

Fourteenth Loksabha

Session : 6

Date : 20-12-2005

Participants : Mukherjee Shri Pranab, Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore, Oram Shri Jual, Satpathy Shri Tathagata, Oram Shri Jual, Mukherjee Shri Pranab

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Title : Statement regarding the reported decision of the Government to change the location of the proposed National Institute Science from Bhubaneshwar to Kolkata.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Leader of the House, Shri Pranab Mukherjee to make a Statement.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, with your permission, I would like to respond to an issue which was raised by an hon. Member, Shri Tripathy and some other hon. Members representing the State of Orissa a few days back. The hon. Members wanted to know whether the Government has decided to change the location of National Institute of Science from Bhubaneshwar to Kolkata. I assured the hon. Members that I will ascertain the facts and we will inform the House.

Sir, the facts have been ascertained and I am told by the Ministry of Human Resource Development that on 9th April, 2003, the University Grants Commission (UGC) had taken a decision in its meeting to establish four Centres for Studies in Integrated Sciences at Allahabad, Chennai, Bhubaneshwar and Pune. These Centres were proposed to be established under Section 12(ccc) of the UGC Act. Vide this Section of the UGC Act, University Grants Commission is empowered to establish, in accordance with the regulation made under the UGC Act, institutions for providing common facilities and programmes for a group of Universities or for the Universities in general^[t7].

*Also placed in Library, See No. LT 3383/05

The [r8]Ministry of Human Resource Development, vide its letter dated 9th June, 2003 – these dates are important – had raised a query whether the UGC is legally empowered to set up such educational Centres under section 12 (ccc) of the UGC Act. The matter was further examined in detail in the Ministry of HRD in consultation with the Ministry of Law. The Ministry of Law categorically opined that the UGC cannot establish the proposed Centres for Studies in Integrated Sciences under Sections 12 (ccc) or 12 (j) of the UGC Act. The UGC was accordingly informed by the Ministry vide its letter dated October 28, 2003. As such, the UGC's proposal to establish four Centres for Studies in Integrated Sciences under sections 12 (ccc) or 12 (j) of the UGC Act at Allahabad, Bhubaneswar, Chennai and Pune could not materialise.

The Government of India has at no time approved the setting up of Institutes, as proposed by the UGC. The Chairman, UGC, thereafter informed the Government vide his letter dated November 26, 2003 that the UGC would like to facilitate setting up these institutions as fully autonomous institutions under the universities in which these institutions are to be established. Even this proposal was never agreed to by the Government. Therefore, so far as the previous Government is concerned, from April 2003 to May 2004, it did not take that decision, as proposed by the UGC.

Now, there is a question that they have raised about an institution to be established at Kolkata. The Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, in its meeting held on 4th March, 2005, in New Delhi, under the Chairmanship of Prof. C.N.R. Rao recommended the creation of two new institutes devoted to science education and research and also recommended that they may be located at Pune and Kolkata. It was at the recommendation of the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister that the process of setting up of these two institutes at Pune and Kolkata was initiated by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. As there was no decision by the Central Government at any time, to set up a science institute at Bhubaneswar, the question of

shifting of the science institute from Bhubaneswar to Kolkata does not arise. Therefore, it cannot be said that the Institute has been shifted from Bhubaneswar to Kolkata.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY Sir, it is most unfortunate that the hon. Minister of Defence has made such a statement in this House. The UGC has taken a decision. ...
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, please sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : This is a complete neglect of our State. ...
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can give a notice to discuss this.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : The previous Government has not rejected it. The UGC, in consultation with the Government, had taken a decision. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: As per rules, when an hon. Minister makes a statement, no questions are allowed to be asked. You can give a notice for a discussion. That would be considered by the hon. Speaker and time would be allotted. But you cannot raise questions at this stage.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : This is a neglect of our State. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I agree that it might be an important matter for you but the rules do not permit any questions to be asked now.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : The hon. Prime Minister should come and reply on the floor of the House. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry hon. Members. I would not deviate from the rules. I would strictly follow the rules. Please allow me. Please co-operate. You can give a notice for discussion.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : We have already given a notice. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can have a discussion in a proper manner. Rules permit that.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE): We have not been permitted for the last several days to have a discussion on this subject. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Orissa has always been neglected. ... (*Interruptions*) This has already been decided by the UGC in consultation with the Government of India. When they could consider Pune, why can they not consider Bhubaneswar? ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing would go on record.

(*Interruptions*) ... *[\[r9\]](#)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*) ... *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*) ... *

14.11 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and some other hon. Members came and sat on the floor near the Table.)

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ... **

*Not Recorded

MR. CHAIRMAN: The rule is very clear.

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as per Rule 372, when a Minister makes a statement, you cannot ask any question. You please give a notice to have a discussion. You cannot ask questions at this stage. I cannot go beyond the rules.

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not go beyond the rules.

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not go beyond the rules.

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can give a notice as per rules. How can I allow you to ask questions?

... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, most respectfully, I would like to make a one-minute submission. After that, they can do whatever they like. ... (*Interruptions*) My point is that this is not my subject. ... (*Interruptions*) My point is that the hon. Members wanted to ascertain certain facts from the Ministry of Human Resource Development. My responsibility was to collect the information and to share the information with the hon. Members. ... (*Interruptions*) I am not sitting on the value judgement. I do never say that there is no demand from Orissa to have an institution. Every Member of Parliament is fully entitled to demand that. The point which I tried to ... (*Interruptions*) Please let me explain. ... (*Interruptions*) The point which I tried to develop is that whole one year was taken by the previous Government[\[reporter10\]](#).

They could not sort out the issue between the Ministry of Law, and the Ministry of Human Resource Development. ... (*Interruptions*) Today, all of you are telling and demanding that the institution is to be given value ... (*Interruptions*) It is absolutely unacceptable. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (PURI): You have considered Pune ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Your own Minister was there from April 2003 to May 2004. What did he do? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): What is all this about? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : On what motivation have you considered Pune? ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you all go back to your respective seats?

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Kindly sit down. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go back to your seat. I cannot allow you to go on like this.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 1430 hours.

14.16 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy

... (*Interruptions*)

14.30 ½ hrs

(At this stage, Shri Thatagata Satpathy and some other hon. Members came and sat on the floor near the Table.)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (PURI): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Leader of the House had made a statement... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your leader is speaking and you are sitting here. This is not the way. I have given the time to your leader to speak. Please go back to your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : They would go back, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No. Until and unless they leave this place, I would not allow you to speak.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): What is all this, Mr. Thathagata? You should go back to your seat. This is not correct... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You will have to go back to your seats.

14.31 hrs

(At this stage, Shri Thatagata Satpathy and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the UGC, rightly and legally had taken a decision in consultation with the previous Government. They had given honour to the President's Address. Hon. Rashtrapatiji, during his Presidential Address had requested and advised the country to have such four National institutions.

Giving respect to the Address and request of the hon. Rashtrapatiji, the UGC, rightly, legally and consciously had taken decision to set up four institutions as national institutions in four parts of the country, in four regions. Bhubaneswar had been previously neglected. It had not been given any national institute during the course of previous Governments. So, this was the only institution, which was given during the regime of previous NDA Government by the UGC.

But when the Ministry of HRD have reconsidered and taken a decision for another type of national institute, they should have considered Bhubaneswar also. When they have considered Pune, out of these four institutions decided earlier, what was the difficulty in considering Bhubaneswar also?

Now, if the hon. Prime Minister's Scientific Advisory Council have recommended and advised for Kolkata, it can be reconsidered also, because no decision has, so far, been taken.

Regarding Bhubaneswar, our hon. Chief Minister has written three letters requesting the hon. Prime Minister. He has met the hon. Prime Minister personally also and requested for having such an institution at Bhubaneswar in Orissa. Therefore, this Government should reconsider this.

Sir, we have never objected for any other State to have such an institution. We do not have any objection, and we have never said no to any other State. But why Orissa shall be deprived, that is our question? The entire State of Orissa is agitated. About three-four days back, many students, intellectuals and public of Orissa had gone on *dharna* at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi. The students, in particular, are very much in an agitational mood.

Therefore, the Union Government should reconsider all these things. Why should Orissa be neglected all the time? The UPA Government can consider for Bhubaneswar, Orissa. That is our request.

Sir, they should bring it to the notice of the hon. Prime Minister and his Scientific Advisory Council to reconsider it. There should be such an institution in Bhubaneswar.

Sir, if at all, they want to do it at some other places, we do not have any objection. But Bhubaneswar should not be neglected or deprived. It should be considered. I want an assurance from the Government in this regard.

स्त्री जुएल ओराम उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, प्रधान मंत्री जी शिलान्यास करने के लिए गए थे, ऑल इंडिया इंस्टीट्यूट, छ: इंस्टीट्यूशन्स में से जिस दिन भुवनेश्वर में शिलान्यास हुआ था, उस दिन यह भी होना था, लेकिन उस दिन प्रधान

मंत्री जी को कहीं दूसरी जगह जाना पड़ा, इसलिए वह नहीं हुआ और उसी मंथ से इसका उद्घाटन भी हुआ है। आपने कहां से वे पेपर लेकर पढ़े कि सरकार ने मंजूरी नहीं दी। मैं आपको पेपर प्लेस करूंगा। माननीय राष्ट्रपति जी के भाषण में बोला है, यूजीसी के चेयरमैन ने पत्र लिखा है कि मुझे आपको बताते हुए बड़ा हाँ हो रहा है कि भुवनेश्वर में नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट होगा। 75 एकड़ जमीन एक्वायर हुई है। यूजीसी का रिपोर्ट और जो टास्क फोर्स है, आपने कमेटी बना कर किया है। आप कह रहे हैं कि सरकार की मंजूरी नहीं है। इसका मतलब है कि यूजीसी के चेयरमैन ने जो पत्र लिखा था वह सही नहीं था। यूजीसी का चेयरमैन बगैर सरकार की मंजूरी लिए हुए ऐसा पत्र कैसे लिखेगा।...(व्यवधान) ऐसा व्यवहार नहीं होगा। इसलिए आप ऐसा नहीं कर सकते।...(व्यवधान)

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY Sir, the Leader of the House should respond positively and tell the House... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Jual Oram says.

*(Interruptions) ... **

*Not Recorded

...(व्यवधान)

श्री जुएल ओराम : जमीन एक्वायर हो चुकी है, ऑन रिकार्ड, चिट्ठी-पत्र, डाक्यूमेंट्स हम लोगों के पास हैं और आप कह रहे हैं कि सरकार ने मंजूरी नहीं दी थी। क्या यह पोलिटिकल स्टेटमेंट नहीं होगा - आप इस पर पुनर्विचार कीजिए।

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, I fully appreciate the sentiments of the hon. Members. Naturally the Members of the State and everyone who is interested in furthering scientific education and technological development, would want that institutes of excellence should be established in their States and particularly where there is no such thing.

I can assure the hon. Members, keeping their sentiments in view. I did never say that there would not be any. I just simply stated the factual position, chronologically as it happened. I have myself stated about the report of the UGC. I have mentioned about the alternative formula of the UGC. I have said that. There is no dispute of facts on those matters. Surely, I will convey the sentiments and I will try to see that the legitimate demand and aspirations of the people of Orissa are considered. Thank you. ...
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No. Not now, please.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Sir, if it is not a time-bound one, the people of Orissa will realise that the UPA Government is working against the interests of the people of Orissa. ... (Interruptions)

*Placed in Library, See No. LT 3382/05