

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
(1968-69)**

(FOURTH LOK SABHA)

EIGHTIETH REPORT

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

**Action taken by Government on the recommendations
contained in the Eighty-third Report of the
Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha) on
the Ministry of Education—
Visva-Bharati University.**



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(iv)

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(1968-69)**

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10. Shri Gajraj Singh Rao
11. Shrimati Jayaben Shah
12. Shri Shantilal Shah
13. Shri K. Subavelu
14. Shri Tula Ram

INTRODUCTION

1. The Chairman of the Estimates Committee having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Eightieth Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 83rd Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Education—Visva-Bharati University.

2. The 83rd Report of the Estimates Committee was presented to the Lok Sabha on the 29th April, 1965. Replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in the Report were received from the Ministry on the 7th April, 1966. The replies were considered by the Study Group 'D' of the Estimates Committee 1966-67 on the 25th November, 1966. Further information in respect of some of the recommendations was called for on the 16th March, 1967. The requisite information in respect of all the recommendations except those at Serial Nos. 11 and 43 was received from the Ministry by 29th March, 1968.

3. The replies to recommendations and further information were considered by Study Group 'F' of Estimates Committee (1968-69) at their sitting held on the 22nd November, 1968. The draft report was adopted by the Committee on the 17th February, 1969.

4. The report has been divided into the following Chapters:—

I. Report

II. Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government.

III. Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply.

IV. Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee.

V. Recommendations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited.

5. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Eighty-third Report (Third Lok Sabha)

of the Estimates Committee is given in Appendix . It would be observed therefrom that out of forty-five recommendations made in the 83rd Report, 26 recommendations i.e. 58 per cent have been accepted by the Government. The Committee do not desire to pursue eight recommendations i.e. 18 per cent in view of Government's reply. The reply of Government in respect of two recommendations i.e. 4 per cent has not been accepted by the Committee. The final reply of Government in respect of nine recommendations i.e. 20 per cent is still awaited.

NEW DELHI;
March 26, 1969.
Chaitra 5, 1891 (S).

P. VENKATASUBBAIAH,
Chairman.
Estimates Committee.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

The Committee are glad to observe that the recommendations contained in their Eighty-third Report (Third Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Education—Visva-Bharati University, have been replied to by Government generally to the Committee's satisfaction.

The Committee, however, regret to note, that there has been considerable delay on the part of the Ministry in furnishing the information called for by the Committee. Further information in respect of two recommendations (S. No. 11 and 43) is yet to be received. The Committee hope that such delays would be avoided in future.

While noting the action taken by Government on certain recommendations, the Committee desire that the Ministry may intimate final action taken by them on the recommendations included in Chapter V at an early date.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Serial No. 2) Para—14

The Committee suggest that Visva-Bharati may make special study of the lives and teachings of eminent men whose ideas, writings and associations have helped the development of this University. The Committee are glad to note that the University has undertaken a study of the philosophy of Acharya Brajendra Nath Seal and will bring out an elaborate three volume work on the life and teachings of Raja Ram Mohan Ray. They hope that Visva-Bharati University will devise ways and means of commemorating other great men mentioned earlier.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The appreciation by the Estimates Committee of the work undertaken by the University on the philosophy of Acharya Brojendranath Seal and on the life and teachings of Raja Ram Mohan Roy and other great men is encouraging and if funds are available further work of this nature is in contemplation.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 3) Para—16

The Committee note that 50 per cent of the students after passing higher secondary examination from Visa-Bharati do not join its colleges. The Committee suggest that the University may attract as large a number of its own students as possible in its degree colleges so that the University may have the benefit of continued and intimate association with a larger number of students who have imbibed its ideals and way of life. The Committee further hope that attempts will be made to increase the intake capacity in the school so that larger number of students may pass the examination at the end of the school course.

REPLY

The University fully shares the view that attempt should be made to attract as large a number of its own students as possible

in the degree courses and indeed, that has been the ideal emphasised by the Vice-Chancellors and Acharyadeva. But in these days of scientific and technological developments a good number of students take up studies in higher science and technology and as these courses are not available in the University some of them prefer to get themselves admitted to a University where they may carry on their studies uninterrupted. The starting of the Science courses will, it is confidently hoped bring about a considerable improvement in the situation.

Construction of 10 more hostels has been proposed by the University under 4th Plan to raise the intake capacity. These proposals will be considered by the UGC along with the Fourth Plan proposals of the University.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 4) Para—17

The Committee are unhappy to note the high percentage of failures in higher secondary examination of the University. They suggest that concerted steps may be taken to improve the results.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

As a step towards improvement an intensive tutorial work has been introduced in the school and it is proposed to extend such intensive tutorial assistance in subjects in which deficiency is felt.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 7) Para—21

The Committee hope that the Visva-Bharati University will take urgent steps to finalise the Accounts Manual which is long overdue.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Steps are already in progress to finalise the Accounts Manual.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Please state the time limit by which the Accounts Manual will be finalised.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5|6(2) EC-II/65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Karma Samiti of the University has appointed a Sub-Committee to examine the draft accounts rules in detail. It is expected that Accounts Manual will be finalised by the end of this year i.e. by December, 1967.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-25|66-U2 dated the 9th October, 1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 8) Para—25

The Committee suggest that in order to avoid any confusion of this nature (differences between Visva-Bharati and University Grants Commission in the amount of development grants received by Visva-Bharati), quarterly progress reports regarding amounts received and expended may be furnished by the Visva-Bharati University to the University Grants Commission. All discrepancies may be got resolved before the next quarterly report is prepared.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Quarterly reports on all development schemes involving expenditure both recurring and non-recurring are being sent to the University Grants Commission. Such reports contain statements of the actual grant received on account of particular projects as also the actual expenditure incurred upto date on those accounts. In the case of non-recurring grants for capital projects the reports also indicate the physical progress of the project.

In addition consolidated statements showing all development grants received and expenditure incurred are also being sent.

Any discrepancy which arises at the time of closing the annual accounts is always adjusted in the accounts of subsequent years.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 9) Para—27

The Committee note that a number of development schemes of Visva-Bharati University which will be carried forward from the Third Plan to the Fourth are actually spill-over schemes from the Second Plan.

The Committee are unhappy to note that there are heavy short-falls in expenditure during the Second and Third Five Year Plans

and that some of the schemes envisaged for completion during the Second Plan are not expected to be completed even during the Third Plan period. The Committee need hardly stress the necessity of framing realistic estimates and hope that effective measures will be taken by Visva-Bharati University to utilise the amount allocated within the stipulated period. The Committee also suggest that the University Grants Commission may make an appraisal of the availability of essential materials so that the schemes are not held up due to delays in the supply. The University Grants Commission may also ensure that the schemes are not held up on account of delays in processing.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The University has completed many of the development schemes sanctioned under the second and third plans and has started work on the remaining schemes. The non-availability of building materials in adequate quantities since September 1965 has been a serious handicap for the University to implement its building projects within the time schedule.

The University has carefully noted the advice of the committee in this connection and will take care to see that the development schemes adopted by it in future should be of such magnitude as may effectively be completed within the period stipulated for completion except for causes beyond control. The University Grants Commission would also ensure that unnecessary delay in processing is avoided.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 12) Para—31

The Committee feel that the existence of private houses within the Visva-Bharati University Campus may militate against the academic atmosphere and physical compactness of the University. They suggest that the University in consultation with the University Grants Commission and the State Government may try to find a solution for this problem.

REPLY

This is a matter which is engaging the active attention of the University. The University Grants Commission has already approv-

ed in principle the purchase by the University of five private houses within the University Campus.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Please state the present position in the matter.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5|6(2)EC-IF|65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Three house properties have been purchased by the University. The question of securing another area measuring 2.33 acres situated at the heart of the University Campus with structures thereon in exchange of university land was under the consideration of the University Grants Commission but it has not been possible for the Commission to agree to the University's proposal in this regard.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-25|66-U2 dated the 29th March, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 15) Para—37

The Committee suggest that the number of students to be admitted to each course in Visva-Bharati University may be determined well before the commencement of academic year, having regard to the number of teachers, hostel accommodation etc. so that maximum number of students, consistent with facilities available, are admitted.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Steps have already been taken by the University to determine well in advance of the admission period (July) the exact number of students that can be admitted into the different courses, consistent with the limited hostel facilities and teaching strength of departments.

In April last year the number of students to be admitted in July was decided upon and directions were issued. The plan worked out quite satisfactorily and will be followed during the coming years.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 17) Para—39

The Committee feel that the teacher-student ratio in the colleges of Visva-Bharati University is on the high side. They hope that sus-

tained efforts will be made to bring down the teacher student ratio by increasing to the maximum extent possible the number of admissions of students, are being taken to see that the efficiency and the distinctive character of Visva-Bharati University are not impaired.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

In the first place the Visva-Bharati is primarily a residential university. Apart from tuition fees, the boarding and lodging expenses are bound to be on the highside, particularly at the present time. Therefore the number of students is bound to be less than in a university which mostly caters for day-scholars. In the second place, prior to the introduction of degree course in science the Visva-Bharati used to impart instruction only in humanities, many of which subjects did not open up a line of an affluent career and therefore the number of students was bound to be low. Finally the paucity of hostel accommodation led to a very limited number of new admission. On the other hand full staff strength had to be maintained even if there be only a few students in any subject. In the circumstances the teacher-student ratio was bound to be on the high side.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Please state the present teacher student ratio in Visva-Bharati (at the college level) and the efforts made by the University to bring down the teacher student ratio.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5/6(2) EC II-65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The present (1965-66) teacher student ratio is:

School Level	1:13:5
College Level	1:4

Every possible effort has and is being made by the University to increase the intake of students. During the present session one of the Guest Houses of the University has been converted to Students Hostel in addition to the two rented houses used as Hostels since last session.

In addition, the following measures have also been taken:

- (a) admitting day scholars to some course of study.
- (b) Stoppage of creation of new posts.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-25|66-U2 dated the 9th October, 1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 23) Para—44

The Committee commend the efforts of the Visva-Bharati University, to have personal supervision over the individual student's work. As Visva-Bharati unitary, teaching and residential University offering considerable scope for introduction of tutorials, the Committee suggest that every effort should be made to introduce regular tutorials in subjects where comparatively large number of students are on rolls.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Steps have already been taken to introduce intensive tutorial work also in subjects where roll strength is large.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 24) Para—45

The Committee suggest that Visva-Bharati University may arrange inter-University seminars on subjects which are particularly associated with the objectives of the Visva-Bharati University and the teachings and writings of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. The Committee hope that such seminars would help to evoke interest in the student community all over India in the lofty ideals which inspired the founder of this University.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The recommendation of the Estimates Committee for holding Inter-University Seminars on subjects which have direct bearing on the objectives of the University and on the teachings and writings of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore will be kept in view and implemented while drawing programmes for seminars and lectures, within the funds available for the purpose.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 25) Para—46

The Committee suggest that the system of internal assessment in Visva-Bharati University may be critically reviewed by the Education Commission which is seized of the problem

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The recommendations of the Education Commission are being awaited and will certainly be considered by its Siksha-Samati (Academic Council).

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Please state the action taken by the University on the system of internal assessment in the light of Education Commission recommendation.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5|6(2)ECII|65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The system of evaluation of student attainments in a continuous process has been in vogue for years past at the University to the extent of 20 per cent in each examination.

The question of further modification of the system in the light of Education Commission recommendation will be examined by the Academic Council in due course.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-25|66-U2 dated the 9th October, 1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 26) Para—47

Considering that the teacher pupil ratio in Visva-Bharati is the highest amongst Indian Universities, the Committee cannot but regret that pass percentage is not higher than in other universities and in fact is even lower in some cases. They cannot too strongly stress the need for making sustained and systematic efforts to improve the pass percentage.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

It is expected that the intensification of tutorial work and closer individual attention to students will raise the percentage of success and bring about an over-all improvement.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 28) Para—49

The Committee suggest that the Centre of Advanced Study in Philosophy in Visva-Bharati University may lay equal if not, more

emphasis on the Indian Schools of thought and philosophy. In this connection they would like to mention among other schools Sankaracharya's philosophy which could well be the subject of further research and study.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Sufficient emphasis is already laid on Indian Philosophy at the M. A. stage. Steps will be taken to lay equal emphasis on Indian Philosophy at the B.A. stage also. Besides, there was a full course of Indian Philosophy for B.A. subsidiary. Steps will be shortly taken to revive that course. Sankaracharya's Philosophy along with other schools of Indian Philosophy is receiving due attention.

The University also runs another one-year course of Indian Philosophy for foreign students.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 29) Para—50

The Committee hope that the paintings of Acharya Nanda Lal Bose in Visva-Bharati University will be renovated and preserved carefully as they constitute veritable treasures of Indian Art.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Adequate provision has been made for work of renovation and preservation of the paintings of the Great Masters including Acharya Nandalal Bose which belong to and are in the possession of Visva-Bharati.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 30) Para—51

The Committee suggest that the question of suitably augmenting the activities of the History Department of Visva-Bharati University may be considered. They feel that the Department of History should have a senior Professor as its head. They would stress that there should be close coordination between the Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture and Department of History.

REPLY

The University Grants Commission has since sanctioned the post of a Professor in the Department of History and the appointment has been made to this post *w.e.f.* December, 1965.

The new Professor has been specifically requested to arrange closer collaboration between his department and the sister department of Ancient Indian History and Culture.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 31) Para—52

The Committee find that a large number of students applying for admission in B.Ed. courses in Visva-Bharati University are denied admission due to lack of hostel accommodation and practical teaching facilities. The Committee suggest that the question of increasing intake capacity in B.Ed. and M.Ed. courses by providing for practice teaching in other schools situated not far away from Visva-Bharati by making suitable transport arrangements may be considered. Considering the necessity of having trained teachers the Committee urge that hostel accommodation should be suitably increased to match the capacity for admissions in the Visva-Bharati.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The University Grants Commission has since sanctioned the construction of Hostel accommodation for more students at Vinaya-Bhavan (Teachers' Training College with B.Ed. and M.Ed. courses). This will permit an increase in the intake of students.

The practice teaching facilities will also be suitably increased by associating more secondary schools of the neighbourhood as and when the number of teacher-trainees register a rise and the present facilities are found inadequate.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 32) Para—56

The Committee attach considerable importance to the teaching of Rabindra Sangit in Visva-Bharati University. In fact this is one of the special features of this University. The Committee however note that adequate number of students are not forthcoming for admission in four year diploma course in Music and Dancing. This is stated to be due to the fact that the University does not award any degree in music and dance, even after four years teaching in the subject. The Committee suggest that the four year Diploma Course in Music and Dancing may be converted into a regular degree course. The Committee also suggest that in order to attract meritorius students from all over the country, the Sangit-Bhavana may

give necessary incentives by way of stipends fellowships etc. to deserving students. The Committee hope that Sangit Bhavana will preserve the high standard of notation laid down by Gurudev Tagore. The Committee also hope that steps will be taken to develop both North Indian Classical Music Section and Karnatic Music Section.

REPLY

The recommendation of the Estimates Committee for starting a degree course in Music in place of the present Diploma Course corroborates and supports the decision of the University already taken in this regard.

In its proposals for development under the Fourth Plan, the University has sent the same proposal to the University Grants Commission and has sought its sanction for a few teaching posts necessary for the purpose. The University Grants Commission would be giving due consideration to this while assessing the requirements of the University through the Visiting Committee to be appointed for the purpose.

There is provision for five merit scholarships of the monthly value of Rs. 50|- for new entrants in the Sangit-Bhavana renewable throughout his or her study at Sangit-Bhavana on condition of fair progress. Besides, the Government of West Bengal also grants 6 scholarships of Rs. 20.- p.m. every year to new students of Sangit Bhavana under the same conditions as stated in connection with the merit scholarships. The University feels that the merit scholarships are sufficiently attractive. The question of providing more stipends etc. may be reviewed when the set-up of the Bhavana has been reorganised, as contemplated above

When the present Diploma Course will be replaced by Degree Course, with the help of additional teachers, the University will make suitable arrangements for the introduction of courses in Karnatic Music, as desired by the Committee.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|85-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 33) Para—57

The Committee feel that Rabindra Bhavana deserves to be a separately maintained and developed as centre of research and higher studies on Gurudev Tagore and other thinkers whose thoughts and teachings have contributed to the development of Santiniketan and Visva-Bharati as a centre of universal culture. The Committee

note that there is no formal enrolment of students in Rabindra Bhavan, and recommend that Rabindra Bhavan should be open to research scholars and students from other universities also and should be developed as a centre of study of India's renaissance from the time of Raja Ram Mohan Roy upto the attainment of independence.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The development of Rabindra-Bhavan as a unique centre for the study of and research on the thoughts of Gurudev Tagore and his colleagues and contemporaries has been the accepted objective of Visva-Bharati. With this end in view, Vichitra that is, the building which houses Rabindra-Bhavan has recently been expanded out of the Rabindra Centenary Funds. The additional space will be utilised principally in arranging a Research Library and for research studies by scholars. The university is glad to report that already it is receiving research students from other Universities and foreign countries who come to work at the Rabindra-Bhavan, not only to undertake special studies on Rabindranath but also on Maharshi Debendranath, C.F. Andrews and other eminent people associated with Santiniketan.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 35) Para—60

The Committee hope that the requirements of Visva-Bharati University for agricultural land will be fully met as early as possible.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The State Government has been approached for rendering all necessary help towards acquisition of the land selected for the Agricultural College and it is hoped that the land will soon be available.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Please state the present position in the matter.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5/6(2) EC II-65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Land Acquisition proceedings regarding requisition of 33 acres of land have since been completed and the possession of land delivered

to the University. The total area of agricultural land now comes to 7572 acres (excluding 15 acres under orchard). The possibility of increasing the acreage still further is under active consideration of the authorities.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F 2-25|66-U2 dated the 9th October, 1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 36) Para—61

The Committee suggest that in a view of the increasing losses sustained in running the Dairy in Visva-Bharati, the University authorities should take remedial measures in consultation with experts to make the scheme run as far as possible at least on no-profit no-loss basis.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The Dairy, which was so long being managed by the Palli Samgathana Vibhaga, has been transferred to the Palli Siksha Sadana (College of Agriculture and Social Science) since September 1, 1965. Its progress under the new management is being watched.

It is expected that under the expert management of teachers of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, the dairy will be able to run on a no-profit no-loss basis.

Should the working of the Dairy continue to result in loss, an expert enquiry will be instituted.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 37) Para—62

The Committee note that the Palli Shiksha Sadana has come into being only recently in place of the Institute of Rural Higher Education at Sriniketan. The Institution has an important role to play in the development of agricultural and social sciences. The Committee suggest that an assessment of the working of the Palli Shiksha Sadana may be carried out with a view to further intensify the activities of this Institution.

REPLY

An expert Committee was appointed by the U.G.C. to assess the developmental needs of the Palli Siksha Sadana for their four year degree course in Agriculture. The Report of the Committee was accepted by the U.G.C. in their meeting held on the 1st December,

1965. The University has been requested to take further action in the matter.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 38) Para—63

The Committee are glad to note that the Social Education Organisers' Training Centre of Visva-Bharati University is doing useful work in training the rural workers and thereby contributing towards the uplift of rural population. They hope that the work of this Centre will be further intensified.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The activities of the centre have further been expanded by undertaking a Home Economic Training Centre (Training Institute for Gram Sevikas) due to start shortly and by accepting the responsibility to run Applied Nutrition courses for the benefit of village level workers.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 39) Para—66

The Committee are glad to note that new schemes relating to Contributory Provident Fund-cum-Gratuity and General Provident Fund-cum-Pension-cum-Gratuity are proposed to be introduced for the benefit of the employees of the Central Universities. They hope that the Schemes will be finalised and put into force early.

REPLY

The Schemes relating to contributory provident fund-cum-gratuity and general provident fund-cum-pension-cum-gratuity have been finalised by the University and sent to the University Grants Commission. However, it has been decided that 'Model' statutes would be framed by the UGC for adoption by the Central Universities. The 'Model' statutes are being finalised in consultation with the Central Government.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Please state present position of the matter.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O. M. No. 5|6(2) EC-II|65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The University authorities have been asked to revise its statutes in the light of the finalised rules prepared by UGC in respect of the Central Universities Employees Retirement Benefit Rules.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-25/66-U2, dated the 9th October, 1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 41) Para—69

The Committee appreciate that the Visva-Bharati University has made physical education compulsory and hope that adequate facilities by way of play-grounds, gymnasia, swimming pools etc. will be provided at an early date. They also emphasise the necessity of providing separate facilities for girl students who constitute almost half of the total enrolment in the University.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Proposals for the provision of more play grounds, gymnasia etc. have been submitted to the University Grants Commission for sanction under the 4th development Plan.

The extensive play ground in front of the Girls' Hostels is being exclusively used by the girl students and the very young boys and girls of the primary section of the school. The grown-up boys use the play grounds adjacent to the Administrative Buildings.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6/65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 42) Para—70

The Committee are distressed to note that there is no Lady Doctor in the medical units of Visva-Bharati even though half of its students consist of girls. Although the post of a Lady Doctor has been lately sanctioned, it is yet to be filled up. The Committee cannot too strongly urge the need for improving the medical facilities for the benefit of the student community. They recommend that there should be a female ward attached to the hospital. They also suggest that a thorough medical check-up of students may be undertaken periodically.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

A fully qualified Lady Doctor has since been appointed.

A female ward of the hospital has been planned and work of remodelling the old Kala-Bhavana Building has been undertaken for the purpose. The new ward is expected to be ready by March 1, 1966.

The recommendation of the Committee suggesting periodical medical check-up of students is being looked into by the University.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6/65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966]

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF GOVERNMENT'S REPLY

Recommendation (Serial No. 1) Para No. 13

The Committee note that the Visva-Bharati authorities did not take any specific action on the Report of the Samsad Committee appointed to consider realisation and furtherance of the objectives laid down in the First Schedule of the Visva-Bharati Act. The Committee are unhappy that instead of being preserved as a distinctive and unique institution as conceived by Gurudev Tagore, Visva-Bharati has in the course of time been tending to conform to the normal pattern of Universities. While the Committee note that the pressure of time has largely motivated a change in the character of Visva-Bharati, they see no reason why positive efforts should not have been made to resist the pressure of time and to sustain and further the achievement of the objectives as laid down in the Act. The Committee suggest that the Visva-Bharati University may carry out an appraisal of the success so far achieved in realising the objectives as set out in the First Schedule of the Act and decide what further measures are necessary in that direction. The Committee hope that attempts will be made "to seek to realise, in a common fellowship of study, the meeting of East and West" as laid down in the First Schedule so that the reputation of Visva-Bharati as a Centre of Oriental Philosophy and learning may continue to grow and the University may attract as before, eminent scholars and thinkers from all over the world.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Comparing the present with the past, it can be said that there has been no deviation from the ideals except to the extent inevitable because of march of time and of conversion of an Ashrama into a body corporate governed by Parliamentary Act and financed by the University Grants Commission who deal with all Central Universities more or less according to a uniform policy. In the nature of things, therefore, Visva-Bharati has generally to conform to the normal pattern of Universities, but it still retains its Ashramic ideals with the result that student indiscipline is a rare phenomenon in Visva-Bharati with its background of respect of the students for their

teachers and the love of teachers for their students and of common fellowship of ideals and doctrines which form part of the legacy from the Founder.

The Visva-Bharati is aware of and alive to the objectives as set out in the First Schedule to the Act and is constantly assessing and reassessing its growth and requirements in that behalf, and when in future any special assessment or appraisal will be necessary, Visva-Bharati will take necessary action.

In particular, the objectives of the meeting of the East and the West and of promoting the study of the different cultures of the East are being pursued by setting up the Centre of Advanced Study in Philosophy, by study of and research in Chinese, Japanese and Tibetan in Cheena-Bhavana and by the departments of Comparative Religion and Islamic Studies.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6/65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the Ashramic ideals cherished by Gurudev Tagore and those which are being actually maintained by the Visva-Bharati University now.

(Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5|(6) (2)ECII|66 dated 8-12-1966)

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

In the early period of this Century an experimental school, which had its genesis in the reaction which the joyless, mechanical system of education then prevailing in the country had on the Poet's mind, was started by Rabindranath at Santiniketan with a few students on the roll. The idea was to provide them with an education which was not divorced from nature, so that the pupils could feel that they were members of a larger community, and thus grow up in an atmosphere of freedom, mutual trust and joy. It was after the Tapovana ideals that Gurudeva tried to model his newly founded institute.

Students here live in a community life—they dine in the same halls, play in the same grounds, organise common social, picnics, excursion, literary meetings and musical entertainments. A chief guiding principle is that a student should neither neglect the development of any of the major human faculties nor cultivate some at the expense of others.

Gurudeva tried to develop in the students of his institution the freshness of their feeling for Nature, a sensitiveness of soul in their

relationship with their human surroundings, with the help of literature, festive ceremonials and also the religious teaching. He prepared for his children a real home-coming into this world. Among other subjects learnt in the open air classes under the shade of trees, the pupils have their music and painting; they have their dramatic performances, activities that are the expression of life. The seasonal festivals of the Ashrama like Varshamangal (Festivals of Rains), Sarodotsava (Autumn Festival) and Basontotsava (Spring Festival) etc. which bring out best the affinity that exists between man and nature, are celebrated by the students and workers in the traditional Indian fashion. The students leave their beds every morning at the scheduled time and join the Vaitalik (morning assembly). They attend the Mandir (Prayer-hall) every Wednesday. They maintain proper discipline in the class-room and on the play-fields and are considerable and serviceable to each other at festive parties and other co-curricular activities. After dusk they return to the hostel for study. They perform such daily round of tasks and diversions in a perfect spirit of grace never giving occasion to conflicts and confusion. No student has any right to overrule the judgement given by an 'Adhyapaka'. Every year at some fixed times students are taken out on travels. They are thus given an opportunity of developing resourcefulness and hardihood. The Poet recognised the educational value of the co-educational system and he had introduced it in his institute.

Gurudeva thought of Santiniketan as a place, where the ideals of life and wisdom contributed by the different countries of Asia, would be cultivated; where the wealth of ancient learning might be brought into living contact with modern influences. Tagore also believed that India must base her own structure on a synthesis of all the different cultures she has. Since then Visva-Bharati has been playing an important role in preserving, maintaining and nourishing our traditional culture in arts, music, painting, sculpture and other fields and has strongly resisted all blind imitations.

The practical idealism of Tagore found shape in the institute of Rural Reconstruction at Sriniketan. He brought the students and workers of Visva-Bharati into close touch with daily life of the common people of the neighbouring villages through the activities of this institute.

These ideals cherished by Gurudeva are now actually being maintained by the University.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-25|66-U2 dated 2nd March, 1967]

Recommendation (Serial No. 5) Para—18

As school education comes within the purview of the State Government, the Committee suggest that the University may approach the State Government for financing the maintenance cost of schools in Visva-Bharati.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

This question was once raised in 1960 by the then Chairman of the University Grants Commission. The University, however, maintained that the School department was an integral part of the educational institution started and carried on by Gurudeva which eventually was incorporated as a University by the Visva-Bharati Act, 1951 and this composite institution was a "University" within the meaning of the U. G. C. Act. The matter was referred to the then Attorney General of India for opinion. His views are reproduced below:

"The whole of the Visva-Bharati institution including the Patha-Bhavana is a University within the meaning of the Visva-Bharati Act and therefore the entire institution is a University within the meaning of the U. G. C. Act. All parts and sections are constituent parts and sections of the University."

The opinion was accepted by the Government of India and the U. G. C. continued to finance the Patha-Bhavana and the Siksha-Satra. Under the circumstances, it is difficult for the University to re-open the issue or to treat its schools as an entity different from the corporate body and to look forward to the State Government for financing their maintenance cost exclusively. Such course, if adopted, will introduce dual control in the administration of the University. It may be mentioned in this connection that although no grant is paid by the State Government specifically for Patha-Bhavana, they do pay an annual grant of Rs. 40,000 to the General revenues of Visva-Bharati (Santiniketan) and in addition Rs. 50,000 per annum to Palli Samgathana Vibhaga at Sriniketan.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 13) Para—32

The Committee note that while the engineering staff in Visva-Bharati University was appointed for an approximate maintenance expenditure of Rs. 4 to 5 lakhs, the actual expenditure has been much

less (Rs. 1.80 lakhs in 1962-63 and Rs. 2.87 lakhs in 1963-64). They suggest that a review of the strength of the engineering staff in relation to actual maintenance expenditure incurred during recent years may be undertaken in order to effect economy.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

It is to be pointed out that the strength of the Engineering staff was fixed in 1962 by the U. G. C. in consultation with the C. P. W. D. for the purpose of maintenance as also for construction (Capital) works costing Rs. 1,00,000 and below, and not for maintenance works alone. Even in case of projects costing more than Rs. 1,00,000, all the works are done by the Engineering Department, except the works of designing and drawing plans and estimates (for building portion only) which are done by the appointed Architects. Unlike P. W. Division where there is separate division for survey, design, road works, public health engineering, all these works in Visva-Bharati are done by the existing Engineering Department. Besides, the Department has to look after telephone, electricity and sanitation. There is also a regularly constituted Store Sub-Division under the charges of the Engineering Department.

Figures of expenditure of Rs. 1.80 lakhs and Rs. 2.87 lakhs as supplied earlier did not include the capital works costing less than Rs. 1,00,000, and other items of works mentioned above. The correct figures of expenditure will therefore be as below:—

Year	Maintenance	Capital work costing less than Rs. 1 lakh	Total
1962-63	3,81,613.00	9,11,477.00	12,93,090.00
1963-64	9,54,208.00	11,93,661.00	21,47,869.00
1964-65	5,66,948.00	8,43,179.00	14,10,127.00

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-6/65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 14) Para—34

The Committee hope that the Kuljian Corporation, whose rates appear to be competitive, would complete the design work in time. The Committee suggest that to ensure submission and finalisation of architectural designs within the time limit, a suitable clause to this effect may be included in the Agreement so that in the event of infringement of this clause suitable penalty could be imposed.

The Committee need hardly stress that the architectural style of new University buildings should be in conformity with the spirit and tradition of the Visva-Bharati University.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Committee's suggestions are under examination and if possible will be given effect to when new contracts are entered into. The University is conscious of views expressed by the Committee regarding architectural style. Indeed designs of buildings constructed by private donations are quite in keeping with the traditions of the University.

[Ministry of Education O. M. No. F. 2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED BY THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Please state whether the Kuljian Corporation could complete or have agreed to complete the design work in time. Please also state the result of the examination of the Committees recommendation.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5|6(2) EC-II|65 dated the 16th March, 1967.]

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Kuljian Corporation India Pvt. Ltd. have already completed the designs and detailed drawings in respect of the five incomplete projects left midway by the previous architect. One new project, viz. Library building of Advance Centre of Study in Philosophy, has also been entrusted to the Corporation and they have kept to the time schedule.

[Ministry of Education O. M. No. F. 2-25|66-U2 dated the 9th October, 1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 19) Para—41

While the Committee recognise the importance of the teaching of science, they urge that the attention and resources of Visva-Bharati may not be so diverted that the studies of humanities and cultural subjects may suffer in any way as these are the special features and the real spirit for the foundation of the Visva-Bharati. The Committee also recognise the importance of developing science subjects upto the Higher Secondary course so that the students intending to join engineering and technical courses may have the requisite facilities. The Committee have not been quite happy at the opening of

science courses at the graduate level but now that these have been opened, the Committee feel that no further expansion of science courses should be allowed to affect the intrinsic and special features of the University. Keeping in view the special position of Visva-Bharati as a centre of arts and culture, the Committee suggest that the intake capacity in the science courses at the University level may be limited to a prescribed minimum so that the number of students seeking admission for humanities and cultural subjects may not be adversely affected.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The University has no proposal of expanding its Science courses beyond the minimum that is required of a University in this age of Science. The expansion of Science at the cost of Humanities and Cultural Studies has never been the intention of the University.

Admissions to Science Courses at the University level are necessarily limited by the laboratory facilities available and it has never been the intention to create any serious shrinkage in the admission of students in courses in Humanities. A comparative statement of the present strength of students in Science and Humanities courses as given below will give a clear picture of the above statement:

(1) Courses in Science.....	297	As at the beginning of the 1965-66 academic session.
(2) Courses in Humanities.....	474	

Both in emphasis and in the number of students admitted, Humanities will always hold the premier position in Visva-Bharati. It has, however, to be mentioned that in order to induce its own Patha-Bhavana students to stay on and join the degree course and to attract more students with a view to reducing the teacher-student ratio and consequently the per capita expenses, it became necessary to introduce Degree Course in Science subjects and it may be necessary to start post-graduate science course for its own science graduates, as otherwise such graduates will get hardly any chance of admission to post-graduate courses elsewhere.

It is also felt that the environment and atmosphere of Visva-Bharati will be able to help science students here to develop as composite balanced citizens, and so it is desirable that those who seek higher education in science should not be deprived of education here.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 21) Para—42

Now that science teaching has been introduced in the Visva-Bharati University, the Committee hope that the minimum foreign exchange requirement of the University for science would be carefully assessed and provision for the same made so that the University may obtain essential scientific equipment, books etc. which are not available in the country.

REPLY

The allocation of foreign exchange to the University would be based on the foreign exchange which may be made available to the University Grants Commission by the Government of India.

[Ministry of Education O. M. No. F. 2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED BY THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Please state whether an assessment about the foreign exchange requirement of the University for science has been made. Please also state the actual foreign exchange provided to the University against this requirement.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O. M. No. 5|6(2) EC-II|65 dated the 16th March, 1967.]

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

An amount of Rs. 30,000 of foreign exchange has been allocated by the U. G. C. to Visva-Bharati for the import of scientific equipment during the licensing period for 1966-67. An assessment about the foreign exchange requirement of the University for scientific equipment has also been made within the ceiling of allocated amount.

Out of the list of equipment to be imported for Rs. 30,000 the D. G. T. & D. has not cleared the equipment worth of Rs. 10,000 as the same is indigenously available. The list of equipment for another 10,000 is under the consideration of D. G. T. & D. A list of issue of import licence for receiving equipment for Rs. 10,000 has been referred to the issuing authority.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-25|66-U2 dated the 9th October, 1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 40) Para—67

The Committee hope that staff quarters will be provided to all employees of Visva-Bharati University who are really in need of such quarters by the end of the Fourth Plan.

REPLY

The University is making all possible efforts to provide its staff with quarters within the 4th Plan period. Proposals for construction of staff quarters costing Rs. 13,50,000 have been submitted to the University Grants Commission. This would be considered by the University Grants Commission, along with the Fourth Plan proposals of the University.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED BY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Please state present position in the matter.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5/6(2) EC-II/65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

It is expected that position in this regard will be eased considerably by the end of Fourth Plan period as the final sanctions regarding construction of 60 staff quarters in the second phase will be decided after the proposed visit of the Visiting Committee of the University Grants Commission.

[Ministry of Education O. M. No. F. 2-25/66-U2, dated the 9th October, 1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 45) Para—73

The Committee feel that there should not be any attempt to make Visva-Bharati University deviate from its traditions and ideals and turn it into an ordinary University like any other University of India. Every effort should be made to maintain its distinctive features and to promote the spirit of synthetic study of the cultural development of India in relation to the other cultures of the world.

The Committee also feel that as this University within a small campus contains educational institutions from the primary stage to the Master's degree and research stage and as its educational trend is more on the side of fine arts and culture with a particular bias for the revival of rural culture, arts and industry, this University can be developed as a centre of many social and educational experiments. The Committee realise that on account of all these special features, the per capita expenditure of the teacher-student ratio of this University may be somewhat higher than in other Universities. But the Committee expect that this extra expenditure will be fully

recompensed by better quality of teaching not only for academic education but also for character building, so that the ideals with which Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore started this University may find its fulfilment.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Reply to recommendation No. 1 covers this also.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the Ashramin ideals cherished by Gurudev Tagore and those which are being actually maintained by the Visva-Bharati University now.

(Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5/ (6) (2) ECII/66 dated 8-12-66)

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

[Further reply to recommendation No. 1 covers this also.]

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Recommendation (Serial No. 6) Para—20

The Committee suggest that the Visva-Bharati University may consider the desirability of appointing a full-time Finance Officer with head-quarters at Santiniketan in terms of the recommendations of the University Grants Commission.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

As regards the suggestion for the appointment of a whole-time Finance Officer with head-quarters at Santiniketan it may be stated that the reason for having the head-quarters of the Artha-Sachiva in Calcutta is more or less historical. The Ashrama was financed by Gurudeva from proceeds of his writings. The publication department was in Calcutta and is still in Calcutta and it is considered disadvantageous to remove it from Calcutta for well established commercial reason. Further, Investments are made in Calcutta by the Treasurer through the State Bank of India.

The Artha-Sachiva is an ex-officio member of the Karma-Samiti and of the Samsad and in practice he ranks immediately below the Upacharya and presides at the meetings in the absence of the Upacharya. Any change in the existing structure is not considered necessary.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

*The Committee are not convinced by the arguments advanced by the Government. They, therefore, reiterate their recommendation.**

Recommendation (Serial No. 18) Para—40

The Committee hope that by increasing the intake of students and thereby reducing the teacher-student ratio, Visva-Bharati University will in due course be able to reduce the High per capita expenditure (i.e. expenditure per student per annum).

*At the time of the factual verification the Ministry have stated, "The Registrar, Visva-Bharati has intimated that the office of its Treasurer has since been shifted from Calcutta to Santiniketan."

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

As has been stated the University is earnestly attempting to increase its intake of students and to bring down the per-capita expenditure. (expenditure per student per annum).

[Ministry of Education O. M. No. F. 2-6/65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED BY THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O. M. No. 5/6(2)EC-II/65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

Please state the per capita expenditure in Visva-Bharati University during the years 1964-65 and 1965-66.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Year	Per Capita Expenditure
1964-65	Rs. 2326/-
1965-66	Rs. 2650/-

"Only the expenditure of a recurring nature on the Plan and Non-Plan items and the total enrolment in all the institutions maintained by the University has been taken into account while working out the annual per-capita expenditure of the University.

[Ministry of Education O. M. No. F. 2-25/66-U2, dated the 29th March, 1968].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee note that the per capita expenditure during 1965-66 has registered an increase over the figures for 1964-65. They would like to be informed in due course about the per capita expenditure during 1966-67 and 1967-68 as also the number of students admitted during these years.

CHAPTER V

RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED

Recommendation (Serial No. 10) Para—29

The Committee realise that due to great financial stringency, a portion of the Andrews Memorial Fund had to be diverted and they also appreciate the anxiety of the Visva-Bharati authorities to replenish the Fund and they have already started doing it. The Committee hope that this will be done at the early date, so that it may be possible to erect without delay a suitable memorial to Deenabandhu Andrews whose association with Gurudev and contributions to the Santiniketan and Visva-Bharati are well-recognised. The Committee also hope that the State Government will make some suitable contribution to the Fund, as it is proposed to establish a Hospital in memory of Late Deenabandhu Andrews.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

A modest beginning towards the establishment of the Deenabandhu Andrews Memorial Hospital has already been made by starting a Chest Clinic at the proposed site of the hospital. The Chest clinic manned by the University Medical staff also provides general out-door medical attendance to patients on fixed days of the week.

The University proposes to approach the State Government for a suitable contribution towards building the hospital as soon as its own fund for the purpose, has been rebuilt to sizeable extent. The Union Government has also been approached in this behalf.

[Ministry of Education O. M. No. F. 2-6/65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

(Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5/ (6) (2) ECII/66 dt. 8-12-66)

Please state the results of the request for contribution made to the Central Government for putting up a suitable memorial to Deenabandhu Andrews and also the latest position in approaching the State Government for such contribution.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

It has been decided that the memory of Deenabandhu Andrews shall be preserved by setting up a hospital for the benefit of the rural population. As this will require a big sum of money, the University is trying to build up a sizeable fund for the purpose. Already the fund amounts to Rs. 2,46,327.77. The University proposes to approach the Central as well as the State Governments for help as soon as the fund goes upto Rs. 3 (three) lacs or thereabout.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-25/67-U2, dated the 23rd March, 1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Final action taken in the matter may be intimated.

Recommendation (Serial No. 11) Para—30

The Committee are of the view that provision of municipal services such as maintenance of roads, water supply etc. and running of schools and hospitals in the Visva-Bharati University campus should appropriately be the responsibility of the State Government. They suggest that the State Government may be approached by the University for assistance for these purposes. The Committee feel that the University should be able to realise proper charges from the private houses situated in the campus area for any municipal services rendered by it. They hope that early decision will be taken on the question of declaration of the campus as a notified area.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The suggestions offered by the committee are under examination of the University legal Experts and it is proposed to take suitable steps as soon as the opinion is received. It may be mentioned here that certain amenities by way of maintenance of roads and water supply are being given to persons living within the University Campus on nominal charges. The desirability of declaring the campus as a notified area is under consideration.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1965].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 516(2), EC-II/65, dated the 16th March, 1967].

Please state the present position in the matter.

[Reply awaited]

Recommendation (Serial No. 16) Para—38

As lack of hostel accommodation is a limiting factor in the admission of larger number of candidates in the Visva-Bharati University, the Committee suggest that high-priority may be given to the construction of hostels.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The University has submitted its development plans for the Fourth Plan period, in which, the highest priority and maximum importance have been placed on the construction of Hostels. Ten hostels each for 100 students, have been included in the proposals, involving an expenditure of approximately 50 lacs of Rupees.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5|6(2) EC-II|65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

Please state the latest position in the matter including reaction of the University Grants Commission|Central Government to the proposals of the University.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The proposal of the University for construction of hostels will be duly considered by the Visiting Committee to be appointed by the University Grants Commission shortly to consider the development requirements of the University.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-25/66-U2, dated the 30th June, 1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Final action taken in the matter may be intimated.

Recommendation (Serial No. 20) Para—41

Considering that Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore took special interest in folk religion, the University may consider the feasibility of undertaking studies in folk religion Lokayat Dharma, mediaeval Vaishnava reformers, Indian philosophy, comparative religion etc.

In view of the fact that there are different school of Indian philosophy, the Committee suggest that facilities may be created in certain selected universities for specialised studies and research of

different Indian philosophies. The Committee feel that Jain philosophy has not received due attention in any university for special study. They also feel that either the Banaras Hindu University or the Visva-Bharati University each having a Centre of Advanced Study in Philosophy may be eminently suited for studies in Jain philosophy.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The University has already started B.A. Honours Course in Comparative Religion where there is provision for the study of the main Indian Religions along with tribal religions of India. There are one Professor and two Lecturers for the course. The Professor, in addition to his usual class lectures, has to address the public on different religions.

As regards Indian Philosophy, this comprises about half the course in Philosophy at the B.A. and M.A. stages. The Advanced Centre at Visva-Bharati is meant mainly for Metaphysics and actually as much emphasis is laid on Indian Philosophy as on Western. Exclusive emphasis is laid on Indian Philosophy in Advanced Centres at Banaras and Madras.

As for special study of Jainism, there is at present no provision for it at Visva-Bharati. However, a special full paper on Jainism is all that is possible at the M.A. stage. This again will involve a stretching of our resources.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5|6(2) EC-II|65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

Please state the steps taken by the University Grants Commission/Central Government to have special study of Jainism either at Banaras Hindu University or Visva Bharati University.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Visiting Committee would consider the University's proposals and if the University so desires it could include it under its first priority schemes.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-25/66-U2, dated the 30th June, 1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Final action taken in the matter may be intimated.

Recommendation (Serial No. 22) Para—43

The Committee suggest that the University Grants Commission may review the general Education facilities available in Visva-Bharati University with a view to suggest improvements and to their adoption as a model in other universities where it does not exist at present.

REPLY

The matter is under the consideration of the University Grants Commission in consultation with the University.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-6|65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5|6(2)EC-II|65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

Please state the latest position in the matter.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The proposal of the Visva-Bharati for general education was considered by the Standing Committee on General Education set up by the University Grants Commission which has recommended that the Committee may visit and examine the proposal.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-25/66, dated the 9th October, 1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Final action taken in the matter may be intimated.

Recommendation (Serial No. 27) Para—48

The Committee note that facilities exist in the Visva-Bharati University for studies in Arabic, Persian, Japanese, Chinese and Tibetan. In view of India's close relations with South-East Asian countries, the Committee suggest that the question of imparting teaching in selected South-East Asian languages, viz. Burmese, Malaya, Thai, Indonesian etc. in Visva-Bharati University and some other selected Indian universities may be considered.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The University will be willing to open language courses in selected South-East Asian languages like Burmese, Thai, Indonesian, Malaya etc. provided the University Grants Commission sanction teaching posts for these subjects and make additional provision for these posts in the maintenance grant paid to the University.

It may be mentioned that the University has since been asked to reduce its expenditure and to adjust its budget to a 10 per cent reduced maintenance grant in 1966-67. It is therefore not possible for the Visva-Bharati to implement the proposals for starting new courses at this stage, unless it be sanctioned by the University Grants Commission.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6/65-U2, dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the action taken by the University Grants Commission|Central Government on the recommendation.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5/8(2)EC-II/65 dated the 16th March, 1967].

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The University has not sent any specific proposals in this regard. In case, any such proposal is received it could be considered on merits.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F. 2-25/66-U2, dated the 30th June, 1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee may be informed about the specific proposals sent to the U. G. C. in this regard by the Visva-Bharati University and if so, with what results.

Recommendation (Serial No. 34) Para—58

The Committee agree with the views of the Visiting Committee appointed by the University Grants Commission that Cheena-Bhavana has not been very productive for a long time. They suggest that the Department may undertake intensive study of the history and culture of not only China, but also of Japan, Tibet, Korea, Mongolia etc. with particular reference to the influence of Indian

culture on those countries and vice versa and also with the development of Mahayana philosophy.

The Committee would suggest that the present political tension with China should not in any way affect studies and research in our cultural relations with what may be called the 'Mongolian World' as India had very intimate cultural contacts with those people.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Visva-Bharati Cheena-Bhavana offers language courses in Chinese leading to certificate and Diploma in that language. Chinese is taught up to the Honours level. The Honours course in Chinese contains, besides language and literature, an outline of the cultural history of China. Research on Buddhism in China and on the results of Sino-Indian contact through the ages are being conducted in the Cheena-Bhavana. The Visva-Bharati Department of Indo-Tibetan Studies similarly promotes study and Research in the Cultural relations between India and Tibet. Japanese is being taught only as a language.

The further expansion of these departments and the opening of new departments for the study of Korean and Mongolian languages and culture will depend on increased financial assistance from the U.G.C.

The recommendations of the Committee will be kept in view and implemented when budgetary position will permit the University to adopt new plans of development.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-6|65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMISSION

Please state the action taken by the University Grants Commission/Central Government on the recommendations.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5/6(2)EC-II/65 dated 16-3-1967].

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Visiting Committee would consider the University's proposals and if the University so desires it could include it under its first priority schemes.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-25|66-U2 dated the 30th June, 1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Final action taken in the matter may be intimated.

Recommendation (Serial No. 43) Para—71

The Committee have already noted in their report on Delhi University that the scheme of hobby workshop in that University has not been successful. The Committee suggest that the U.G.C. may review the Hobby Workshop scheme in general before it is introduced in Visva-Bharati University.

REPLY.

The Scheme relating to Hobby Workshop has been examined and assessed by a Committee, a copy of the Report is reproduced in the Annexure. The U.G.C. have noted the recommendations contained in the Report which is being circulated to Universities.

The Scheme is already under implementation in Visva-Bharati University. A report is being obtained from the University for review of the Scheme.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-6/65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state whether Hobby Workshop scheme has been reviewed by the Visva-Bharati University in the light of the Report of the Evaluation Committee on Hobby Workshop, and if so, the results of the review may be intimated.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5|6(2) EC-II|65 dated the 18th March, 1967].

[REPLY AWAITED]

ANNEXURE

REPORT OF THE EVALUATION COMMITTEE ON HOBBY WORKSHOPS

The Review Committee on Hobby Workshops met in the office of the University Grants Commission on the 1st December, 1965. The following were present:—

- (1) Shri D. C. Pavate,
Vice-Chancellor, Karnatak University, Dharwar.
- (2) Shri S. C. Sen,
Principal,
Delhi College of Engineering, Delhi.
- (3) Shri Abul Kalam,
Principal, Arts College,
Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi.
- (4) Dr. R. C. Gupta,
Development Officer,
University Grants Commission, New Delhi.
- (5) Dr. (Mrs.) Vina Mazumdar,
Education Officer,
University Grants Commission, New Delhi.

The Committee considered the replies received from various colleges and universities to the questionnaire regarding the implementation of the hobby workshops scheme, and the reports of the two sub-committees which visited the hobby workshops in the Delhi University, St. Stephen's College, Sri Ram College of Commerce, B.S.A. College, Mathura and Hindu College, Sonapat. It was observed that most of the colleges and universities which received the Commission's assistance under the scheme had completed the hobby workshops buildings and purchased some equipment for the hobbies selected by them. Though a number of workshops established with the Commission's assistance have shown good results, the response in some cases had been poor. Many institutions have referred to the difficulty of finding suitable instructors within the frame work of the scheme as well as the lack of time for the pursuit of hobbies by students, particularly because the N.C.C. training had become compulsory.

The Committee made the following suggestions:

- (1) There is need for consolidating the present position and improving the functioning of the hobby workshops established with the Commission's assistance in cases where they are not working satisfactorily. For the present in view of the low priority given to the hobby workshops scheme by most colleges and universities, it may not be desirable to accord fresh sanctions.
- (2) The objectives of this scheme have to be clearly understood and its value and utility have to be brought home to the student community. The scheme can help the students by developing their aptitude for mechanical skill and manual work, and can enable them to learn useful crafts.
- (3) Instructional facilities provided in the hobby workshops have to be improved. It would be desirable for the colleges concerned to send some of their teachers or instructors to appropriate institutions for obtaining the necessary training in various crafts and hobbies. An effort should be made to utilise services of teachers (particularly science teachers) who are interested in scheme.
- (4) Institutions at present have little guidance regarding the necessary equipment they should purchase for the pursuit of various hobbies. Some institutions have bought expensive equipment, particularly in the field of electronics, which is not of much use in their workshops. It would be useful to prepare standard lists of equipment particularly electronics, wood and metal work for the guidance of the institutions concerned.
- (5) Detailed reports on hobby workshops in institutions where they have worked extraordinarily well could be circulated to other institutions for information and guidance.
- (6) It may be useful to bring out a small illustrated brochure giving full information about hobby workshops and offering concrete suggestions for their successful working. If possible, references to similar ventures in foreign universities should be made.

Recommendation (Serial No. 44) Para—72

The Committee consider it desirable that a Gandhi Bhavana is set up in Visva-Bharati University to promote study of Gandhian

philosophy and outlook of life and to perpetuate the memory of Mahatma Gandhi who was an inmate of Santiniketan for some months and intimately associated with Gurudev Tagore.

REPLY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The University proposes to take up the matter with the University Grants Commission. It hopes, that with financial assistance from the University Grants Commission, it will be able to set up its Gandhi Bhavana by the Centenary year of Mahatmaji in 1969.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F.2-6/65-U2 dated the 7th April, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the action taken by the University Grants Commission/Central Government on the recommendations.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5(6) (2) ECII/65 dated 16-3-1967]

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The University has not so far included any scheme for Gandhi Bhavan in their Fourth Plan Proposals.

[Ministry of Education O.M. No. F2-25/66-U2 dated the 30th June, 1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Final action taken in the matter may be intimated.

NEW DELHI;
March 26, 1969

Chaitra 5, 1891 (Saka)

P. VENKATASUBBAIAH
Chairman,
Estimates Committee.

APPENDIX

Analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Eighty Third Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha)

1.	Total number of recommendations ..	45
2.	Recommendations which have been accepted by Government (<i>vide</i> recommendations No. 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 12, 15, 17, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42 included in Chapter II).	
	Number	26
	Percentage to total	58%
3.	Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply (<i>vide</i> recommendations No. 1, 5, 13, 14, 19, 21, 40, 45 included in Chapter III).	
	Number	8
	Percentage to total	18%
4.	Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee (<i>vide</i> recommendations No. 6 and 18 included in Chapter IV).	
	Number	2
	Percentage to total	4%
5.	Recommendations in respect of which final reply of Government is still awaited (<i>vide</i> recommendations No. 10, 11, 16, 20, 22, 27, 34, 43, 44 included in Chapter V).	
	Number ..	9
	Percentage to total	20%

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