

[Shri Vasant Kumar Pandit]

irregularities in admissions what disturbs the parents of these unlucky students is the confusion in admissions, total lack of planning for education and continuing frustration of students who have to go for job hunting year after year.

At the same time, the plight of bright students is still more disappointing. In science courses there are only 4200 seats against about 8500 eligible students. The number of students getting over 60 per cent marks is itself 5500. Further, the colleges have made the confusion worst onfounded by adopting the policy of first-come first-admit'. This is in total violation of University rules which require the colleges to adhere to the 'last-day' rule. Due to these several students getting over 80 per cent marks have been left out.

I earnestly and urgently urge upon the University Grants Commission to immediately permit additional 500 seats, even on *ad hoc* basis for the science courses. I appeal to Delhi Universities authorities to go into bonafide and genuine cases where students getting over 60 per cent marks are left out against those who are below 60 per cent level being admitted due to various unethical pressures and corruption.

15 hrs.

I also appeal to the Government to review the educational needs of Delhi and sanction the opening of new colleges to cater to the increasing demands for science, technical engineering, commerce and other faculties.

(v) ADEQUATE CENTRAL ASSISTANCE FOR EARLY COMPLETION OF THE SECOND HOOGHLY BRIDGE PROJECT.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): The construction of the second Hooghly Bridge is an important project for the easing of the Transport situation in Calcutta. The completion of the construction in accordance with

the schedule, therefore, assumes utmost urgency. The construction is to be completed by the year 1986.

In so far as available informations are concerned, only 33 per cent of the work has so far been completed. The pace of work, therefore, needs to be accelerated.

The flow of finance, has, however, become the main constraint. It is to be noted that the estimated cost has escalated to Rs. 158.80 crores due to inordinate delay in starting the construction work. In the scheme of apportionment of the escalated financial burdens to be borne, the Centre's share would be Rs. 141.10 crores and the State's share would be Rs. 17.70 crores.

It is now reported that the Central Government are unwilling to bear the additional burden and they only adhere to the original responsibility of leaving Rs. 57.13 crores, which has already been made available. Thus the entire additional burden due to the cost escalation is to be borne by the State. But having regard to the demands of the State finances, it will be impossible for the State Government to bear the burden.

In the mean time, the state of finances for this important project is today in a crisis. While the Government of India have provided Rs. 14.56 crores in the Budget for 1982-83, as the final settlement of their commitment to the extent of Rs. 57.15 crores, this amount will not last the State Government beyond December 1982 bringing all construction activities to a total stop and leaving most works not only unfinished, but in a physical state in which their safety also cannot be guaranteed. This will not only block the entire capital so far spent on the project, but will also endanger it.

In these circumstances I demand from the Central Government that it

should review the entire matter and earmark adequate money for this so that the construction activities continue uninterrupted beyond December 1982 and the project can be completed as scheduled.

A statement from the Minister for Shipping and Transport on the subject is called for.

(vi) NEED FOR TAKING STEPS TO PREVENT BREACH OF GREATER MAHANANDA BANDH IN BIHAR.

DR. GOLAM YAZDANI (Raiganj):  
Sir, I received telephonic intimation yesterday (18-7-1982) from my constituency that the Greater Mahananda Bandh in Bihar area on the border of Malda District and extending from Ajimganj to Delhi-Dewanganj (about 12 kilometres) is in a dangerous state due to sudden rise of water in the adjacent river and at one point, namely, Dhubal, the bandh is on the point of breaking. If this break actually occurs, vast areas of the neighbouring Harishchandrapur and Chanchal police stations of Malda district will be severely flooded affecting more than four lakh people, not to speak about damage to crops. The Bihar area will not be much affected. The West Bengal Government have been very active and the District Magistrate of Malda and the Chief Irrigation Engineer have visited the spot and are of the opinion that immediate steps should be taken to prevent breach in the bandh at Dhubal by dropping boulders at the weak points. But the Bihar Government is indifferent and no officer from Bihar has yet visited the spot in spite of requests from West Bengal side.

I have immediately contacted the Hon'ble Union Minister of Irrigation and apprised him of the situation. Fortunately, the Minister has responded favourably saying that he has informed this position to the Irrigation Minister of Bihar for taking immediate steps. Since it is a matter of life and death of more than four lakh people in a part of my constituency,

I would like to draw attention of the Central Government, particularly the Minister of Irrigation once again to depute a Central team immediately for coordinating between the State Government of West Bengal and Bihar for taking remedial measures.

(vii) U.G.C.'s FAILURE IN RELEASING FUNDS TO UNIVERSITIES OF WEST BENGAL.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai):  
Higher education in West Bengal has been put to serious strain because of the failure on the part of the University Grants Commission to release the promised grants in time. Connected with higher education, several projects were undertaken, and expansion schemes submitted to the U.G.C., in the expectation of receipt of necessary grants reported to be promised; but the U.G.C. authorities have not complied with the assurances given. The State Government put forward a demand for Rs. 15 crores for West Bengal Universities in the Sixth Plan period, but the same has been drastically curtailed. This situation is going to pave the way for abandoning some projects already undertaken. A plan of the expansion of the Houses of the Calcutta University estimated at a cost of Rs. 7 crores, was earlier consented to by the U.G.C., but now the U.G.C. agrees to grant only a sum of Rs. 1 crore.

Under the circumstances, I would urge upon the Government to be considerate and sympathetic towards the State Government's demand for the funds required for carrying on the research and expansionary works connected with higher education.

(viii) INVESTIGATION INTO THE INCIDENT OF AIR-DROPPING OF LEAFLETS IN CHINESE LANGUAGE AND OTHER ARTICLES IN JODHPUR DISTRICT OF RAJASTHAN.

श्री अशोक गहलोत (जोधपुर) :  
जोधपुर से कोई 50 किलोमीटर दूर शनिवार को रात्रि में लगभग 10 बजे एक अज्ञात