

**SHRI S. M. GURADDI :** I am asking Shrimati Margaret Alva about Yuvak Kendra in Karnataka.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER :** Have you given notice about it ?

**SHRI S.M. GURADDI :** No.

**SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA :** I could not understand his question.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Please put the question in English.

**Deemed University Status to Birla Institute of Technology Mesra**

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\* 453. **SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :**

**DR. SHDHIR ROY :**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons and objectives for which Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra has been given the status of "Deemed to be University" ;

(b) whether there have been complaints of mismanagement and malpractices against the Institute ; and

(c) if so, whether these complaints have been enquired into before deciding to give it the status of "Deemed to be University" ?

**THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) :** (a) to (c) A statement giving the information is given below.

**Statement**

The University Grants Commission Act empowers the Central Government to notify on the recommendation of UGC, any institution of higher education other than a university and deemed to be a university institution. According to the guidelines laid down by the UGC, an institution which is doing work of a high academic standard in an academic field could be considered for grant of the status of deemed to be a university to enable it to develop ideals belonging to higher education and research. The proposal of Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra was considered and on the advice of the Commission, the Institute was notified as an institution deemed to be a university under the UGC Act.

2. The complaints regarding the malfunctioning of the Institute were examined by a committee appointed by the UGC to consider the proposal of the Institute for declaring it as a deemed university. After taking an overall view, the UGC Committee observed that the complaints have little substance and the functioning of the Institute is, by and large, along the right lines.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to know from the hon. Minister how much of exemption has been granted and to which companies of the Birla Group in the name of conducting research work in the Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, in Ranchi ?

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO :** This question has no connection at all with the main question. You have asked a question about the 'Deemed to be University' and I have made a statement in that regard. This supplementary does not arise out of that.

**SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :** In the second part of the question, I have asked about the complaints of

malpractices? You may see part (b) of the question. What does the term 'malpractices' mean about which it has been said that the complaints regarding 'Mal-functioning' have been examined.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Mismanagement and malpractice.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : So malpractices come under it. The company is granted tax-exemption on the basis of a Department which is non-existent and this is malpractice. We challenge it.

MR. SPEAKER : You may put this question to the Finance Ministry. It will reply.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : This question is connected with my original question. They should ask this from the Finance Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER : You put a question to the Finance Ministry, we shall get that replied.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that there is no Chemical Department in the Birla Institute conducting the study of chemicals and that no teacher has been appointed for that purpose.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : I want to inform the hon. Member that whenever the question of giving the status of 'Deemed to be University' comes up, the University Grants Commission deals with all such matters and all such decisions are taken care of by this organisation. We referred the matter to it and asked for its opinion. The Commission appointed a committee for this purpose which went there for investigations and after examining everything, it observed that there is no substance in the complaints received earlier, and, therefore, there should be no objection in granting it the status of Deemed to be University. And then we granted it;

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a point. . .

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, I will provide him.

MR. SPEAKER : You may. There would be no restriction on that.

[*English*]

SHRI K.S. RAO : Sir, the Regional Engineering College, Warangal, is an institute which has produced more number of Ph Ds. and is a well-established organisation for the last 27 years with quality product that has come up, which is accepted nationally and internationally. I just wish to know from the hon. Minister whether that Engineering College has asked the Ministry to accept it as a 'deemed University' and if the Ministry is going to accept it or not.

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think so.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : Sir, very recently the Principal came to me and gave some papers. I would like to assure the hon. Member that we will follow exactly the same procedure in the case of REC, Warangal also.

#### Scrutiny of Accounts of Shipping Corporation of India by Expert Committee on Public Enterprises

\*454. SHRI RAM DHAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether an expert Committee on Public Enterprises headed by a Planning Commission Member had gone into the accounts of the Shipping Corporation of India for the period 1975-80 ;

(b) if so, the findings of the Committee ; and

(c) the remedial action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) : A statement is given below,