाव देना है तो आप मंत्री जी को लिखित में दीजिए...(व्यवधान).... क्वेश्चन नं. 344.

Victimisation of Indian students

*344. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian students studying in the United States are being victimised;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government had taken up this issue with the U.S. Government; and
- (d) if so, the response received by Government therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) US is one of the most preferred destinations of Indian students as evidenced by numbers of students going to US institutions. In the last one year, two cases of universities

involved in frauds in respect of student visa etc. have been reported in the United States of America in which Indian students have been affected. The first case was of Tri-Valley University in California, which was shut down in January, 2011 by the US authorities and more than 1800 Indian students were affected by the fraud. The second case is of University of Northern Virginia where action against the University authorities was started on July 28, 2011. There are about 2000 Indian students enrolled in the University of Northern Virginia.

(c) and (d) In the case of Tri-Valley University, the Government has intervened through diplomatic and political channels to ensure the safety of the Indian students. Our Mission and the Consulates in the United States were regularly meeting the affected students and providing all possible assistance to them, including organising a free legal aid camp and by issuing appropriate guidance and advisories. The Government has conveyed to the US Government that the Indian students should be given adequate time and opportunity to transfer to other universities or adjust their status and, if they desire, return to India honourably. Consequently, the US Department of State and the Department of Homeland Security took steps to ensure fair and appropriate treatment of Indian students. The matter was taken up by the Minister of External Affairs with the US Secretary of State during their meeting on February 13, 2011 and also during the recent India-US Strategic Dialogue on July 19, 2011 in New Delhi. In regard to the action of the US authorities against University of Northern Virginia, Government has not received any report of victimisation of Indian students.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Sir, there is no fault of Indian students who sought admission in the United States' Universities. There are two Universities which are involved in immigration fraud. One is the Tri-Valley University in California and the recent incident happened in the University of Northern Virginia. Several thousand students have been affected in that. They have been given admission in these Universities after obtaining a valid visa. Sir, for no fault of these Indian students — it is the illegality committed by the US Universities — they have been subjected to inhuman torture. In fact, those students have been put on with electronic tag on their ankle like animals. More than 1800 students have been affected with this. The Indian students there, who are affected, have a feeling that they have been let down by the Indian authorities. How many of them are facing legal cases in the United States? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One question at a time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Sir, it is related one. ...*(Interruptions)*... How many of them have been repatriated to India and how many of them have sought admission in other parts of the United States? Has the Ministry got any statistics on these issues? Please throw light on this.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, there are really three categories of Indian students in the Tri-Valley University which was closed down in 2011. Number one is the category of Indian students of

Indian Origin living in the United States who have sought admission in Tri-Valley University. The second category is of students who have F2 and H4 visa who are in the United States and who have sought admission. The third category is of Indian professionals with H1B visas who have sought admission in Tri-Valley University. Amongst all these categories, in all of the 1800 students in Tri-Valley, 115 students are from Chennai and Hyderabad. So, most of the students who sought admission in Tri-Valley were actually students who were living in the United States and professionals of Indian Origin in the United States. As far as 115 students are concerned, the US authorities have told them that they would facilitate their returning back to India, if they so wish. So they have a choice to come back to India. Whichever flight they want, in the alternative, they say if you can, through their processes, seek admission in any other university in the United States of America, they will be entitled to stay on.

As far as I know, that is, the information I have, there is no proceeding pending against any student.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: I am sorry, the Minister did not answer as to how many of them have been repatriated and what is the fate of those students.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: We do not have that information for the simple reason that we don't have the entire number of students who are in the United States, their names and addresses because Tri-Valley University has been closed. We have set up a website in California in our Consulate in San Francisco requesting students to give information to because we have no other way of knowing who those students are. Therefore, whoever has contacted us, we have given complete help. Whatever facts we have, we have already put them on record.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Sir, in fact, the students are obtaining loans from various people by selling their land in their homeland for getting admission in these foreign universities. Every year, the number of Indian students seeking admission abroad is increasing. It has increased almost 20 per cent in this year alone in the United States of America. Sir, my question is that looking at the number of students seeking admission in United States, Australia and other Western countries, whether the Government has a plan to set up a channel or a mechanism by which the students seeking admission abroad could know what is the position of those universities. We can even collect information from the respective countries and keep a record here so that they will know in which university, they can seek admission and which university is involved in immigration fraud. Thus, they can avoid such situation in future. Will you have a panel or a mechanism or a channel by which the Indian students seeking admission would come to know about it?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, as far as Indian students seeking admission abroad are concerned, they are not in touch with the Government. Most of them seek admission without reference to

the Government of India or to the State Governments. So, it is impossible for us to advise them in any manner. What we can do and the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs is trying to do is to bring an Emigration Management Bill in which the intent is to allow all agents to be registered and all students who want to go abroad should register themselves. So, if they need any help in any manner, we can certainly try and help them. But, in the absence of any such connect point or contact point, it is impossible for us to find out who wants to seek admission abroad and who doesn't.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister that it is not a simple case of statistics put on the website. You just said, "No proceeding is pending against them".

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: No. I said that I am not aware. I did not say, "no proceedings". I said, "I am not aware of it".

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Okay; please listen to the question. What is the most painful memory of this whole exercise — Indian students fasten with tracking device coming on television repeatedly. And, in that, they had no role to play. If these two universities were illegally operating, it was the job of the Government of the USA to control them. Yet, Indian students were wearing tracking device, a humiliation of India. Now, the question is that American universities are keen to invest in India. When American leadership come here, they campaign for Airbus; they campaign for Boeing to be sold to India. Did you, when the American Universities are keen to invest in India, in your strategic dialogue, convey to them that this kind of behaviour is not acceptable? I am asking this because apart from Indian students, on the television channels, we did not see students of any other nationality being fastened with tracking device. That is a humiliation of India. What did you, at the Government level, do to tell the USA that this is simply not acceptable?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, as far as the radio signals and attachments were concerned, we have strongly told the United States Administration about it. Our Foreign Minister, when he went to the United States, had raised this issue and stated that something must be done and that it was not acceptable to India. When the strategic dialogue took place on July 19...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Did you protest?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Yes, we did. Sir, through you, I would like to inform the hon. Member that if he is a little patient, I will be able to place all the requisite facts before him. Yes, on July 19, when the US Secretary of State was here, this issue was raised by our Foreign Minister and put on the table.

But, Sir, I want to inform, through you, the hon. Members of this House that 90 per cent of students admitted in Tri-Valley University were Indians. And, a large majority of

them gave only one address. So, there is an element of suspicion that many of them, perhaps, knew about this University. Otherwise, they would not have been given a common address.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: That is the duty of the American University. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: अहलुवालिया साहब, आप बैठ जाइए।...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए।...*(व्यवधान)*... प्लीज़...*(व्यवधान)*... बैठ जाइए, बैठ जाइए।...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Why do you say this? ...*(Interruptions)*... The Indian students are...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: The authorities are, in fact, investigating into this matter. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Let them check. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: We believe that the practice of these tagging radio signals is unacceptable in any democracy. India does not accept it. And, as far as second institution is concerned, a notice has been given by the US authorities asking it as to why it should not be closed down.

SHRI DEREK O. BRIEN: Sir, is there any authoritative assessment of the amount of money being spent by Indian under-graduate, graduate, post-graduate students in foreign countries. This issue of Tri-Valley is not an aberration; it has happened in other countries. You just briefly mentioned in one of your replies that there needs to be system set up in place with the help of the State Governments to literally record every Indian student leaving Indian shores. So, my question is: do you plan to set up this system as soon as possible?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, as I told you, there is a Bill which is contemplated by the Government. I cannot predicate the movement of that Bill but, certainly, if there is a registration requirement and student's voluntarily register, we will then have a better understanding of the data that the distinguished Member is talking about. In the absence of that, we will probably not get the data as to how many students go abroad. The total number of Indian students pursuing higher studies in the United States of America is 1,05,000. So, we are aware of those numbers. But, to answer as to who goes, how many people go, how many people of Indian origin seek admission, there is no way in which we can get that data. But, of course, if we have this Bill in place, we might get a better understanding of such data.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, in reply to the supplementary question put by Mr. Selvaganapathi, the hon. Minister said, we cannot advice the students where to go and where not to go. I would like to ask something from the Minister. Though you cannot advice, can you, at least, guide or enlighten the students who want to go abroad, and, inform them, maybe

through a website, that these are the institutions which have been blacklisted, and, these are the genuine institutions? It would help the students very much.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: If we have any knowledge of any institution indulging in this kind of activity, we will, certainly, be able to inform the students. What we would be able to do is to caution the students that if you are seeking admission in the United States of America, make sure that the institution is accredited. Sir, this was one of the big problems with the Tri-Valley University. Accreditation is necessary before you can admit a student because the process of admission is that when a student seeks admission in the United States of America, the institution sends him, what is called, an I-20 form. This I-20 form suggests that this institution has the legal capacity and the entitlement to take students from abroad. A limited number of I-20 forms are issued to an institution. For example, in the Tri-Valley case, no I-20 form more issued because it was not an accredited institution. In the absence of the I-20 form, the students took admission. On these issues, we can certainly caution to the students. But what is the quality of a particular institution, whether there is any illegality committed or not, we can not predicate about any of these things. Cautioning is possible but...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Sir, the university...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your turn is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... You cannot ask a question again. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: It is possible to caution the students but to advise them about the quality of the institutions abroad is something, which is not possible.

Reforms in the working of Multi-State Cooperative Society

*345. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of complaints received against societies registered under Multi- State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 by the Central Registrar of Multi-State Cooperative Societies alongwith the action taken on each complaint during the last three years;

(b) whether General Body of a Multi-State Cooperative Society can constitute a team of its Members to suggest systematic reforms etc. in the working of the Society and for the progress of the Society; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The cooperative societies registered under the provision of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 (MSCS Act, 2002) are functioning as autonomous