

**Memorandum about Punjab
University**

213. SHRI BHAGAT RAM: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum about the deplorable conditions prevailing in the Punjab University, Chandigarh;

(b) if so, salient points of the memorandum; and

(c) action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) to (c). Government have received memoranda containing various allegations regarding the conditions prevailing in the Punjab University, Chandigarh. The main allegations contained in the memoranda are:

(i) The Senate and Syndicate, on the Vice-Chancellor's initiative, applauded the promulgation of the emergency and felicitated the former Prime Minister, on different occasions.

(ii) The Vice-Chancellor placed the University buildings at the disposal of the Congress Party for its Chandigarh session in December, 1975. University buildings were made available to the National Forum of Teachers and the National Students' Union of India for their functions.

(iii) A provision of Rs. 20,000 was earmarked in the University budget for the medical care of the AICC delegates, a full-page advertisement was inserted in a publication in connection with a Seminar on the 20-Point programme.

(iv) A Committee under the Chairmanship of the Vice-Chancellor recommended a number of penalties against teachers who failed to get themselves sterilised.

(v) While Youth Congress leaders were admitted to the University, students belonging to other groups were not admitted; nomination to the Senate were made on political considerations; and the Vice-Chancellor did not intervene against the arrests of the students and teachers during the emergency.

(vi) The Vice-Chancellor got his own house requisitioned by the University as his official residence and got it assessed for a high rent; the Executive Engineer of the University has been given extension after extension for getting the rent assessed at a high rate.

(vii) A person working as cook at the Vice-Chancellor's house was appointed as Laboratory Attendant.

(viii) An article written by another teacher was used by the Vice-Chancellor as his own and he received payment from the University; the Vice-Chancellor gets his name included in the research publications of his juniors and takes credit for a large number of research papers.

(ix) Favours were shown in sanctioning housing loans, allotment/retention of University houses, granting extensions in service etc.

(x) Appointments made to certain posts have been irregular; a large number of appointments are made on *ad-hoc* basis.

The University was requested to send comments on the allegations. The comments have been received and the matter is under examination.