

[22 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

इसलिए मैं सरकार से चाहूंगा कि वह भविष्य में ऐसी कोई ठोस नीति तैयार करे और कार्यवाही करे ताकि समाज के पेट को भरने वाला किसान भी अपनी जिंदगी खुशहाली से बिता सके।

SHRI SANQH PRIYA GAUTAM (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri R.K. Anand - not here. Dr. Narayana Reddy.

Fake Universities

DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY (Nominated) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I seek your kind permission to make a Special Mention on the harm to the students caused by fake universities. More than ever, today the youth are career-conscious. They plan their future even when they are in High School. Sir, the period from June to September is very important for the students. During this period, they will be entering the universities. In India, we are facing the menace of fake universities. In reply to my question in the House, I have been informed that we have as many as 15 fake universities. The youth in their anxiety to get admission into universities may fall a prey to fake universities. I feel that more effective steps are needed now. The Malpractice Prevention Cells in educational institutions should be strengthened in all respects. Mere press releases by the University Grants Commission are not sufficient. Publicity on fake universities should be carried out on a massive scale in the newspapers and electronic media. Sir, very stringent measures are needed to arrest the mischief of fake universities. I appeal to the Government to take immediate measures in the matter, otherwise the career of many students will be affected. Thank you.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P.N. SIVA (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I also associate myself with the views expressed by the hon. Member.

SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA (West Bengal) : Sir, I also associate myself with the views expressed by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is all right. ...(Interruptions)...

Grant of Relief From the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund

SHRI KORAMBAYIL AHAMMED HAJI (Kerala) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me permission to draw the kind attention of the

Government and the House to the procedure of releasing funds from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund, which is highly beneficial for the poor and needy patients, but there something needs to be done for its betterment. I appreciate the prompt sanction of financial assistance by the Prime Minister's Office on the recommendation of the Members of Parliament. Besides financial assistance, the Scheme gives the poor patients some kind of mental relief and a sense of confidence.

But recently there are instances where the requests of patients have been rejected on account of the fact that the initial requests were received after the surgery. I may point out that in order to save the lives of patients, in emergency cases, the doctors are forced to conduct surgery. So, it is not reasonable to reject the requests of the patients on this ground. Similarly, the financial assistance which is already sanctioned to the patients, is not given to their legal heirs. Generally, the expenses towards treatment and surgery of poor patients are met by their relatives by selling their belongings and by taking loans. The relevant rules, therefore, need to be amended to enable the patient or his legal heirs — in the event of death of the patient — to receive the financial assistance. The amounts sanctioned nowadays are not enough to meet the expenses of treatment. So, there is a genuine need for increasing the amount.

I earnestly request the hon. Prime Minister to take appropriate steps on the above matters so as to enhance the utility of the scheme.

Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 2-10 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at ten minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at fourteen minutes past two of the clock, THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

THE INDIAN UNIVERSITIES (REPEAL) BILL, 2000

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): Madam Deputy Chairman, on behalf of Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to repeal the Indian Universities Act, 1904.