

State. That is correct. But polytechnics are not affiliated to Universities. The question of number of polytechnics really does not arise. Some Universities may have a few polytechnics with them, but generally polytechnics are affiliated to Boards of Technical Education in States. The question of Universities affiliating engineering colleges is a question dealt with all over the country. General Universities, that is, Universities giving general courses affiliate engineering colleges also. Many Universities like the BHU, Bombay, Delhi, etc., have engineering departments or engineering colleges as integral parts of the University. It does not follow that if there are a number of engineering colleges, a technological university becomes necessary. The need for that will have to be considered on its own merits.

Setting up of New Universities

*676. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state : (a) Whether there is a great demand from various parts of the country to establish new universities to impart higher education to the students, and the reaction of the Union Government thereto ;

(b) the name of the States which have sought the consent of the Central Government and the number of universities for which each such State has sought the permission ;

(c) whether Central Government have received any representation for establishing a new university in Orissa ; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Demands are made from time to time for establishing new universities in different parts of the country. The Government has been of the view that new universities should be established only on sound academic considerations and when adequate resources are made available.

(b) The State Governments do not require the permission of the Central Government for establishment of new universities. The Governments of Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have consul-

ted the UGC on their proposals to establish new universities during the last 2 years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : The hon. Minister in his reply has stated that new universities should be established only on sound academic considerations. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what are those 'sound academic considerations' ? May I also know what is the maximum number and what is the minimum number of colleges required for establishment of a university ? May I also know whether the UGC are of the view that they will not finance newly-established universities in the shape of grants in-aid and other financial assistance and if so, the reasons therefore ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : Beginning from the last question, the UGC has been asked by this House, under a law passed by it, to look after the standards of higher education as it is required to do under the Constitution. Therefore, after that became a law in 1972, the UGC gives grants only after it has found an institution fit to receive those grants. Therefore, the newer institutions which/have come up after 1972 have to pass the test of UGC scrutiny before they are given grants.

That is the reason why all the universities and colleges are not automatically given the grants. UGC goes into the matter. While going into the matter the question of academic standards and other considerations like the physical facilities available, number of teachers appointed, the need for an institution in a particular place all these are taken into account.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Whether it is a fact that there are more than 200 recognised colleges under Utkal University in Orissa and many are awaiting recognition from the Government resulting in over-crowding, mis-management and disorderly scenes in conducting the examinations. If so, whether Government of India or UGC will give their consent to establish another university at Balasore to cater to the needs of four districts around Balasore ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : Sir, I do not know the exact number of colleges affiliated to this university but that is a matter really for the university to take into account. It is for the university to recognise or affiliate a college. UGC comes into the picture only in relation to the grants the UGC has to give either to the university or to the college. At that stage the Act of Parliament comes into play. Or if it is a Central university then Centre is involved. If the State government feels that another university is necessary in that area, I am sure, the State government will take the necessary steps.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : So far as North Eastern States are concerned apart from Meghalaya and Assam there has been a proposal from the ICAR for establishing an agricultural university for those four-five states which are very much under-developed. For some reason or the other the UGC has been unwilling to give any encouragement to this proposal. Is there any chance for the government to give them an opportunity of having such an agricultural university there ?

SHRI K.C. PANT : Agricultural universities are dealt with by the Agriculture Ministry. UGC does come into the picture but the main administrative decision has to be taken by the Agriculture Ministry.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : May I know whether any State Government has made any proposal for setting up an Ayurvedic or Vedic university or institute.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Sir, Ayurvedic university will be dealt with by the Health Ministry. As far as Vedic university is concerned if the proposal is in respect of a Central university then only Centre comes into the picture

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : May I know what is the progress made in respect of the university that the Government of India has decided to have in Goa ? What is the progress made in setting up of this university and what are the broad features of this university ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : As far as I now remember the legislature of Goa has passed the relevant Act and a university is going to be set-up.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Sir, the hon. Minister knows that a large number of Young people today go to the university just because they do not have any other avenue or any better to do. It results in great pressure. In view of the proposal that you are going to divorce degrees from jobs whether you anticipate lesser pressure on the university ; lesser demand from the Young people to avail of the university education ? Therefore, in view of this, may I know whether you are looking at this question of opening new universities *de novo* or whether there is a case to freeze the number of universities in India at the present level which is obtaining now ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : Both the points are well taken. The Government would try to make a deliberate attempt to see that where it is not necessary, we should not go in for Higher Education, for jobs which do not require Higher Education. So, the de-linking of these things will be pursued. But it has got many complications. But still we will pursue it, precisely for the reason outlined by the hon. Member.

On his second question—which is really a suggestion also—I would say that the number of universities in India today is sufficient to take care of the present inflow of students into Higher Education. There are 125 universities, 7 are in the Central Sector. Out of about 11 boys who pass out of the secondary stage around 9 enter Higher Education stream. That is a very high percentage. So, taking the micro view, the number of universities seems adequate to take care of the numbers flowing into Higher Education just now, So, ordinarily, (unless the local situation so demands and unless there are some special reasons) I would say that taking a micro view the number of universities seems to be enough at the moment. But, one will have to take into account any special situations arising in different parts of our country.

[Translation]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Sir, as education is a concurrent subject, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the measures proposed to be taken by the Central Government in regard to those States where the State Governments

are not able to run these educational institutions smoothly due to paucity of financial resources.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, now the Central Government cannot bear this responsibility of the State Government. If any institution is supposed to be run by a State Government, that State Government has also to raise the resources required for running that institution.

[*English*]

SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Cachar district in Assam has been persistently demanding for a Central University in Cachar district. The students there have already started an agitation. May I know whether the Central Government have got any proposal to set up a Central University in Cachar district of Assam ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : This problem arose when the Dibrugarh and Gauhati universities decided to switch over to Assamese as the 'Sole Medium of Instruction' in those two universities. There was reaction in Cachar. Since then there has been a demand for a Central university in Cachar. Now, in the mean time, the Assam Universities have decided to continue English also as an alternative medium of instruction. Nevertheless, one has to take into account the problems in that region and we have to try to find a way in which all sections are satisfied—whether that is through Central University or through some other method. We will have to look into it. I am aware of the problem. We will do our best to arrive at a satisfactory solution.

Per Capita Power Consumption in Rural areas

*677. **SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the per capita power consumption in the city areas and Metropolitan areas in India is seven to ten times more than those in the rural areas ; and

(b) if so, average of per capita power consumption in the rural area and the urban area during the last two years ?

MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :

(a) Records of per capita consumption in rural and urban areas are not maintained separately.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important matter, but still the Government do not have any record of the quantum of electricity being made available to the rural population and urban population respectively. Separate figures in this regard are not available with Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, though I am not aware of these figures, I certainly know this much that the power consumption in the urban areas is 90 per cent whereas in the rural areas it is only 2 per cent. This is a great disparity. Do Government have any scheme to remove this disparity. If so, what are the details thereof ?

[*English*]

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, I do not totally deny that electricity consumption, especially domestic consumption, in rural areas is far less than the domestic consumption in the urban areas. It is true, but my friend should also remember that about 17 to 18 per cent of power consumption in the rural areas goes for energisation of irrigation pumpsets for the farmers in the rural areas. I may also inform the hon. member that there is the Rural Electrification Corporations which looks after the requirements of the rural areas.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : It has not got sufficient funds.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Out of total of 5.76 lakh villages in the country, about 3.68 lakh villages, i.e. about 63.9 per cent were electrified upto 31 March 1985. Haryana, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala have already achieved 100 per cent electrification. Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Karnataka are on the verge of attaining 100 per cent electrification,