

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON
Challenges of Privatization in Higher Education

Organized by St. John's College, Agra And Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Teachers Association, Agra on 12th & 13th August, 2006

KEY NOTE ADDRESS

By

Dr. V.K. Tewari, General Secretary, AIFUCTO

Impact of SAP & LPG on India's Higher Education System

The two concepts of privatisation and commercialization of Higher Education (HE) entered the Indian scenario via the route of Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) and Liberalisation, Privatisation, Globalisation (LPG) advocated by the agencies of capitalism & neo-colonialism: World Bank (WB), International Monetary Fund (IMF) and General Agreement on Trade & Tariff (GAAT) in the first year of 1990s, i.e. 1991, in a big way with the introduction of neo-liberal policies of Economic Reforms of the Central Government. Whereas the visible, open idea was of national development through complete deregulation of all forms of activity; the invisible agenda was & has been to establish a vast space for the Multinational Corporations (MNCs) (also called Trans National Corporations TNCs) to come in and run the trade & other operations in the way dictated by the MNCs. By saying that India & other Third World nations were pursuing, an orthodox nationalist path through rigid governmental controls, the agencies penetrated through the advocacy of liberalisation the economic tool to be used by anyone from anywhere without any regulatory control of the nationalist government; the tool seeking full freedom, liberation from any constraint/condition, freedom from any responsibility to the Nation, the people. This could not operate without privatization and so they drummed the idea and false concept of total privatisation i.e. all activities related to manufacturing sector, trade sector, service sector, should be privatized completely and the public sector be wiped out fully.

The liberal, privatized economic sector has to open up to the global players without any restriction and barriers on trade and tariff; also the inverse proposition that India would also be a global player without any barriers.

Thus, SAP & LPG concepts and vocabularies entered the Indian scene with the full advocacy of the WB-IMF-GATT as well as the new governmental surrender. We as a nation, did feel the coming tremors; did develop resistance discourse but the foremost slogan in the preamble of our constitution: "We the people of India" was usurped by the government with impunity. In democratic polity, the Government appears to be representing the people's wishes; the hopes of "We, the people of India", but this mask of appearance has to be shattered if the Government does not represent the hopes, aspirations and dreams of the people. The governments have subtle ways of pursuing these agendas even when those agendas, manifestoes have not come up & have not been approved by the electorate.

Praful Bidwai in an article (Frontline, March 10, 1995) aptly says: "The neo-liberal agenda of forcing the state to withdraw from areas where it has major social obligations is now being extended to India's Institutions of higher learning. The havoc visited in recent years upon the fields of health, elementary education, provision of drinking water, employment generation and the public distribution system is now

**Nagpur University Teachers' Association
MEETING NOTICE : 1**

Dated : 05.09.2006

From :

Prof. Dr. E. H. KATHALE

Secretary, NUTA

N-162, Reshim Bag, Nagpur-444 009

To,

All the members of the
Nagpur University Teachers' Association

Dear members,

I have the honour to inform you that General Body meeting of the Nagpur University Teachers' Association will be held at 12.00 noon, on the Day and the Date mentioned below.

2. If you propose to move any resolution for the consideration of the General Body, you are requested to send such resolution to me, with a copy to Prof. B.T.Deshmukh, President NUTA, No. 3, Subodh Colony, Near Vidarbha Mahavidyalaya, Amravati 444604 within a period of 10 days from the date of the posting of this Bulletin.

3. It will not be possible to include in the agenda, resolutions received after the due date. So please make it convenient to send such resolutions, if any, within the stipulated time. The place of the meeting will be intimated to you alongwith the agenda.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully
Sd/- **Dr.E. H. Kathale,**
Secretary, NUTA.

Time, Day and Date of the Meeting:

**12.00 Noon on Sunday, the
8 th October, 2006**

likely to be reproduced at the level of universities as well.... The ideological premise is fundamentally wrong. **There is a strong case for state funding of higher education in both developed and developing societies.** This is rooted in the fact that education makes an extremely rich and multi-layered contribution to the culture, including material culture of a society and that it directly generates knowledge and high order abilities that are inherently valuable in themselves. Education alone can produce skills that are vital to development". Bidwai's comment is worthy of notice as it rightly points out the dangers involved in the neo-liberal agenda imposed on the country by the policies of Economic Reforms. It is indeed unfortunate that the Central and the State Governments continued to prepare policy profiles to suit the dictates of IMF-WB-GATT. With the formation of WTO on January 1, 1995 and the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), the neo-liberal capitalist intervention in the field of economic activity, trade, education, health and other important social sectors have been impacted in the most deleterious manner. Resultantly, the most important social sector of Education has suffered the new onslaught of the agencies of the developed world.

Saga of Freedom Struggle: Anti-Colonial Discourse

The brilliant saga of freedom struggle against British Colonialism developed the discourse of public sector to be owned by the State for the benefit of the people aptly gave the slogan of nationalization to the people. For quite a few years, the organisations working in the field of Education put it on the agenda of struggle so as to provide equity, access and quality in this vital sector. The demand for nationalization of all educational institutions was clearly inherited from the freedom struggle. The legitimacy of the whole thesis clearly had historical as well as futuristic perspective. Under the pressure of the private lobbies, India adopted the policy of Mixed Economy with the Public & Private Sector emerging simultaneously. However, **the**

Nehruvian Vision was different for the promotion of Education and accordingly the Nation committed more than 7% of GDP for Education in the First Five Year Plan. The lobbying continued in favour of dismantling the Public Sector at the political level. **These private lobbies won one victory after the other and had a full new thrust with the coming of SAP & LPG in full vigour from 1991 onwards and the results are before us.**

Privatisation is the most important focus of LPG, i.e. the neo-liberal approach of neo-imperialism is to thrust this aspect on consumerism and similarly situated social trends which promote capitalism as well as imperialism. **The sovereign nations and their governments started losing the whole battle of taking sovereign decisions in tune with the real and actual problems faced by the citizens.** This invisible and visible attack on the democracies in the newly liberated world has been the most virulent one engineered by neo-imperialism. Restoration of sovereign, democratic power of the peoples and their governments has become the significant demand of the sensitized people. **Today, the most urgent need is to see whether privatisation and liberalisation can serve the needs of the people,** can solve the problems of vast illiteracy, poverty, unemployment, malnourishment and the allied diseases afflicting the Indian society. More than 30 Crore people live below poverty line and the equal number is illiterate; millions of highly educated youth are suffering the scourge of unemployment and so is the case of uneducated, unregistered people. **Instead of developing the public enterprises, the focus of the ideologues of privatisation is on individual profit and not the development of the whole nation.** J. Rehfuss in Privatization in Education (1995) opines that **privatization includes complete withdrawal of public funding, public services and handing them over to private parities, community groups, non-profit organisations and in some cases even the former employees. Here, the whole focus is on reduction of costs.**

ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY & COLLEGE TEACHERS ORGANIZATIONS

(Mobile - 0981 5489493)

PRESS RELEASE

AIFUCTO DEMANDS G.O. ON U.G.C. SCALES TO LIBRARIANS & PHYSICAL EDUCATION DIRECTORS

Agra : 13.08.2006 : National Executive Committee meeting of the All India Federation of University and College Teachers' Organizations (AIFUCTO) which met here on 12th and 13th August 2006 has expressed its strong resentment at the delay in fulfilling the promise made by the Prime Minister regarding the implementation of parity for Librarians and physical Education Directors, Career Advancement Scheme from 01.01.96, third promotion to end stagnation of senior faculty and Professorship in Colleges, The National Executive Committee also demanded that orders regarding the same be issued without any further delay. While demanding strong government - funded education system, the apex body condemned privatization, commercialization of higher education and creation of Private Universities in the states like Uttar Pradesh, Panjab, Uttaranchal, Haryana, etc.

The National Executive Committee strongly criticized the Central Government for going back on the N.C.M.P. promise to enact a central legislation on the Right to education. The present move to modify the draft bill and send the same for enactment by the state legislatures clearly showed that the U.P.A. was not serious about its promises. The attempt to shift the burden of providing education to the children in the age group of 6-18 to the states will not help achieve the target of Education for All (EFA) even within the next decade, AIFUCTO stated. **The NEC endorsed the view of Confederation of Central and State Government Employees and Teachers that had expressed serious concern at the Central Government's move to privatize pension funds that posed serious threat to the existing pension schemes also. The failure of the Central Government to declare that the revised pay-scales of the 6th Central pay Commission would be implemented from 01.01.2006 and to sanction Rs. 1000/- per month towards interim Relief was criticized by the AIFUCTO. The AIFUCTO alongwith the Confederation of Central and State Government Employees and Teachers will take part in the March to Parliament being organized on 18th August at Jantar Matar, New Delhi at 10 a.m. and the Nation -wide strike on 14th December.** The AIFUCTO called upon teacher movements throughout the country to expose the anti-employee policies of the Central Government including the move to privatize the pension scheme and to demand that the move for privatization of pension scheme be scrapped. The AIFUCTO condemned the move to amend the Right to information Act, 2005 in such a way as to defeat the very purpose of the enactment.

The National Executive which discussed the Kerala Act on professional Education also decided to counter the move by vested interest to scuttle this progressive piece of legislation.

Prof. Thomas Joseph, National President presided over the meeting and General Secretary Dr. V.K.Tewari presented the report.

(Thomas Joseph)
President, AIFUCTO

(V.K.Tewari)
General Secretary

The view of Rehfuss is the commonly held view; however, the process is influenced by the philosophy of neo-liberalism which advocates **the view that more and more social activities should be in the hands of the private profiteers.**

International Resistance Against Anti-People Measures

The talk of efficient management, efficiency is hollow as the people have been fast loosing the social conveniences. **Closing down the public schools in some of the developed countries has adversely affected the common people.** Refashioning of the retiral benefits in the countries like France, Italy has faced big protests from the people. **The youth of France rose like a strong rock against the hire and fire policy put into the labour laws by the Government of France.** This new awakening among the enlightened youth refreshes the memories of 1968 revolutionary developments in France. Similarly, the movements of resistance have been developing throughout the world in one form or the other to oppose the neo-liberal policies. **In India, the situation is going to worsen in the coming years as the governments have been pursuing the Economic Reforms to the detriment of social development. The proponents of privatisation of education must learn one important lesson that the idea is anti-national and anti people.** Only the strong public-funded education system from Primary to the University can strengthen the roots of the Constitutional commitments: Sovereignty, Democracy, Secularism, Socialism. We must understand that any policy profile that goes against the Constitution of India goes against the people of India and so has to be opposed, resisted and eliminated.

CABE Committee Report on Financing of Higher & Technical Education

The Report of the CABE Committee on Financing of Higher & Technical Education submitted by Professor B.

Mungekar & Professor J.B.G. Tilak on 23rd June 2005 has un-equivocally emphasized on strengthening public-funded education system while denouncing the very concept of privatisation of Higher Education which crept into the system in the 90's. Reduction in public expenditure coupled with the cost-benefit approach leading to cost recovery steps were further supplemented by huge "Growth of private institutions, all in conformity with the structural adjustment policies which include liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation" it is Indeed a painful realization **that the spirit of philanthropy which contributed to the growth of education during the colonial period as well as the post-independence period has been replaced by profiteering.** The Report says: "Current type of private institutions includes private institutions and foreign universities being setup with commercial motives". The private initiative has been growing in the system in the form of private, affiliated colleges within the academic and legal purview of the concerned university and the other statutory bodies like UGC, AICTE, MCI and so on. Many State Governments came to the rescue of the private colleges by extending 100% / 95% aid with respect to the recurring expenditure. This vital step contributed to the further development of higher education in the country. **One remarkable point about the private aided institutions has been that the private managements generally have not thought on trading education and making profit out of it.** This trend is unique and needs to be expanded; nevertheless, the idea of nationalization of all educational institutions can prove to be more unique. The emergence of self-financing, un-aided private colleges in the last two decades has created more problems. The Report says: "Unaided private colleges might provide financial relief to the government in providing higher education but at huge and long term economic and non-economic cost to the society".

The Committee was required

To examine the adequacy of investments in higher/tech-

**University Grants Commission : Bahadur shah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi - 110 002. : Dated : 5.7.2006
No. F-1 -1/2006(PS) Meeting
Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal, Joint Secretary**

Dear Sir,

This is in continuation to this office letter No. F-1-1/2005(PS) Dated 20.1.2006 seeking relaxation/exemption in qualifications for appointments as lecturers in Universities and Colleges.

As you may be aware, the UGC on 14.6.2006 has issued second amendment to its regulations on minimum qualifications required for the appointment and career advancement of teachers in Universities and institutions affiliated to it. As per second amendment "NET shall remain the compulsory requirement for appointment as Lecturer for those with postgraduate degree. However, the candidates having Ph.D. degree in the concerned subject **are exempted from NET** for PG level and UG level teaching. The candidates having M.Phil degree in the concerned subject **are exempted from NET** for UG level teaching only."

Accordingly, you are requested to **kindly send the**

cases for exemption in the revised format separately for the following 3 categories

- (A) The Candidates having Ph.D. degree.
- (B) The Candidates having M.Phil degree.
- (C) The candidates who do not possess M.Phil/Ph.D. degree.

The separate format for each of the above categories is enclosed.

You are requested to send the information in the enclosed format separately for each category of teachers to enable UGC to take further action in the matter.

With regards,

Yours sincerely
(Pankaj Mittal)

Encls : As above

Dr. P.S. Narkhede, Registrar, Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati-440 602.

(1) Statement in respect of M.Phil candidates appointed for Under graduate Teaching only (1) Sr. No. (2) Name of the College (3) Name of the Candidate (4) Subject (5) Year of passing Master's Degree with percentage of Marks (6) Date of acquiring M.Phil Degree (7) Date of interview (8) Date of appointment (9) The Number of NET/SLET qualified candidates available at the time of interview (10) Justification for selection (Signature of Registrar) **Please Note** : Send the information about all the cases in one consolidated form duly signed by Registrar. Ten Copies of this consolidated statement shall be sent.

(2) Statement in respect of Ph. D candidates appointed for Under graduate/Post Graduate Teaching. (1) Sr. No. (2) Name of the College (3) Name of the Candidate (4) Subject (5) Year of passing Master's Degree with percentage of Marks (6) Date of acquiring Ph.D Degree (7) Date of interview (8) Date of appointment (9) The Number of NET/SLET qualified candidates available at the time of interview (10) Justification for selection (Signature of Registrar) **Please Note** : Send the information about all the cases in one consolidated form duly signed by Registrar. Ten Copies of this consolidated statement shall be sent.

(3) Statement in respect of candidates Who do not have M.Phil/Ph.D. degree. (1) Sr. No. (2) Name of the College (3) Name of the Candidate (4) Subject (5) Year of passing Master's Degree with percentage of Marks (6) No.of Candidates called for interview (7) No.of Candidates Who appeared for interview (8) Date of interview (9) Date of appointment (10) The Number of NET/SLET qualified candidates available at the time of interview (11) Justification for selection (Signature of Registrar) **Please Note** : Send the information about all the cases in one consolidated form duly signed by Registrar. Ten Copies of this consolidated statement shall be sent.

nical education and to find ways of augmenting the resource flow in higher education;

To examine the question of a fair share of 6% of GDP, for education; and

To suggest the way of encouraging and regulating private participation and investment in higher /technical education.

In the perspective of UPA Government's Common Minimum Programme (CMP) "that nobody is denied higher education because he or she is poor", the Committee claims comprehensive analysis of the problems and makes a singular recognition of the critical role higher & technical education can play in the development of Indian society and so recommends "to accord high priority to it in our development planning strategies" (2).

In spite of expansion of Higher Education (HE) in India (more than 300 universities and 15,000 colleges in 2004), the intake is hardly 8-9 percent of the relevant age-group (6). It means that nearly 91-92 percent of the youth stand edged out and that foregrounds the major question of equity and accessibility. HE lacks empowerment. HE system is plagued by persistent financial crisis which gets sharpened in 1990s due to deleterious economic reform policies. Analysis calls for rethinking:

Thus we need a serious rethinking on policies relating to financing higher education, including specifically financial reforms that have been introduced during the last decade and a half. In this context, it may be noted that the UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education held in 1998, the International Task Force on Higher Education and Society that consisted of members of the World Bank, UNESCO and the present Prime Minister of India among others (Higher Education in Developing Countries: Peril and Promise, 2000) and the World Bank (Constructing Knowledge Societies, 2002), **have highlighted:** (a) the importance of higher education, including the importance of liberal higher education in development, and (b) the importance of State Funding of Higher Education and have argued for almost a U-turn in the policies on education in developing countries. **It is time for us now to reexamine our recent policies and to have a fresh look at the problems of financing higher and technical education in the country.**

It is indeed refreshing to note that HE has been re-visioned from the disastrous WB-IMF prescription of 'non-merit good' to constructive view of HE as a 'public good', 'Merit-2 good'. The importance of investment in HE and the significantly high returns are aptly focused:

The investment in HE strongly meets the constitutional responsibilities of the State with respect to equity & justice, i.e. equity with justice and justice with equity for all sections especially the weaker sections of injudicious social hierarchy. **The UNO recognized, in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the right to HE as a human right. Recently, UNESCO has called for Quality Education for all young people.**

Important functions of HE have been intelligently noted:

They are: creation and dissemination of knowledge; supply of manpower, specifically knowledge workers; attitudinal changes for modernization and social transformation; formation of a strong nation-state, and promotion of higher quality of individual and social life. It is widely recognized that these traditional function of higher education are ever relevant for all societies - modern as well as traditional and developed as well as developing. These functions are performed through teaching, research and extension activities, and all the three are important facets of a sound higher education system and all the three need to be well-nurtured and strengthened.

Carefully avoiding the serious pitfalls of SAP and LPG as well as the attendant maladies, the **Report strongly advocates the urgent need of strengthening public-funded HE system to make it excellent and competitive to extent that it may even force the Foreign Institutions 'to exit from India'** (8). It is essential to understand 'inequity-enhancing aspects of globalisation' to bring centrestage

radical shift in planning of HE-clearly with a view to improve 'access and equity' by creating strong HE system(8).

The much-desired focus is clear: minimum 20% of intake in HE is essential for sustainable development. Clearly, those countries, e.g. the developed ones whose intake is on an average around 60% have invested much in HE & reaped fruits of development. **It means, 20% intake/enrolment is a 'necessary condition' but not a 'sufficient condition' (12).**

In India, there exist very stark inter-state variations with respect to HE structures and intake. Rural-Urban (divisive) scenario is clearly visible. Those from among the socially disadvantaged groups like SC, ST & OBC joining HE, the percentage is very small in spite of the affirmative actions taken by the Constitution and the State in the post-independence era. The observation is worthy of note:

Thus, given (a) the current level and status of higher education in the country, (b) the highly iniquitous system in general and in higher education in particular, (c) the relationship between higher education and development, (d) the rising aspirations of the people, and (e) development goals of the country such as creation of a 'knowledge society' and transforming itself into a developed economy, some-of which are stressed in the Tenth Five Year Plan, the need for according a high priority to higher education and specifically the need for substantial increase in allocation of public resources for quantitative expansion, for promotion of equity in the system, and for improvement of quality in higher education is obvious.

The Report also analyses the patterns of financing, the trends that suggest :

That higher education had a good start during the 1950s (with a real rate of growth of 7.5 percent per annum), had its golden days during the 1960s, with the real expenditure increasing at an annual rate of growth of 11 percent; but suffered significantly during the 1970s, with the annual rate of growth coming down to a meager 3.4 percent; and showed some tendencies to recover during the 1980s. Though the growth in expenditure on higher education has been erratic during the 1980s, it has increased on the whole at a rate of growth of 7.3 percent per annum. **The 1990s heralded an era of austerity and higher education suffered most.** With the introduction of economic reforms at the beginning of the decade, the allocation of budgetary resources to higher education has indeed been severely affected. The trends seem to continue in the present decade as well.

These trends mark the sharp fluctuations in allocations; it is clear that the due attention to HE has been lacking. Similarly, for Technical Education (TE), the allocations have been meager: the 7 elite IITs getting 42%; IIMs getting 8%; REC's only 11% of the share. Thus, during 1993-2003, the combined expenditure by Centre and State forms only a small proportion i.e. 0.4% of total govt. expenditure.

It is interesting to note the expenditure per student:

In fact, the decline has been very drastic during the 1990s. In 1993-94 prices, expenditure on higher education per student declined from Rs.7676 in 1990-91 to Rs.5500 in 2002-03 (budget estimates), a decline by nearly 28 percentage points in the index in a 12-year period.

Regrettably, the Education in general and HE & TE in particular has not got the desired thrust despite national commitments of NPE-1968 to raise allocations to 6% of GDP by 1985-86. While many nations invest between 1.0% to 2.5% on HE, India's performance is dismal i.e. around 0.4% since 1990s (except 1993-1994 : 1.47%). Allocation of plan expenditure during Five Year Plans has also been sharply **declining; touching the low of 2.70% in 6th Plan. The result is:**

The most serious casualty of this decline in expenditure on higher education has been the quality of education, as investment in those inputs that have stronger relationship with quality, such as **research is reduced.** The reduction in expenditure on education first results in the fall in investment in books and journals in the libraries, consumable material in the laboratories, infrastructure and other quality

improvement programmes in colleges and universities. Further, quality of education may deteriorate with increased number of students per teacher, with reduced number of books in libraries, etc.

The concept of quality education has had big beating as the infrastructural development has not been cared for; the situation being 'worse in affiliated colleges, where 90 per cent of the graduate students and 34 per cent of the post graduate students study' (30). Aply, the Report calls for conducting All India Educational Survey to know the ground reality which may propel proper planning.

The AIFUCTO has consistently expressed serious concern at the **worsening situation with respect to regular appointments of teachers**. Market-driven forces have forced ad-hocism the worse disease. The Report notes it with dismay and says a clear No to contractual appointments and supports the estimates of AIU about shortage of 3.33 lakh teachers in our Universities' (31).

Regarding fee structures, the various UGC & AICTE committees have recommend generation of 20% of the recurring expenditure. The Report strongly rebuts the elitist suggestion of raising it to 40% to 50%. Comparative study shows :

In this context, it may be important to note that the cost recovery rates through student fees in many developed and developing countries of the world are not particularly high. In the case of public higher education in advance countries the corresponding ratio hardly touches 15 percent. **In public institutions in US it was estimated to be 12.2 percent (1999). Still many countries, particularly the Scandinavian ones offer free or virtually free higher education to the domestic students;** fee increases have been confined to foreign students. Even in the case of private universities in countries such as USA, student fees formed only 39 percent of the total costs of higher education (in late 1980s).

In terms of equity and access, the Report asserts:

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi – 110 002 Ph. 23238872

No. F.2-16/2002 (PS) : Dated : 22 June, 2006

The Registrar, All Universities

The Education Secretaries
All state Governments & Union Territories

The Officer incharge, All Regional Offices of UGC

Sub :- Regarding the extension of the date upto 31.12.2006 for participation in Orientation/Refresher Courses in respect of eligible Teachers/Assistant Registrars for the purpose of promotion/placement under Career Advancement Scheme.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to inform you that on receipt of various representation, the issue of extension of the date beyond 31.12.2005 for participation in orientation/refresher courses in respect of eligible Teachers./Assistant Registrars for the purpose of promotion/placement under Career Advancement Scheme was considered by the Commission at its meeting held on 11.6.2006. The Commission resolved as under :-

"This was examined. The Commission decided that this exemption may be extended upto the period 31.12.2006 both for Teachers and Assistant Registrars."

This is for your information and necessary action.

The above decision may also be brought to the notice of Colleges affiliated to your University urgently.

Yours faithfully,
(K.C.Mahur)
Under Secretary

It would be neither desirable nor feasible to aim at increasing the proportion of the fees significantly (35). Instead, the urgent need is to increase public subsidies on whole of education including HE & TE. Self-financing courses in aided institutes and self-financing colleges & other institutes do not serve the interests of equity & access with justice; **the strong need to stop these practices which bring only distortions to elitism.**

The Report strongly rejects the whole thesis of 'Private Higher Education' (34-44) the proliferation of which is aptly attributed to SAP & LPG driven state policies to withdraw from HE & TE. 'Dominance of private sector prevents many from seeking admission in higher education' (40). **These 'regressive policies' be abandoned forthwith (40).**

All non-philanthropic private contributions could be detrimental to the growth of a healthy higher education system and to contribute to the development of a humane society.

The basic issues of 'social equity' & 'educational excellence' have suffered the big ideological attack of SAP & LPG with disastrous consequences for India's sustainable social and economic development. India must take urgent lesson and redraw priorities with these two issues in the centerstage

One of the terms of reference of the Committee was: "To suggest the ways of encouraging and regulating private participation and investments in higher/technical education". This issue assumes significance in the context of often repeated political rhetoric for bringing in the private players in HE. The Report makes a strong rebuttal of this position; denounces privatisation as it means nothing but commercialisation of HE and TE and warns the policy makers and the nation as a whole to strongly stand against privatisation in Education, more so in HE. Thus, this term of reference has been tackled by the committee in rare expertise. The sensitized people and the organisations fully support this view and forcefully discount the power of the argument in favour of private players.

संस्थेला देणगी न दिल्यामुळे ग्रॅज्युईटीची रक्कम रोखून धरण्याचा प्रकार

महाराष्ट्र विधानपरिषद : दुसरे अधिवेशन २००६
गुरुवार, दिनांक २० जुलै २००६

(१९) * १७९२४ प्रा. बी. टी. देशमुख, श्री. व्ही. यू. डायगव्हाणे, श्री. वसंतराव खोटे, श्री. जी. एल. अनापूरे : सन्माननीय उच्च व तंत्रशिक्षण मंत्री पुढील गोष्टींचा खुलासा करतील काय :-

(१) सेवानिवृत्तीनंतर अनेकदा सांगून सुध्दा संस्थेला देणगी न दिल्यामुळे आपली मान्य झालेली ग्रॅज्युईटीची रक्कम रोखून धरण्यात आलेली आहे अशी तक्रार करणारे एक निवेदन जी.एस.टोम्पे महाविद्यालय चांदूर बाजार या महाविद्यालयाच्या निवृत्त प्राचार्यांनी दिनांक ५ मे, २००६ रोजी किंवा त्या दरम्यान शिक्षण संचालक उच्च शिक्षण यांचेकडे सहसंचालक, उच्च शिक्षण अमरावती विभाग यांच्यामार्फत दाखल केले हे खरे आहे काय,

(२) खरे असल्यास या निवेदनासोबत अशी मागणी प्रत्यक्षात करण्यात आल्याचे लेखी व अस्सल पुरावे जोडलेले आहेत हेही खरे आहे काय,

(३) उक्त निवेदनामध्ये महाविद्यालयाच्या व्यवस्थापनाने केलेल्या अनेक अनियमितता पुराव्यानिशी लक्षात आणून देण्यात आलेल्या आहेत हे खरे आहे काय,

(४) खरे असल्यास, याबाबत शासनातर्फे काय कारवाई करण्यात आलेली आहे?

श्री. दिलीप वळसे-पाटील : (१) होय, हे खरे आहे.

(२) अंशतः खरे आहे.

(३) अंशतः खरे आहे.

(४) सेवानिवृत्त कर्मचाऱ्यांची देय रक्कम त्याला अदा न केल्याबद्दल महाविद्यालयाचे प्राचार्य व व्यवस्थापनास समज देण्यात आली आहे.

Truly, the recommendations outlined in the Report are of great value and so deserve to be implemented immediately.

Report of the Committee on NCMP's Commitment of 6% of GDP to Education (Nov. 2005)

The MHRD vide office Memorandum dated 3rd October, 2005 appointed 4-Member **Prof. Tapas Majumdar Committee** on NCMP and UPA's commitment to quantify the actual public allocations (2002-06), estimated projections (2006-12) to meet the 'commitment of 6%. Laudably, the Report asserts not only 6% of GDP as public funds but also calls for steady increase to help Education to become nationally sustainable and globally competitive in terms of the huge population of India. Being apprehensive about the lack of absorptive systemic capacity, proper schemes, projects, mechanisms; the Report gives three scenarios: A, B, C; in A it is 6% from 2005-06 to 2014-15; in B it is 3.52% in 2004-05, 3.92% in 2005-06, 4.36% in 2006-07 and then 4.85% 5.39% 6% (2009-10 to 15) in C it is the same as in B upto 2009-10 at 6% and raises it further in each subsequent year 6.67%, 7.43%, 8.26% and finally 10.22% in 2014-15. It allocates out of 6%: 3% to elementary; 1.5% to secondary, 1% to HE and 0.5% to TE. In 2004-05 the nation had spent only 1.43% of GDP on elementary; 0.88% on secondary; 0.34 & 0.03 on HE & TE respectively. The Report is flexible on intrasectoral allocations. **The Report strongly advocates: full emphasis on public-funded system;** 6% and more of GDP means public funds i.e. Centre & States, improvement in total "system of taxation-taxes, tax structure and tax collection"; provision of quality teachers and quality infrastructure; removal of glaring disparities, inequalities in rural-urban; inter/intra-State/Region to lend "full thrust to the current demand for continued liberal approach". To the question of State funding of Education in India it concludes:

To conclude the committee notes that in this context there is a basic need to redefine the approach to assessing the need for public funding of education in India. **Apart from accepting the right to education as a basic human right under the Constitution as interpreted by the highest judiciary in the country,** the state has to recognize unambiguously that in India education serves today as a public

good at almost all levels, producing huge externalities. It has always been an important instrument for levelling social status, and for empowering the weaker sections by providing occupational, social and economic upward mobility through directly and qualitatively improving the productivity of the workforce. **All in all, investment in education has become for the India of the twenty-first century, the most crucial component of investments in human development as a whole - in fact, the most credible means at its disposal for emerging quickly as a globally important Knowledge Power (17).**

Where as the basic concept is appreciable but the suggestion to go upto 6% slowly by 2009-10 may not be proper, yet to continue to raise GDP allocation beyond 6% from 2006-07 onwards shall be highly progressive and tenable.

Ambani-Birla Report, UGC Model Act & CABE Committee on "Autonomy of Higher Education Institutions"

The Researchers have aptly noted that the Ambani-Birla Report (2000) was the replica of the WB-IMF-WTO prescriptions which hit strongly at HE and did everything to belittle, weaken higher education as well as the research base of the country. The Report played the old game of pitting Primary Education against HE; advocated the total withdrawal of the Govt. from the HE System. To implement all this, the UGC appointed an Expert Committee in June 2003 to fabricate Model Act for Universities. Instead of following UNESCO's recommendations, both the Ambani-Birla Report and the Model Act recommended **PROFITEERING AND CORPORATISATION.**

Continuing the same false ideological position, the CABE Committee Report on "Autonomy of Higher Education Institutions" (AHEI) has wrecked the guiding principles of NCMP, through the re-entrenching of the Ambani-Birla Report and University Model Act. The report opens up the flood-gates of privatisation, commercialisation of Education through finance-mobilization from students and consultancies; surrenders to GATS by legitimizing foreign universities and other education providers; speaks for FDIs that the MHRD "may initiate steps to spell out the details of GATS in as much as Foreign Direct Investments in Higher Education are concerned". It speaks in the same

अनुदानित समाजकार्य महाविद्यालयातील पूर्णवेळ शिक्षक व शिक्षकेतर कर्मचाऱ्यांना रजा प्रवास भत्ता व वैद्यकीय खर्चाची प्रतिपूर्ती तसेच गट 'क' व 'ड' मधील कर्मचाऱ्यांना कालबद्ध पदोन्नती योजना लागू करणेबाबत

महाराष्ट्र शासन : सामाजिक न्याय, सांस्कृतिक कार्य व विशेष सहाय्य विभाग

शासन निर्णय क्रमांक : सीएसडब्ल्यू-२००२/प्र.क्र. ३१६/सुधार -१

मंत्रालय विस्तार भवन, मुंबई-४०० ०३२ : दिनांक १६ ऑगस्ट २००५

वाचा : (१) शासननिर्णय, उच्च व तंत्रशिक्षण विभाग, क्रमांक एनजीसी-१२१९/४८७१/विशि-४ दिनांक २८ जानेवारी, २०००.

(२) समाजकल्याण संचालनालयाचे पत्र क्रमांक- शिक्षण/सकाम/अनु/२००१-०२/का-५ब/१२३८, दिनांक ३ जानेवारी, २००१

प्रस्तावना :- उच्च व तंत्रशिक्षण विभागाने शासकीय कर्मचाऱ्यांप्रमाणे त्या विभागाच्या नियंत्रणाखालील अकृषी विद्यापीठाशी संलग्नीत महाविद्यालयातील गट 'क' व 'ड' मधील कर्मचाऱ्यांना कालबद्ध पदोन्नती योजना तसेच पूर्णवेळ शिक्षक व शिक्षकेतर कर्मचाऱ्यांना रजा प्रवास सवलत, वैद्यकीय खर्चाची प्रतिपूर्ती या सुविधा शासन निर्णय क्रमांक बीसीसी-१२९०/४८७१/विधि-४, दि. २८.१.२००० अन्वये लागू केल्या आहेत. या विभागातील समाजकार्य महाविद्यालये ही विद्यापीठाशी संलग्नीत असून त्यांना देखील वरीलप्रमाणे सुविधा लागू करण्यासाठी समाजकार्य महाविद्यालयातील पूर्णवेळ शिक्षक व शिक्षकेतर कर्मचाऱ्यांकडून शासनाकडे सारखी मागणी करण्यात येत आहे. समाजकार्य महाविद्यालयातील पूर्णवेळ शिक्षक व शिक्षकेतर कर्मचाऱ्यांना रजा प्रवास सवलत, वैद्यकीय खर्चाची प्रतिपूर्ती व गट 'क' व 'ड' मधील कर्मचाऱ्यांना कालबद्ध पदोन्नती योजना लागू करण्याची बाब शासनाचे विचाराधीन होती.

शासननिर्णय :- सामाजिक न्याय विभागांतर्गत कार्यरत असलेल्या अनुदानित समाजकार्य महाविद्यालयातील पूर्णवेळ शिक्षक व शिक्षकेतर कर्मचाऱ्यांना खालील

सवलती सन २००५-२००६ या आर्थिक वर्षापासून लागू करण्यास शासन मंजूरी देत आहे.

१) अनुदानित समाजकार्य महाविद्यालयातील गट 'क' व 'ड' च्या कर्मचाऱ्यांना कालबद्ध पदोन्नती योजना लागू करावी.

२) अनुदानित समाजकार्य महाविद्यालयातील शिक्षक व शिक्षकेतर कर्मचाऱ्यांना रजा प्रवास सवलत योजना लागू करावी.

३) अनुदानित समाजकार्य महाविद्यालयातील शिक्षक व शिक्षकेतर कर्मचाऱ्यांना वैद्यकीय खर्चाची प्रतिपूर्ती देण्याची योजना लागू करावी.

सदर सवलती उच्च व तंत्रशिक्षण विभागाच्या दिनांक २८ जानेवारी, २००० च्या शासन निर्णयान्वये विहित केलेल्या नियमानुसार लागू करण्यात याव्यात.

२. वरील प्रयोजनार्थ आवश्यक असणारी आर्थिक तरतूद विहित मार्गाने प्रथम उपलब्ध करून घेतल्यानंतरच वरील सवलतीचा लाभ देण्याबाबत संचालक, समाजकल्याण यांनी कार्यवाही करावी तसेच निधी उपलब्ध करून घेतल्याखेरीज योजनांची अंमलबजावणी करण्यात येवू नये.

(ज.न.राठोड)

उपसचिव, महाराष्ट्र शासन

warped language used by Prof. M.M. Joshi in his "Country Paper" presented at UNESCO Conference on HE in Oct. 1998 that there shall be privatisation but not commercialisation. The logic is untenable whereas the AIFUCTO strongly denounced MHRD's siring of Siamese

twins i.e. **privatisation and commercialisation being the two integral sides of the same coin**; the CABE Committee Report has again harped on the same untenable point of view. "MHRD should develop a central legislation in consultation with UGC, AICTE and other professional councils to

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ग्रंथपाल व शारीरिक शिक्षण संचालक यांचे म्हणणे ऐकून न घेता, राज्यशासनाच्या उपसचिवाने काढलेल्या ६.९.१९९० च्या आदेशाला, अवर सचिवाच्या ३१.१०.२००२ च्या आदेशाला व डेस्क ऑफिसरच्या २५.११.२००४ च्या आदेशाला मा. सर्वोच्च न्यायालयाने, एकतर्फी स्थगनादेश द्यावा म्हणून राज्य शासनाची सर्वोच्च न्यायालयात याचिका.

ग्रंथपाल व शारीरिक शिक्षण संचालक यांचे म्हणणे ऐकून न घेता, राज्यशासनाच्या उपसचिवाने काढलेल्या ६.९.१९९० च्या आदेशाला, अवर सचिवाच्या ३१.१०.२००२ च्या आदेशाला, डेस्क ऑफिसरच्या २५.११.२००४ च्या आदेशाला व मा. उच्च न्यायालयाच्या ५ जुलै २००४ च्या निर्णयाला सर्वोच्च न्यायालयाने, एकतर्फी, स्थगनादेश द्यावा अशी विनंती करणारी एक याचिका (Special Leave petition (Civil) No. 2841 of 2006) राज्य शासनाने सर्वोच्च न्यायालयात २३ जानेवारी २००६ रोजी दाखल केली आहे. या याचिकेमुळे प्रभावित होणाऱ्या सर्व संबधितांनी याची दखल घ्यावी व आवश्यक ती हस्तक्षेपाची कारवाई करावी म्हणून याचिकेचा सुरुवातीचा औपचारिक मजकूर असलेला पॅरा १, मेन प्रेअर पॅरा ७ व इंटेरीम रिलीफ मागणारा पॅरा ८ खाली दिलेले आहेत. पूर्ण याचिकेची प्रत नुटाच्या कार्यकारी मंडळाच्या कोणत्याही सदस्याकडे पहायला मिळेल. - **संपादक**

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

(ORDER XVI RULE 4 (1) (A) CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION : SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION

(UNDER ARTICLE 136 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA)

SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 2841 OF 2006

(WITH PRAYER FOR INTERIM RELIEF)

Position of the Parties :
Before High Court : Before this Court

1. State of Maharashtra Through its Principal Secretary Higher & Technical Education Deptt. Mantralaya Mumbai-32 Maharashtra Before High Court : Respondent 1. : Before this Court : Petitioner 1.

2. Director of Education, Higher Education Central Offices, Pune A/P Tah. & District Pune, Maharashtra Before High Court : Respondent 2. : Before this Court : Petitioner 2.

Versus

1. Shivaji Eknathrao Jagtap R/O Plot No. 1 B-2 Bapuji Salunkhe Nagar, Post Bhindiwadi Satara, District Satara, Maharashtra Before High Court : Petitioner 1. : Before this Court : Respondent 1.

2. Shivaji University Through its Principal Shivaji University Campus, A/P Tah. & District Kolhapur, Maharashtra Before High Court : Respondent 3. : Before this Court : Respondent 2.

3. The Principal Lal Bahadur Shastri College, A/P Tah. & District Satara, Maharashtra Before High Court : Respondent 4. : Before this Court : Respondent 3..... All Contesting Respondents herein

To,

The Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India and his Companion Judges of the supereme Court of India.

The Humble petition of the Petitioner Abovenamed.

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

1) The Petitioners above named seek special leave to Appeal under Article 136 of the Constitution of India against the imputed judgement and final order dated 5.7.2004 in Writ petition No. 559 of 1995 passed by High Court of Judicature at Bombay. Whereby the said Writ petition was allowed by the High Court.

7. MAIN PRAYER

The petitioner, therefore, prays that

a) The petitioners be granted special leave to appeal under

Article 136 of the constitution of India against the impugned judgement and final order dated 5.7.2004 in writ petition No. 559 of 1995 passed by High Court of judicature at Bombay.

b) pass any other order and or direction as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper.

8. INTERIM RELIEF :

The Petitioner, therefore, prays that :

(A) grant exparte stay to the execution and operation of impugned judgment and final order dated 5.7.2004 in writ petition No. 559 of 1995 passed by High Court of judicature at Bombay during the pendency and final disposal of present special leave petition.

(B) grant exparte stay to the execution and operation of letter dated 6.1.1990 issued by Deputy Secretary, Education & Employment Department of Govt. of Maharashtra (Annexure- P-5) during the pendency and final disposal of the present special leave petition.

(C) grant exparte stay to the execution and operation of letter dated 31.10.2002 issued by under Secretary, Higher & Technical Education Department, Govt. of Maharashtra (Annexure -P-10) during the pendency and final disposal of the present special leave petition.

(D) grant stay to the execution and operation of letter dated 25.11.2004 issued by Desk Officer, Higher & Technical Education Department of Govt. of Maharashtra during the pendency and final disposal of the present special leave petition.

(E) Grant ad-interim exparte reliefs in terms of prayer A,B,C & D and confirm the same after notice to respondent.

(F) Pass any other order and or direction as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper.

And for this Act of kindness your Humble petitioner as in duty bound shall every pray.

Drawn & Filed by
(Mr. Ravindra Kehsvrao Adsure)
Advocate for the Petitioners

Drawn On : 7.1.2006 : Filed on 23.1.2006
Place : New Delhi.

streamline establishment and governance of Private Universities, Deemed to be Universities, Self-Financing Institutions and establishment of Foreign Universities in India”, recommends the Report. **This is blatant legitimization of the illegitimate and the unconstitutional. Equating autonomy with privatisation and establishment of foreign universities in India is malafide, injudicious;** besides having overstepped the Committee’s area of work. Instead of recommending the ways to strengthen public-funded system, the Report also advocates that “all universities and colleges should have the autonomy to start self-financing courses particularly in new and emerging areas where job opportunities exist”. This has serious implications as it tantamount to : a) question those institutes which have started regular, not self-financing, courses in the new areas; b) link job-availability of the disciplines with market forces; c) push new courses only in the self-financing mode. To authenticate the argument further, the Report talks of fees equal to: “actual cost of imparting education” and “create reasonable surplus” (the view is taken from equally fallacious argument used else- where). Who does not know **that the newly injected “reasonable surplus” is nothing but a backdoor profiteering?**

(८)

वरिष्ठांच्या आदेशाची अवहेलना करून श्रेणीवाढ देणाऱ्या अधिकाऱ्यावर करावयाची कारवाई

महाराष्ट्र विधानपरिषद : दुसरे अधिवेशन २००६
गुरुवार, दिनांक ६ जुलै २००६

(१२) * १७४१६ श्री. सुधाकर गणगणे, प्रा. बी.टी. देशमुख, श्री. व्ही.यु. डायगव्हाणे, श्री. वसंतराव खोटेरे, श्री. जी.एल. अनापूर : तारांकित प्रश्न क्रमांक १२८६९ ला दिनांक २१ मार्च, २००६ रोजी दिलेल्या उत्तराच्या संदर्भात : सन्माननीय उच्च व तंत्रशिक्षण मंत्री पुढील गोष्टींचा खुलासा करतील काय :-

(१) विद्यापीठ अनुदान आयोगाच्या दिनांक १२ मे, २००५ च्या पत्राच्या खुलाशाच्या अनुषंगाने शासनाने दिनांक १७ जून, २००५ च्या पत्रान्वये लागू केलेली श्रेणीवाढ शासनाचे असे पत्र निर्गमित होण्यापूर्वीच्या काळात अनेक प्रकरणात विभागातील काही सहसंचालकांनी (उच्च शिक्षण संचालकांच्या आदेशाची अवहेलना करून) लागू केली, हे खरे आहे काय,

(२) असल्यास, याप्रकरणी चौकशी करण्यासाठी दिनांक २५ ऑक्टोबर, २००५ रोजी संचालक, उच्च शिक्षण यांच्या अध्यक्षतेखाली एक समिती नेमण्यात आलेली आहे, हेही खरे आहे काय,

(३) असल्यास, या चौकशीमध्ये काय निष्पन्न झाले,

(४) याबाबत दोषी अधिकाऱ्यांवर कारवाई करण्याची सद्यः स्थिती काय आहे?

श्री. दिलीप वळसे-पाटील : (१) शासन निर्णय दिनांक ११.१२.९९ च्या तरतूदीनुसार करिअर अँडव्हान्समेंट योजनेअंतर्गत पीएच.डी. अर्हताधारक अधिव्याख्यात्यांना ४ वर्षात, एम. फिल अर्हताधारकांना ५ वर्षात व अन्य अधिव्याख्यात्यांना ६ वर्षात वरिष्ठ श्रेणी देय आहे आणि वरिष्ठ श्रेणीत ५ वर्षे सेवा झाल्यानंतर निवडश्रेणी देय होती. त्यानुसार पीएच.डी. अर्हताधारकांना ९ वर्षात, एम. फिल अर्हताधारकांना १० वर्षात व अन्य अधिव्याख्यात्यांना ११ वर्षात निवडश्रेणी देय ठरते. त्यामुळे अधिव्याख्यात्यांना वरिष्ठश्रेणी देण्यासाठी विद्यापीठ निवड समितीसमोर प्रस्ताव जाईपर्यंत सदर शासन निर्णयप्रमाणे ज्यांचा एकूण सेवेचा कालावधी ११ वर्षे झालेला आहे. अशा अधिव्याख्यात्यांची निवडश्रेणीमध्ये दिनांक १७ जून, २००५ च्या पत्रातील आदेशापूर्वी स्थाननिश्चिती करण्यात आलेली आहे. तथापि वरिष्ठश्रेणीत ५ वर्षे सेवा पूर्ण झाल्यानंतरच त्यांची निवड श्रेणीत स्थाननिश्चिती केलेली आहे.

(२) होय.

(३) प्रश्न भाग १ मध्ये नमूद केल्याप्रमाणे दिनांक ११.१२.९९ च्या शासन निर्णयप्रमाणे ज्यांचा एकूण सेवेचा कालावधी ११ वर्षे झालेला आहे. अशा सुमारे ४०६ अधिव्याख्यात्यांची निवडश्रेणीमध्ये दिनांक १७ जून, २००५ च्या पत्रातील आदेशापूर्वी स्थाननिश्चिती करण्यात आलेली आहे. परंतु वरिष्ठश्रेणीत ५ वर्षे सेवा पूर्ण झाल्यानंतरच त्यांची निवडश्रेणीत स्थाननिश्चिती केलेली आहे.

(४) शासन निर्णयानुसार कार्यवाही झालेली असल्यामुळे कारवाईचा प्रश्न उद्भवत नाही.

Having laid the bedrock for the market forces, private entrepreneurs, **the Report wakes up falsely about “adequate social control”.** This approach is, in fact, less about social control and more in favour of private entrepreneurs and traders in Education.

Comparative study of Ambani-Birla Report, Model Act and CABE Committee Report on AHEI shows that the drafters were impelled by WB directives focusing on uniformity in marketisation to meet needs of globalisation through GATS so that private education providers do not face any barriers through plurilateralism. **All the three documents hinge on one basic point: the developing countries & LDCs should abandon HE; vacate the space concerning generation and dissemination of knowledges; allow the foreign and local traders in Education to occupy the space with total freedom to levy fees-funds; to start and close courses at will; to contractualise scales and tenures; to effectively intervene in using the Text/ Course Content to destabilize the sovereign national governments;** to deform and de-humanize the people into consumers and clients of cartels.

These three documents are totally regressive, anti-people, anti-education and so have been aptly criticized.

While developing the discourse of constructive resistance, the AIFUCTO representatives attended the four workshops organised by CABE Committee, submitted written presentations, stoutly opposed the deleterious statements; yet the CABE Report refused to take note of the alternative, sovereign, democratic, progressive views as perusal of AHEI Report clearly shows.

WTO & GATS: Impact on Higher Education

WTO is an inequitable organisation and it perpetuates systemic inequity in the world. WTO was formed as a progeny of GATT in January 1995. Being a legally enforceable agreement it aims at deregulating market economy in all most all services, including Education. This is put as “multi-lateral framework of principles and rules for trade in services with a view to the expansion of such a trade under conditions of transparency and progressive liberalisation”. This is to prepare the ground for MNCs and Multinational Universities to do business without any hindrance in all fields of Education: Primary, Secondary, Post-Secondary, Tertiary. It is notable that the WTO document clearly states: “The GATS is the first multilateral agreement to provide fully enforceable rights to trade in all services. It has built-in commitment to continuous liberalisation through periodic negotiations. And it is the world’s first multilateral agreement on investment, since it covers not just cross-border trade but every possible means of supplying a service including the right to setup a commercial presence in the export market”. **What applies to trade in commodities also applies to trade in Education as Education is a tradable commodity for WTO. According to WTO & GATS, no nation can afford to be out of it, otherwise it has to face isolation, oppression, persecution in many forms.**

The AIFUCTO has carefully studied the various clauses of WTO and GATS and also the requests and offers being made by other countries to India and the responses of India to internationalize and market Education. **It is the considered opinion of the intellectuals that the Constitutional mandate that Education is not for profiteering is the most basic concept of India’s civilization and it needs to be strongly protected.** Most of the institutions coming from the developed countries are private institutions looking for huge profits in the HE market in India. The GOI must rescind the very decision to subject India to GATS.

UNESCO’s Two Important Conferences

India is a signatory to UNESCO’s conference on HE held in 1998 in Paris which strongly advocated democratization and massification of HE. The recommendations of this conference strongly negated the prescriptions of WB contained in “Report on Financing of Higher Education in Developing Countries” (1986) and “Higher Education: Lessons of Experience” (1994). The UNESCO upheld the centrality of HE and R & D Sectors. An other conference held in 2004 focused on “Quality Education for All Young People” and recommended that all the countries should

strive for the provision of quality education to all its young people. Since India is signatory to all the protocols of UNO and UNESCO should therefore implement all the directives including Article 26 of UNO's Universal Declaration of Human Rights ensuring 'Highly qualified graduates and responsible citizens'.

Deleterious Impact of Private Universities

1. The passage of Private Member's Bill on Private Universities (Establishment & Regulation) in the Parliament, since 1995 has not been possible and it has not been resurrected in that or refurbished form by any political dispensation for the evident reasons that the nation does not wish any deviation from public domain to private domain, from non-profit making university system to profit making, commercial enterprise.

2. The Ajit Jogi Government in Chhattisgarh got passed a Bill, later enacted, for the creation of Private Universities, in 2002. Result: mushroom, overnight creation of nearly 120 'Universities' with/without address. The Jogi Government's most abnormal move destroyed the very concept of a university, so movingly envisioned by Nehru and others. This vulgarization of HE was strongly protested by AIFUCTO and other sensitized organisations and individuals. But for Prof. Yash Pal's PIL in Supreme Court, the menace would have wrecked the whole HE citadel.

3. Instead of promoting Nehruvian Vision that gave the nation UGC in 1956, the UGC clandestinely advocated the promotion of Private Universities when it notified Regulations called 'UGC (Establishment and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 in Govt. of India Gazette on 27th December 2003.

4. What Parliament could/did not do, the UGC and HRD Ministry did in 2003, evidently under the diktat of Ambani-Biria Report requisitioned by the PM's Council on Trade and Industry. **The Gazette Notification of 27th December, 2003 is illegal, unconstitutional and so must be rescinded.**

Why?

a) Legitimation of non-charitable, profit-making university entity squarely violates the domestic, constitutional provisions and the subsequent enactments which call for only the non-profit educational enterprise under a Public Trust or a Society.

b) The powers conferred by Clause (f) & (g) of sub-section (1) of Section 26 of the UGC Act, 1956 have been misread and stretched to an illegal extent. The Section 26 and the cited clauses do not empower the UGC to notify Regulations on Private Universities.

c) Legislation on a University by State in case of State University and by Centre on a Central University is lawful; by consequence legislation on a Private University by the Centre/State is unlawful & un-constitutional.

d) All the provisions made under Regulations, including 'Off-Campus Centre', 'Off-Shore Campus' are abhorrent in law.

Legislation on Private Universities by States

The Gazette Notification on 'UGC (Establishment & Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003' by UGC on 27th December, 2003 has unconstitutionally promoted the creation of private universities by State Governments and thereby impacted University system with deleterious consequences to merit, equity, access, quality, gender and various other aspects like commercialisation.

After the Chhattisgarh debacle, some of the States have been inspired by the UGC Regulations which had the aura of so-called legality as they seemingly enjoyed the protection of UGC Act, 1956.

Critical, objective perusal of the Bills & Acts on Private Universities by some State Governments clearly proves that the 'Private' Universities have not been legislated as per law and it should not be confused with private (aided) colleges affiliated to a degree-granting University enacted as per law.

The AIFUCTO demands that the UGC should not allow creation of Private Universities; not grant recognition, in any form, to a Private University legislated by any State; & if already given, the same be withdrawn forthwith. The AIFUCTO expects the Ministry of HRD to step in to stop the menace caused by these unsavory developments.

The NEC meeting of AIFUCTO held at Mangalore on May 25, 2004 resolve to oppose the move of the UGC to legitimize Private Universities. The NEC, in a press release had appealed to the new Government at the centre to rein in the commercial fixation of some of the State Governments and the UGC in Higher Education without compromising the basic principles laid down in the Constitution.

Since then the AIFUCTO has been campaigning against the very concept and the deleterious consequences of the move of the UGC and the State Governments.

We strongly demand that the Regulations be withdrawn and similarly no Private University legislated by any State Govt. be recognized by the UGC and MHRD.

Conclusion

Privatization of HE is a curse. It is a blot on the fair face of Indian Democracy. The Central and the State Governments must come out with Acts to ban privatisation of Education. The existing Private Universities and all self-financing Deemed Universities and Colleges should be nationalized. Dangers of privatisation and commercialisation far outweigh the so-called opportunities.

Dr. V.K. Tewari

General Secretary
AIFUCTO

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वरिष्ठ श्रेणीतुन निवडश्रेणीत स्थाननिश्चिती देण्याबाबतची अमरावती विद्यापीठ क्षेत्रातील प्रलंबित प्रकरणे

महाराष्ट्र विधानपरिषद : दुसरे अधिवेशन २००६
गुरुवार, दिनांक १३ जुलै २००६

(३५) * १७९३५ प्रा. वी. टी. देशमुख, श्री. व्ही. यू. डायगव्हाणे, श्री. वसंतराव खोटे, श्री. जी. एल. अनापूरे : तारांकित प्रश्न क्रमांक १२८६९ ला दिनांक २१ मार्च, २००६ रोजी दिलेल्या उत्तराच्या संदर्भात : सन्माननीय उच्च व तंत्रशिक्षण मंत्री पुढील गोष्टींचा खुलासा करतील काय:-

(१) उच्च शिक्षण संचालकांच्या परिपत्रकामध्ये वरिष्ठ श्रेणीत ५ वर्षे सेवा पूर्ण झाल्यानंतर निवडश्रेणीत स्थान निश्चिती करण्यात येईल या वाक्याऐवजी वरिष्ठ श्रेणीत ५ वर्षांची अट असण्याची आवश्यकता नाही अशी सुधारणा करण्यात आल्यानंतर व शासनाने सुध्दा दिनांक १७ जून, २००५ च्या पत्रान्वये तसा खुलासा करणाऱ्या सूचना दिल्यानंतर अमरावती विभागामध्ये फक्त २८५ प्रकरणे निकाली निघाली असून अनेक प्रकरणे प्रलंबित आहेत हे खरे आहे काय?

(२) निकाली निघालेल्या २८५ प्रकरणांशिवाय अजूनही प्रलंबित असलेल्या अमरावती विभागातील प्रकरणांची संख्या किती आहे?

(३) उक्त प्रकरणे निकाली निघण्यास विलंब होण्याची कारणे काय आहेत?

श्री. दिलीप वळसे-पाटील : (१) नाही.

(२) अमरावती विभागांतर्गत महाविद्यालयांकडून प्राप्त झालेली सर्व २८५ प्रकरणे निकाली काढल्यानंतर आणखी २१९ प्रकरणे महाविद्यालयांकडून प्राप्त झालेली होती व तीसुध्दा निकाली काढलेली आहेत. त्यामुळे प्राप्त झालेल्या प्रकरणांपैकी कोणतेही प्रकरण प्रलंबित नाही.

(३) प्रश्न उद्भवत नाही.

PR :- (1) S.Q. 41754 Dt. 020604 P 87 of NB04 (2) CAM Dt. 110604 P 87 of NB04 (3) CAM Dt. 050405 P 32 of NB05 (4) S.Q. 1922 Dt. 070405 P 38 of NB05 (5) S.Q. 5958 Dt. 150705 P 76 of NB05 (6) S.Q. 5577 Dt. 150705 P 87 of NB05 (7) S.Q. 9288 Dt. 121205 P 1 of NB06 (8) S.Q. 17416 Dt. 060706 P 52 of NB06

Introduction of New Contribution Pension Scheme for the Government servants who are recruited on or after 1st November 2005 in State Government Service.

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA : FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Government Resolution No.CPS-1005/ 126/SER-4

Mantralaya, Mumbai-400032. : Dated 31st October, 2005.

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCTION

Government of India vide Notification, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, dated 22nd December 2003 introduced a new Contribution Pension Scheme i.e. "Defined Contribution Pension System" for the employees who are recruited on or after 1st January 2004 in Central Government Service. Government of India has also declared that the option of joining the aforesaid new Contribution Pension Scheme would also be available to the State Governments. Besides, under this scheme Government of India have Constituted an independent "Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)" for the management and regulation of the pension fund. The question of introduction of New Contribution Pension Scheme, on the lines of Government of India, for new recruits in State Government Service was under consideration of this Government.

RESOLUTIONS

2. (a) Government has now decided that a new "**Defined Contribution Pension Scheme**", on the lines of Government of India, replacing the existing pension scheme, as detailed below, would be made applicable to the Government servants who are recruited on or after 1st November 2005 in State Government Service,

(b) Government is also pleased to decide that for the purpose of implementation of the above new Defined Contribution Pension Scheme, this State Government would join the aforesaid, new defined contribution pension system introduced by Government of India.

(c) The Government is also pleased to decide that the provisions of,

(i) the existing pension scheme (i.e. Maharashtra Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1982 and Maharashtra Civil Services (Commutation of Pension) Rules, 1984 and

(ii) the existing General Provident Fund Scheme (GPF) would not be applicable to the Government servants who are recruited on or after 1st November 2005 in State Government service.

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE NEW PENSION SCHEME

3. The salient features of the new pension scheme are as under:

(a) This scheme shall be called as "Defined Contribution Pension Scheme".

(b) This scheme will come into force with effect from 1st November 2005.

(c) The New Contribution Pension Scheme will be mandatory for all the Government servants who are recruited on or after 1st November 2005 in State Government service.

(d) The new contribution pension Scheme will be based on defined contribution and will have two tiers, i.e. - Tier-I & Tier-II.

Tier-I will be mandatory for all the Government servants who will be recruited on or after 1st November 2005 in State Government service whereas Tier-II will be optional for them and at their discretion.

(e) **Under Tier-I, every Government servant will have to make a monthly contribution at 10% of his "Basic Pay plus Dearness Pay (if any) plus Dearness Allowance"**, which will be deducted from his salary bill every month. The State Government will make an equal matching contribution. The contributions and the investment returns will be kept in a nonwithdrawable "Pension Tier-I Account."

(f) **Under Tier-II**, each Government servant, in addition to the above mentioned Pension Tier-I Account, will also have a "Voluntary Tier - II withdrawable Account" at his option. Contribution made by the Government servant will be kept in such separate account and that will be withdrawable at the option of the Government servant. **However, Government will not make any contribution in this account.**

(g) A Government servant can normally exit at or after attaining the age of superannuation (i.e. 58 years/60 years, as the case may be) from the Tier-I of the new pension scheme. However, at exit, it would be mandatory for him to invest 40% of the total accumulated pension

wealth to purchase an annuity (from Life Insurance Company regulated by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority).

In the case of Government servant, the annuity should provide for pension for the life time of the Government servant and his dependent parents and his spouse at the time of retirement.

The Government servant would receive a lump-sum of the remaining pension wealth, which he would be free to utilise in any manner.

A Government servant would have the flexibility to leave the pension scheme prior to age of superannuation (i.e. 58 years/60 years, as the case may be). However, in this case, the mandatory annuitisation would be 80% of the pension wealth.

APPLICABILITY OF THE SCHEME

4. (a) As mentioned above, new defined contribution pension scheme will be applicable to Government servants who are recruited on or after 1st November 2005 in State Government service. to whom the existing pension scheme and General Provident Fund Scheme is applicable.

(c) In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to Section 248 of the Maharashtra Zilla Parishadas and Panchayat Samitis Act 1961 (Mah. V of 1962) and of all the other powers enabling it in that behalf, Government is further pleased to decide that the above decision shall apply to the employees, who are recruited on or after 1st November 2005 in the services of Zilla Parishadas.

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS TO ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS/APPOINTING AUTHORITIES

5. Consequent to the above decision,

a) Government is pleased to direct that General Administration Department and all concerned administrative departments in Mantralaya, should take immediate steps to notify appropriate amendments to all concerned "Recruitment Rules".

b) Government is also pleased to direct that General Administration Department, all other concerned administrative departments in Mantralaya, all Selection Boards in the State, Maharashtra Public Service Commission and all appointing authorities should **immediately bring in writing** to the notice of all the candidates who are to be recruited on various Government establishments, on or after 1st November 2005 that,

"On their appointment to the Government Service on or after 1st November 2005, they would be covered under New "Defined Contribution Pension Scheme" and that the existing pension scheme (i.e. Maharashtra Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1982 and Maharashtra Civil Services (Commutation of Pension) Rules, 1984) and General Provident Fund Scheme will not be applicable to them."

6. Detailed instructions regarding the procedure to be adopted by Heads of Department/Offices/Drawing and Disbursing Officers in respect of drawal of bills, recovery of contribution from Government employees, payment of Government contribution, etc., as well as the instructions regarding the accounting procedure, arrangement regarding fund management and record keeping etc., will be issued shortly.

7. Formal amendment to the Maharashtra Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1982 and Maharashtra Civil Services (Commutation) Rules, 1984 and General Provident Fund Rules, in terms of the decision contained in this order are being made separately.

8. This order will be available on the following Web Sites of Government :-

(i) finance.mah.nic.in

(ii) www.maharashtra.gov.in

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra,

NASIMA M. SHAIKH,
Deputy Secretary to Government

ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY & COLLEGE TEACHERS ORGANIZATIONS

(Regd. under Act XXI of 1860)

Dr. V.K.Tewari, General Secretary,
493, Urban Estate (Phase-1) : Jalandhar - 144 022, Punjab.
Ph.No. 98154-89493, 0181-5063493, 0181-4610493, 0181-2481493.
Email : tewari_vk@rediffmail.com : Dated 25.08.2006

CIRCULAR NO. 11 / 05-06

Dear Compatriots,

The AIFUCTO has been consistently and diligently pursuing the fulfillment of long pending demands of teachers, including the anomalies in the pay scales : complete parity for DPEs and Librarians; CAS from 1.1.96; CAS Professorship in colleges besides creation of posts in Autonomous Colleges, Third Promotion to end stagnation and full implementation of UGC Notification of 24.12.98 in States like Punjab, Orissa, TN, Assam, Manipur etc. The Secretariat has been meeting the Secretary, Joint Secretary of MHRD. On August 2, it was decided to send Cabinet Note in the next week. Our efforts at the level of Finance Ministry have been successful to a good extent especially to negate the highly negative view of Finance Secretary, F.D.

Notably, Sh. Pawan Bansal, Minister of State for Finance has been helpful. Besides discussion on Aug. 1 and Aug. 2 with the Minister, there was a positive phone call on Aug 10. Again, this office received a phone call from an important in New Delhi asking for a detailed note on CAS for the DPEs and Librarians; the Note was prepared the same night, nearly around 2.00 a.m. in the morning and e-mailed by 10.00 a.m. next day, the deadline assured to the officer. It was indeed a gruelling task which was promptly done. It is hoped that this Note establishing full veracity of the case, as done many times earlier, would go a long way especially with the Finance Ministry.

Com. Sita Ram Yechuri called on the P.M., submitted a letter demanding fulfillment of promise. In the meanwhile, Com. D.Raja & Com. Dasgupta M.P. have been in touch with MHRD.

Total impact of all these efforts may be gauged from the fact that the MHRD-approved cabinet Note was listed on the Cabinet meeting agenda of August 24. Hindustan Times of Aug. 24 carried the news item "Teachers' Pay on Cabinet Agenda" (p.9, Chandigarh Edition) datelined New Delhi, August 23.

Excerpt : "Besides, the Cabinet could also consider changes to pay scales of college teachers and librarians in a proposal that reportedly seeks to improve upon the existing Career Advancement Scheme for the faculty members to make teaching attractive. Officials indicate that the idea was to emphasize on performance as a benchmark for moving ahead in the career".

To keep track of developments, this office contacted some media friends who informed at about 9 p.m. that Mr. P.R. Dasmunshi had done the briefing about the Cabinet Meeting; on being asked about solution of University and College Teachers, Mr. Dasmunshi informed that the Cabinet could not take the issue in this meeting.

The MHRD-approved Cabinet Note may be taken up by the Cabinet soon; hopefully, the revised comments of Finance Ministry may also reach the Cabinet.

What is likely to be approved by the Cabinet cannot be said at the time of issuing this circular.

Meeting with Prime Minister on August 18 :

Thanks to the leadership of the Confederation to invite Gen. Secy., AIFUCTO to sign the petition to P.M. and also to join the delegation to call on P.M. The PM did understand the powerful arguments put forth about "Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority" **but refused to budge from the Govt.'s viewpoint inter alia NDA's proposal to privatize pensions; however suggested further discussion. Similar was his response to implementation of 6th CPC from 1.1.2006 and Rs. 1000/- towards Interim Relief.** The proposal of PM to further discuss these issues may be welcome but one point becomes very clear that the pro-employee decisions will be taken only after hard struggle including the forthcoming struggle outlined

and accepted by the Confederation.

It may be noted that the high-level Expert Group set up by the GOI, before introducing the new contributory pension scheme has clearly recognized as was ruled by the Supreme Court of India that : a) Pension is neither a bounty nor a matter of grace depending upon the sweet will of the employer and that it creates a vested interest; b) Pension is not an ex-gratia payment but is a payment for the past services rendered; c) It is a social welfare measure rendering socio-economic justice to those who in the heyday of their life have toiled ceaselessly for the employer on an assurance that in their old age they would not be left in the lurch.

The Group had recommended, in fact, a two tier hybrid scheme wherein the first tier is intended to primarily act as a social security scheme with a reward for past services in the form of a defined benefit at 50% of the average emoluments and the second to be a defined contributory plan, which should be voluntary and savings oriented. Thus the scheme introduced by the Govt. in the case of employees entering Govt. Service on or after 1.1.2004 ought to have been in the form of an additional security option and ought to have been voluntary. The Govt. Scheme will amount to wage reduction for those who joined after 1.1.2004 and violate the principle of equal pay for equal work.

The Standing Committee of the Parliament has noted that private individual accounts operated in countries where the contributory pension scheme is in vogue did not bring about any benefit to the employees due to the high administrative cost, lack of portfolio choice, high number of switch-overs and the high fees and commissions charged at flat rate but resulted in the monopolization of pension funds. Moreover, there is international experience that in a few countries, the fund managers simply swindled the money.

These arguments are contained in the Memorandum submitted to PM. It is very unfortunate that the PM has so far failed to appreciate the judgments of the Supreme Court, the opinion of the Expert Group and the view of the Standing Committee of Parliament. Since the issue is very vital and connected with the old age security of the employees and their families, the trade unions will have to jointly launch massive struggles.

At the time of taking leave of the PM, The Gen. Secy. Dr. V.K.Tewari seized the opportunity to request the PM to fulfill his promise made to AIFUCTO on May 17, 2006 especially as the MHRD-approved Cabinet Note was going to be discussed very soon. The PM assured to look into the matter.

AIFUCTO Meetings and National Seminar at St. John's College, Agra

The AIFUCTO organized the meetings of the Secretariat, OBs, and NEC, besides holding the National Seminar on "Challenges of Privatisation in Higher Education" hosted by Dr. B.R.Ambedkar University Teachers' Association on Aug. 12 & 13.

Meeting of the Secretariat on Aug 12 : This meeting deliberated on the Agenda items, formulated the proposals for the OBs meeting; discussed the sub-themes for the Chennai Conference in consultation with Dr. Jaya Gandhi, GS, AUT, Tamil Nadu.

Meeting of OBs of AIFUCTO on Aug. 12 : The Gen. Secy. presented the proposals of the Secretariat meeting before the OBs who accepted them and decided to forward the same for discussion and adoption in the NEC meeting.

NEC Meeting : Prof. Thomas Joseph in the Chair. The Gen. Secy. made a detailed reporting on the situation with regard to the AIFUCTO demand charter. Besides confirming the Minutes of the last NEC meeting,

the NEC accepted the following : 1) To participate in the Dharana and March to Parliament of Employees and Workers to be held on 18th Aug. 06 at New Delhi. 2) To implement the Action Programme finalized at the National Convention of Workers held under the auspices of Sponsoring Committee of Trade Unions :

a) Aug. 16 to Sep 15, 2006 : Holding of Convention at State and Sectoral Levels

b) Sep 20, 2006 : National Day for Mobilization for General Strike

c) Nov 29, 2006 : Strike Notice to be served in respective establishments

d) Dec 14, 2006 : all India General Strike

3) To oppose the proposed Amendment to RTI Act 2005 excluding the notings on files by officials, 4) To appreciate and support the Kerala Professional Educational Institutions Act-2006, reg. Admission, Reservation, Fee Structure and the allied issues to promote equity and excellence in Higher Education. 5) To consolidate lobbying with respect to the MHRD's Cabinet Note and its acceptance by the Cabinet of GOI; to authorize the Secretariat to take further decisions with respect to struggle and other steps as per the situation 6) To hold FISE Conference from March 9 to 11, 2007 at New Delhi and to contribute through advertisements for the conference. 7) To invite suggestions on the circulated Draft AIFUCTO Education policy by 10th Sep, 2006. 8) To invite suggestions on the circulated proposal of planning Commission regarding 11th plan proposals. 9) To condemn the terrorist- engineered Mumbai Train Blasts of 11th July, 2006. 10) To condemn the aggression by Israel on Lebanon and to appeal to the UNO to intervene to stop the death and destruction of Lebanon. 11) To oppose creation of Private Universities, Self-Financing Deemed Universities and Self-Financing Colleges. 12) To secure the implementation of the letter of Secretary, MHRD regarding the appointment of regular teachers. 13) To oppose the MOU between Govt. of Orissa and Vedanta Group to create a Private University. 14) To pursue with the UGC the functioning of North-East Regional Centre, Assam. 15) To pursue with the Govt. Assam regarding the payment of arrears to teachers. 16) To pursue the case of arrears of Jharkhand Teachers. 17) To call on the Government of Punjab to implement the 18.12.96 pension Scheme and the Act of 26.04.1999 and also ensure regular payment of salaries to the staff of colleges.

The NEC is deeply distressed at the machinations of the UPA Govt. to go back on its promise to legislate on the Right to Education by shifting the responsibility of fulfilling the national obligation under Article 21 A of the Constitution to the States by asking them to adopt legislation on the basis of a Model Act prepared by the Central Government. The AIFUCTO demands that the NCMP promise of bringing out a parliamentary legislation be fulfilled inclusive of extending the Right to Education to the Children below 6 years.

The NEC granted affiliation to Gandhigram Institute Teachers' Forum and Indian Music Teachers' Association, Aurangabad subject to their fulfillment of the condition of depositing the AF and MF. (This office has already sent letters to them.)

UGC Extends the Date for doing Refresher Courses : The UGC vide letter no. F.2-16/2002 (PS) dated 22 June, 2006 sent to the Education Secretaries, has decided to extend the date for doing Refresher Courses upto 31.12.2006

National Seminar: The inaugural session had Mr. T.V. Rajeshwar, Governor U.P. as the Chief Guest Dr. V.K.Tewari presented the Key Note Address. The whole seminar was a grand success as the Governor himself brought out the highly negative issues with respect to privatization of Higher Education. The Governor had ordered disaffiliation of

hundreds of sub standard B.Ed. College in UP and had dismissed 5 erring VCs. The Media covered the event both in print and on the Electronic Channels. Congratulations to the organizers.

Massive protest March to Parliament on August 18 : Although the decision to hold this protest action was taken on July 26, yet the massive participation was there and that proved that the employees were deeply distressed and agitated over the anti employee and anti-labour policies of the UPA Government. The call was given by Confederation of Central and State Government Employees and Teachers. Thousands of participants carried banners and raised slogans to convey their anger to the UPA Government. The leadership could arrive at the venue, in front of the parliament Street Police Station after 1.30 p.m. and addressed the agitated employees about the negative attitude of the UPA Govt. The rally was addressed by MPs and Leaders of the Confed. and other organizations.

RUCTA Conference : The 43rd State Conference of Rajasthan University and College Teachers Associations was held at Dungar College, Bikaner from July 23 to 25, 2006. The Former Education Minister of Rajasthan, Dr. B.D.Kallah presided, Dr. B.K.Tewari, Gen. Secy., AIFUCTO presented the Key Note Address and foregrounds the most important challenges being faced by the nation. Prof. Subash Garg, Gen. Secy. presented the Annual Report Dr. Kallah strongly demanded higher investment in whole of Education Sector and also stressed on making HE stronger to meet the international Challenges.

(Press Release : Text of the press release is printed on page 46 of this Bulletin.)

Condolence Resolution : The teaching fraternity is deeply saddened to know of the demise of the esteemed Father of Dr. Nikhil Desai, Treasurer, AIFUCTO.

Steeped in the great values of freedom struggle, hard work and noble thought, he nurtured the family in the best Indian traditions. In the intellectual personality of his dear Son Dr. Nikhil Desai, the teachers' movement in Baroda University Teachers' Association and AIFUCTO perceived the indelible stamp of Father's affections and strong urge for change in the social system.

Dr. Desai's immensely profound contributions for over two decades to the cause of better, people oriented Education System Clearly evidence the relentless, sincere crusade that he inherited from his dear Father.

At this crucial moment, the AIFUCTO stands with the bereaved Family, shares grief to help lessen its intensity and treasures the sweet memories of the valuable saga represented by the Father.

May the Father be remembered eternally for having given us Dr. Nikhil Desai who is a tireless fighter for social causes, a great teacher and researcher whose powerful contributions have national and international recognition!

Invitation to Life Members : The Annual Conference of AIFUCTO will be held from Oct 13-15, 2006 under the auspices of AUT, Tamil Nadu to which the Hon'ble Life Members are cordially invited. Separate letters have already been sent.

Invitation to FISE : Prof. Mrinmoy Bhattacharya, Gen. Secy. FISE has been requested to join the Annual conference alongwith the fraternal International Delegations, Secretary FISE and Chief Editor, Teachers of the World.

With Fraternal greetings.

**Yours Sincerely,
Dr. V.K. Tewari,
General Secretary, AIFUCTO**

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