

would be paid to extending the science education in rural areas. I would like to draw his attention towards the high schools and middle schools in Madhya Pradesh. There are high schools without buildings and in the middle schools, classes are taken in two shifts. I would like to know if the hon. Minister consider the question of providing some funds for setting up science laboratories in schools in order to ensure proper education of science. Will the Government consider providing a building for science laboratories even to such schools that do not have it.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said that there is a provision of providing 75 thousand rupees per secondary and per senior secondary school for establishment of science laboratories. Besides this 25 thousand rupees are provided for upgradation of science laboratories.

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Is it a fact that not even 5 per cent of the total funds that are provided for encouraging education of science in the schools of rural areas is provided to such schools.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I get any specific instance is brought to my notice, then I will certainly look into the matter.

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: The money is not reaching any village. Money is provided only to the schools where the wards of privileged class receive education. I say, funds are not being provided to the schools in the rural areas.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not in a position to reply about each and every school located in the rural areas. But I do agree that the point raised by the hon. Member is very serious and I assure that efforts will be made to gather information in this regard particularly from bigger States and the States that are backward. The Government will certainly try to know as to what proportion of the total funds given by the Government for the schools in the rural areas is actually given to those schools.

After that I will also place the information before this House as and when I get it.

[English]

UGC Grants to Universities

*408. **SHRIMATI MALINI BHAT-TACHARYA:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds flowing from the University Grants Commission to the State Universities are disproportionately meagre compared to the fully funded Central Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action contemplated to augment the flow of funds to the State Universities to meet the essential requirements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). The only source of funding, both for plan and non-plan programmes for Central Universities is the UGC. In the case of State Universities the maintenance grants under non-plan are provided fully by the State Governments. In addition, non-plan grants are also provided by the UGC to State Universities for specific purposes such as scholarships and fellowships under engineering and technology, teacher fellowships, national fellowships, junior research fellowships, research associateships etc. The plan programmes of State Universities are funded partly by the State Governments and partly by the UGC. UGC assistance to State Universities, consequently, is only for plan programmes and that too is only for a part of their requirements. Therefore, the UGC assistance to Central and State Universities cannot be

compare. It is primarily the responsibility of State Governments to provide reasonable plan grants to the Universities set up by the State.

UGC assistance to a Central University for developmental purposes is of the order of Rs. 1.5 to 2 crores per year whereas to State University it is of the order of Rs. 15-30 lakhs per year.

The UGC has liberalised in the 8th plan the scales of plan assistance to the universities.

SHRIMATIMALINI BHATTACHARYA: In the answer - in the statement it has been said that UGC has liberalised in the Eighth Plan, the scales of plan assistance to the universities. Actually, we find that sector-wise plan outlay by the Centre in higher education has come down from 39.3 per cent in the Sixth Plan to 22.7 per cent in the Seventh Plan and to 9.4 per cent in the Eighth Plan. Of the total fund that is available for the universities, about 80 per cent go to the Central universities with the result the State universities get only about 20 per cent and because of this meagerness of resources, more than 60 per cent of what the Central universities have, they have to spend just for giving the salaries. Therefore, they do not have any resources at all for building up educational and research infrastructure; and many of these universities very high-ranking and traditionally very well-known universities - are at present running on overdraft. There is a big crisis and in the light of this, I would like to ask the Minister as to in what sense specifically, the scales of plan assistance to the State universities have been liberalised; and in what ways, the schemes for building up such educational and research resources have been enhanced. Where is the scope for it?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, with your kind permission I would first like to say something which will put the whole thing in the proper perspective; only then I would be able to answer the hon. Member. The fact is that the hiatus is being observed between

the Central and the State universities - the funding - and the basic reason for that is that the Central universities are maintained and the developmental assistance is also given by the UGC, whereas the State universities are maintained by the States and their developmental assistance is given by the States. There is obviously a great pressure on the State finances. Therefore this dissimilarity is there and there is no doubt about it.

So far as the question that has been asked specifically is concerned, the UGC has liberalised the pattern of assistance for payment of grants to eligible universities in the Eighth Plan. This is the provision of grants to universities on 100 per cent basis for extension programmes, construction of library buildings and women hostels as against 75 per cent in the Seventh Plan; 75 per cent on other buildings like laboratories, class rooms, boys' school, etc., as against 50 per cent in the Seventh Plan.

SHRIMATIMALINI BHATTACHARYA: Thank you, Sir. It has been observed that although higher education is still comparatively cheap in our country, only 4.8 per cent of the young people in the 17 to 25 age group can go in for higher education. Other simply cannot afford higher education and even in the meagre number that go in for higher education, there is less than 10 per cent of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes students. So, in this situation what is immediately necessary is that the educational system should be made more equitable so that economically disadvantaged sections can take advantage of higher education. So, I would like to ask the Minister as to whether in the Eighth Plan there are special schemes for assisting the students of economically disadvantaged sections to come to the forefront and to take advantage of higher education.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: As the hon. Member herself has said, there has been no increase in the cost of higher education practically over two decades now. Everything has gone up; but the fees in the higher educational system is practically static. The hon.

House would appreciate that this is not a situation which can be linked to any economic criteria. But the fact is that it is there and it is difficult to increase the fees for various reasons.

So far as the opportunities for students from the disadvantaged and weaker sections of the society are concerned, I think that there has been a steady increase in their number; and all the facilities and the schemes that can help them, are part of the entire programme. But if some extra effort is needed, I am sure, we will be able to make that effort because that is a policy of the Government.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, under the FIP scheme during the final period of the Seventh Plan, the university teachers in various universities, especially in Kerala, have been sanctioned projects. But unfortunately due to procedural delay, some of the schemes were sanctioned only at the end of the Seventh Plan. So, they were unable to complete the project.

They have now requested for extension of the project. Because the Eighth Plan has not been finalise. Though they are doing the project, yet the financial assistance has not been given to them. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the cases which are pending at the end of the Seventh Plan will be given priority. Will they also be given assistance as quickly as possible so that these teachers can complete the FIP schemes during the Eighth Plan?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, this is an issue concerning Kerala. I will not be able to answer this. But I will look into this matter and see that the needful is done.

DR. SUDHIR RAY: Sir, old universities of India, like Calcutta, Madras, Bombay or Allahabad, are suffering from severe resource problems. They cannot even buy foreign books or journals. They cannot equip the laboratories, etc. But, on the other hand, eight or nine Central universities are fully

funded by the Central Government. Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister what efforts is he making to make up these deficiencies of the old and renowned universities of India.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I have already said in the very beginning that the pattern of assistance to State universities and Central universities is different. It has been established over many years that this is going to be the pattern of assistance.

I am also aware that many of the State universities are finding themselves in difficulties. Even the Central universities are finding themselves in difficulties because of reasons of resource crunch. I do not think, I can say straightaway what we will be able to do. But we can certainly look to any special needs of any university and see what is possible.

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Sir, the difficulties faced by the universities in small States, like Manipur, are very great and have been explained in this House also. From the statement placed by the hon. Minister, we have seen that the funding by the UGC to the Central universities is Rs. 1.5 crore to 2 crore whereas in the case of State universities, it is Rs. 15 to 30 lakh. So, the difference is very great.

Would it be possible for the Central Government to take over such universities of small State as Central universities?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Because of the resource crunch, as a matter of policy, we are not intending to open any Central university which includes taking over during the Eighth Plan period.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am raising a basic question. I think if it is a bit digression from the main subject, the hon. Minister will reply it. The U.G.C. has fixed some norms. And also education is the backbone of the country. Just now Malinji said that the number of

people belonging to the weaker sections of the society and particularly those belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is negligible and there is a constitutional provision for them also. As per Central Government guidelines the reservation policy should also be followed in the Central Universities. Even after that their representation is not even 1 per cent among the teaching staff. Will the Government direct the U.G.C. to stop grants-in-aid to those universities which do not implement the reservation policy? If not, what steps are being taken by the Government in this regard so that the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes could become higher in the field of education also.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is absolutely right that in certain universities the percentage of reservation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is not that high as it ought to be. This matter is being looked into separately. Many steps have been taken so as to increase the percentage of reservation. But a decision to the effect that grants-in-aid to those who do not implement the reservation policy would be stopped has not been taken. The Government will see if stopping grant-in-aid is the only way out, then that will also be done when felt necessary. I hope that their percentage will increase and we will achieve the target.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Allahabad universities are the oldest universities. Will the hon. Minister consider taking over these universities under Central Government? Will the Government consult the States in this regard? If they do not agree, then will it reconsider, at least, the case of Allahabad University under Central Government, as proposal to which effect has been pending since long. The Government should save this university by taking it over under the Central Government.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, each and every university has got its own importance and Allahabad University is cer-

tainly one of the oldest universities. I am fortunate that I graduated from that university...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RABI RAY: Both of you studied there.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I cannot say that I studied there because of him... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Why did he not do it when he was the Prime Minister?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I had done....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: At present I am not able to give any assurance. This demand had been placed before the hon. Prime Minister when he visited the place. He said that the Government would find a way out to consider the case of certain universities. The present position is that if some way out is found, 4-5 big universities of the country...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, three universities do not want to come under the Central Government *(Interruptions)* They want funds. But the Government of Uttar Pradesh also wants that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Please include Patna University also.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Not Patna. For universities are old. Out of them only Allahabad University wants central affiliation.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: The first President of the country Dr. Rajendra Prasad established the Patna University.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: There are four oldest universities and out of them three universities require funds. These universities do not want to come under the control of the Central Government. Only Allahabad University wants to come under the Central

Government. Therefore, a suggestion to take over this university under the Central Government was made. Action had also been initiated in this regard.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I said that this matter is certainly under consideration of the Government and we will make efforts in this regard.

[English]

SHRI UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Mr. Speaker Sir, under the University Grants Commission, Career Advancement Scheme is one among the several schemes that have been introduced. In the implementation of the provisions of this scheme, no uniform norms are being adopted by the universities, particularly the universities maintained by the Central Government and also by the universities maintained by the State Governments.

MR. SPEAKER: This has already been explained.

SHRI UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: I would like to ask the Minister whether any specific instances have come to the notice of the Union Minister with regard to the discrepancies in the implementation of the norms. If so, what are the steps that have been taken by the government to rectify such discrepancies? And what are the exact norms that are provided by the government for the implementation of the schemes?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: The information being sought is regarding one particular scheme and how it is being implemented. I am afraid, I cannot straightway give an answer. But I will certainly furnish the necessary information to the hon. Member.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: We all agree that the funds sanctioned by the UGC to various State Universities are highly inadequate. But the disbursement of even these inadequate funds which are sanctioned either for faculty improvement pro-

grammes or for various building funds etc., takes a very long time and requires long correspondence. Colleges in rural areas have to send people to Delhi and some State Universities have even resorted to appointing liaison officers in Delhi.

In view of these difficulties, there was a proposal from the Ministry to establish four regional centres of UGC in various parts of the country. I would like to ask the hon. Minister what has happened to that proposal.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, that proposal has already been sanctioned.

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking about different UGC centres.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Yes, I am talking about that only.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our universities are suffering not only from a financial crisis but also from an educational crisis. This is primarily due to the disparities in the level of resources available to them and that definitely affect the quality of education and the standard of education.

Sir, under the Constitution, one of the primary responsibilities of the Central Government is the maintenance of uniform academic standards at university level. Here comes the UGC's role. I find that the UGC, although, it is a national institution, makes a deliberate and perhaps that is what is required of it under the present scheme of things, distinction between two classes of universities, the Central universities and the non-Central universities viz. the State universities not only in terms of maintenance grant and plan grants but also in terms of non-plan grants.

I suggest, Sir, that in order to achieve the Constitutional objective, there should be no such disparity or distinction. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether he shall give some thought to changing the present funding system for the universities

and examine the totality of resources available to each university either from the Centre or from the States or from both, both in terms of plan as well as non-plan expenditure and then, satisfy himself that there is a disparity and then removing that disparity removed in terms of the Constitutional mandate.

And secondly, I would like to know whether it is possible, just as an interim measure, that he consider that the UGC shall not be concerned with the maintenance grant of Central universities - that may go directly from the Centre - but that it shall operate only non maintenance grants and a uniform criteria under uniform guidelines for giving plan or non-plan special assistance under common norms to all universities of the country without any distinction, perhaps on a per student basis or on proposal basis.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, I am in agreement with the hon. Member that this is what is desirable. But as I have said in the very beginning, the States have created the State universities by their own Acts of Legislature and the responsibility of funding them is primarily theirs. The Central universities have been created by Acts of Parliament and the UGC is an instrument to fund them. Whether we can give more funds to everyone, that obviously depends on the availability of resources. that is the whole crux of the matter.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: I am sorry, the crux of the problem is that you regard UGC as a Central institution and not as a national institution.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: It is definitely a national institution. But it has responsibilities which are covered by other considerations. How can the UGC take over the responsibilities entirely of State universities which are created by the States? After all the States already have the responsibilities. I understand the difficulties of the States also. But I do not think that a broad-banding of this sort will help. Actually, the main question is, as to how much resources we can raise for the UGC through which we can fund the univer-

sities. If we are able to raise the resources, I think, many of these problems would be lessened. But at the moment, the hon. Member is aware of the situation and this is where I have to seek his indulgence. (*Inter-ruptions*)

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Sir, in 1989, the then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi had laid the foundation stone for Dr. Ambedkar University at Lucknow. This was done in pursuance of the aspirations of the people from all over the country. Later, the three Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Narayan Dutt Tiwari, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and Shri Kalyan Singh had written numerous letters to the Central Government requesting them to include Dr. Ambedkar University as a Central university or else to provide substantial grants to it so that it can start functioning at an early date.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any decision has been taken in this regard to include Dr. Ambedkar University as a Central University or to provide substantial grant.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: The whole matter is under very active consideration.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI: One proposal was contemplated and mooted out by the Ministry of Education that an Urdu University will be established. Really, it is a right step in the right direction no doubt. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister what will be the location of such a university and what will be the pattern of assistance to such a university by UGC? Bihar is educationally backward and Urdu also finds its place of genesis there. That is why, I would like to recommend that its location must be fixed up there in Bihar. What is the opinion of the hon. Minister?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: The hon. Member is aware that a committee has been set up to go into the whole question, which will decide the pattern, the academic scale and everything, including the location. I would beg of the hon. Member not to involve me in

giving preference to one place or the other. We will consider the recommendations when they come.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: To which place the Members belong to?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: They are from all places.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: UGC is helping the universities and institutions of higher education. But till now UGC is not helping the medical education; mostly, it is left to the State Government as a result of which the allocation to the libraries of the medical colleges is not adequate to take the necessary number of journals and latest periodicals. The Minister of Health is also here. I would like the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development to consult the Minister of Health and take care of this particular aspect of providing more grants to the medical colleges and universities so that they can equip their libraries with adequate number of journals and latest publications. Will the Minister examine this particular aspect?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: My esteemed colleague the hon. Health Minister is sitting here. I will definitely consult him; and whatever help he wants from us we can also help in that.

The medical colleges and universities are not under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. But the need for provisions of these things is definitely there. But in consultation with him, we will see what can be done.

MR. SPEAKER: Q.No. 409 - Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi - not present; Shri Vijay Naval Patil - not present.

Q. No. 410 - Shri Satya Deo Singh - not present; Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh - not present.

Q. No. 411 - Shrimati Girija Devi - not present.

Q. No. 412 - Shri N J Rathva - not present.

Q.No. 413 - Shri Amar Roypradhan - not present.

Shri Upendra Nath Verma.

Categorisation of Medicines

*413 **SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:**
SHRI UPENDRA NATH
VERMA:

Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of sale of some allopathic medicines with Ayurvedic or Unani ingredients or vice versa have come to the notice of the Government during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted by the Government for the categorisation of medicines in different medical systems;

(d) whether the Government propose to issue some guidelines to drug manufacturers in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (e). Such cases have come to the notice of the Government. State Drug Controllers are the licensing authorities for the manufacture of allopathic, ayurvedic and unani medicians, including combination