CHAPTER III

CHANCELLOR

ROLE OF THE CHANCELLOR IN UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION
CHAPTER III

ROLE OF THE CHANCELLOR IN UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

All the Universities have a Chancellor. Normally the Universities incorporated by an Act of the State Legislature have the Governor of the State as the Chancellor. In North East India the Governor is the ex-officio Chancellor of all the State Universities within his jurisdiction. In the case of the North Eastern Hill University which is a Central University the Governor is the ex-officio Chief Rector and the Chancellor is appointed by the Visitor, the President of India. The Visitor appointed Shrimati Indira Gandhi in her individual capacity as the Chancellor.

Who should be the Chancellor? The Committee on Governance of Universities and Colleges has suggested that the Chancellor may be a high dignitary of the State or of the Union of India. He may be an eminent scholar or an eminent person in the public life of the State, nominated by the President of India on the recommendation of the Executive Council for a period of three years. He should be eligible
We think that the present arrangement is satisfactory; because it does not involve any expenditure. Second, if an eminent scholar or an eminent man of public life is appointed Chancellor it may create problems. He must be paid a decent salary. He must be provided with free accommodation. He must be endowed with powers but he would not have close contact with the State Government. The Governor is in close contact with the Government and can influence it to adopt a helpful attitude towards the University. The University can influence the State Government through the Governor more effectively than by direct contact with it and this we shall note later on.

The motives which induced the State Legislature to make the Governor of the State as the ex-officio Chancellor of the Universities within his jurisdiction were several. The legislature intended the Chancellor to maintain, preserve and protect the autonomy of the Universities within his

jurisdiction. Shri Bartle Frere, the Chancellor of the Bombay University said in 1867 on the eve of his retirement -

'I have endeavoured ever since I came to this Government to promote, as far as lay in my power, the efficiency and independence of the University because I believe that it contains the germ of some of the most valuable gifts which England could bestow in India'.

Sir Bartle Frere thought that any attempt on the part of the Government to convert a University into a department of the State Government would be a grave mistake (2).

The second motive is that it secures the continued support of the State Government to the University. It may be remembered that a substantial portion of the expenditure of the University is borne by the State Government. The annual block grant by the State Government may not be sufficient to meet the expenditures on new schemes. The University may require additional funds and if the Governor is convinced that additional funds are necessary he may persuade the State and Central Governments to sanction

(2) Dargakery: The Bombay University. P. 12.
necessary funds (3).

There is also another reason why the Governor should be ex-officio Chancellor of all the Universities within his jurisdiction. He may use his influence with

---


Shri L.P. Singh wrote to George Jacob the Chairman of the University Grants Commission on 29 July, 1974:

'I happen to be the Chancellor of both Gauhati and Dibrugarh Universities and I have fair idea of their essential needs for development during the Fifth Five Year Plan. I believe that while the provision of Rs. 2 crores for the Gauhati University is by no means generous it might possibly enable the University to go ahead with its essential programme. However, even the modest needs of the Dibrugarh University which is still in an early phase of development can certainly not be met with a provision of Rs. 1.50 crores. It is the only University in Upper Assam and has considerable potentialities. It also meets in a certain measure the needs of the neighbouring areas of Arunachal and Nagaland. During my last visit to Dibrugarh I was particularly impressed by the austere and simple type of buildings which the Dibrugarh University has been constructing the recent years. Obviously there is the recognition of the need to avoid expenditure on pretentious buildings and to concentrate on academic activities. It would be most unfortunate if, because of a very inadequate grant from the University Grants Commission, the University were forced to abandon even some of its core programme of development. The whole State of Assam had a late start in the field of educational development and even within the State, Upper Assam has suffered in the past because of a variety of handicaps. May I, in the circumstances, appeal to
the Government, both Central and State and secure certain advantages to the Universities (4).

Third, the Government may propose to take away some of the statutory powers vested in the University. Since all you to have a fresh look at the Dibrugarh University proposals and raise the ceiling of Rs. 1.50 crores to a level which in your judgement would enable the University to go ahead with its essential plans. The Chairman replied that Universities were classified into three categories, Gauhati got Rs. 2 crores because it belonged to the first category and Dibrugarh got Rs. 1.50 crores because it belonged to the last category.

(4) G.A.50/22-4-1972;

There was shortage of building material and as a consequence the University of Gauhati was not able to undertake the construction of some buildings and complete the others. The Vice-Chancellor discussed the matter with the Chancellor. The Chancellor B.K.Nehru wrote to the Secretary to the Government, Steel and Mines Ministry, 'Much of the students' trouble from which the Universities of Assam suffer is due to the almost total absence of even the minimum buildings required to give even a sub-standard education. Much though I deprecate the students taking the law into their hands, as they unfortunately often do, I cannot help sympathizing with them when we fail to meet even their minimum and the most legitimate demands. I would therefore be grateful if you could kindly use your influence to have this very small requirement met on a priority basis'. Immediately the building material was supplied and the construction of buildings proceeded with.
bills before their introduction in the legislature must be placed before the Governor for his comment, the Governor has an opportunity to advise the Government on the subject. On the University may be in need of additional powers for effective functioning and it may approach the Government through the Chancellor for the same

(5) On September 2, 1975, L.P. Singh wrote to the Chief Minister that he was not informed of the Draft bills relating to the University and requested him that all bills before their introduction should be placed before him so that he could offer his comments. Commenting on the several provisions of the 1975 amendments, L.P. Singh said,

'I am not at all happy with the sub-section 7 of section 9 which too I think was inserted in 1975. It is in my view not at all appropriate that the Chancellor should be vested with such Draconian powers, the exercise of which cannot but bring him into controversy'.

Commenting on the principle of election, L.P. Singh said that it was pernicious principle to have elections to every place in the University. The Chancellor said that each college might be authorised to elect or select one teacher and from this list the Vice-Chancellor could select the required number of members to the Court or Academic Council and other bodies.
Fourth, the support of the State Government may be necessary to maintain law and order. There are two sections in the University community. One section says that the police must be summoned to maintain law and order and protect University property. The second section contends that the sanctity of the University campus should be maintained by not permitting the police into it. Which section is correct? The Chancellor may adopt an objective attitude and see the reason in the arguments (6).

(6) On this vital problem L.P. Singh said—'Our Universities come into existence through legislation which determined their character and the scope of their activities and further development depends on the financial assistance they get from the State. We must therefore consider dispassionately the nature and the extent of autonomy which a University can and should still enjoy. A concept of autonomy inherited from our ancient past or borrowed from certain self-financing institutions in the West will not do. Such autonomy as we ask for has to be justified in terms of academic necessity and values and by proper discharge of responsibilities which go with autonomy.

Let me hasten to express my own firm faith in the autonomy of the University in academic and related matters. Political and bureaucratic experience as such, cannot be the basis for fashioning or guiding academic life and it would be most unfortunate if a University were conceived ... more or less as department of Government .... But we cannot expect the State to be a helpless spectator if a University is not being run in accordance with the spirit and the letter of its legislative character; when it finds that the academic life is being eroded and destroyed to serve extraneous political purposes or factional or sectarian ends. The
There is another motive in having the Governor as the Chancellor. Placed in the centre of administration in the State he is in a position to view things objectively and act according to certain norms. If he happens to be a professional the utility of the institution of Chancellorship is still greater.

The final reason for having the Governor as the Chancellor is that it costs nothing to the University and the State Government. The State Government can exercise Government is answerable to the legislature, the tax payers and the society generally. And in certain circumstances, the Government may feel called upon to intervene and even to amend the law governing the University.

Dealing with the sanctity of the University campus, L.P. Singh said, 'Related to the concept of the autonomy of a University, there is the idea of the sanctity of the University campus. It is certainly desirable that the agencies of law and order should keep away from a University campus; but in the first instance the sanctity of a University campus has to be respected and preserved by the academic community itself. Any violence and unlawful activity within the Campus or directed from it is a violation of its sanctity and once such violation takes place, the agencies of law and order feel called upon to intervene however distasteful the intervention may be .......; by all means preserve the sanctity of the University campuses but let us first respect that sanctity ourselves'. Thus L.P. Singh silenced the protagonists and the antagonists of University autonomy and the sanctity of the University campuses. There were no protests against the arguments advanced by L.P. Singh. In polished language L.P. Singh told the University community that the University teachers and students are
some measure of control over the University administration. This would not be possible if any other person happens to be the Chancellor. Therefore we do not agree with the observation of L.P. Singh which he made in a moment of agony: "If the interests of the University can be better served by having as a Chancellor, a person who can give more time to the affairs of the University, I shall be perfectly happy to request the State Government to take steps for amending the law suitably so that the Governor may be replaced by someone else as Chancellor." (7).

Background of the office:

The Chancellor of the Calcutta University was the Governor-General of India, his chief duties being to preside over the annual convocations, to nominate 80 of the 100 Fellows and to approve the appointment of the remaining 20.

not neo-brahmanas to claim certain privileges. Thus, the Chancellor can play the role of a friend, philosopher and guide.

(Convocation Address of the Chancellor, Gauhati University, 1975).

(7) Note of 18.5.1977. Governor's Secretariat, Dispur.
The University Commission 1902, recommended that Lt. Governor of Bengal should be given precedence next to the Chancellor but without prejudice to the right of the Vice-Chancellor to preside over the meetings of the senate. Under the Universities Act of 1904, he was made the Rector and was entitled to preside over the meetings of the senate. In view of the intimate relationship between the Lt. Governor of Bengal and the University of Calcutta, the Government of India considered it expedient that provision should be made for associating the Rector more closely with the administration of the University than had previously been the case. Therefore in 1906, it was decided that all letters addressed by them to the Registrar of the Calcutta University should be forwarded through the Rector except in the case of urgency. Similarly, all correspondence addressed by the University to the Government of India must be submitted through the Rector. In 1912, when there was re-organization of Bengal, the Governor of Bengal again became the Rector. In 1920, when education became a transferred subject the Governor of the Province became the Chancellor of the University (8).

(8) Calcutta University Commission Report, Vol. 3 Chap. XXVII.
The Provisions of the Calcutta University Act have been incorporated in the Gauhati University Act, 1947. The Act says that the Chancellor, by virtue of his office, shall be the head of the University and the President of the Court and shall when present preside at any convocation of the University.

Functions of the Chancellor:

The functions of the Chancellor can be divided into two, statutory and non-statutory. Statutory functions are enumerated in the Act. Non-statutory functions are those imposed on him by custom and convention. One of the statutory functions is that when present he presides over the meetings of the Court of Dibrugarh and Gauhati Universities. During the period 1948 to 1974, the Courts met on 65 occasions and the Chancellor presided on 54 occasions. Thus he presided over almost fifty percent of the meetings of the Court. But something had happened in January 1972 when the Chancellor was not treated properly. Since then the Chancellors are not presiding over any Court meeting. This led to some amount of dissatisfaction. There was a complaint that the Chancellor was not taking interest in the administration of the University. When this was brought to the notice of the
Chancellor L.P. Singh, he remarked, 'I have had the feeling that a great deal of the time is spent on discussions to which the Chancellor can hardly make any contribution. I have felt that instead of spending some hours preparing for a court meeting and some hours presiding over it, I could devote the time otherwise for the greater benefit of the University. For instance, I spent quite sometime in Delhi discussing with the Secretary, Department of Petroleum, the question of establishing a Petroleum Institute at Dibrugarh and I did whatever I could with the Central authorities to have certain priority requirements of the University such as increasing the duration of the petroleum course to two years and providing facilities for (the) study of life sciences giving urgent attention'. So L.P. Singh decided not to attend the meetings of the Courts of the Universities and directed his Secretary to place before him the minutes of the proceedings of every meeting of the courts 'with important portions sidelined'. We feel that the decision of the Chancellor not to attend the meeting of the court is a wise one. Since 1920, after the introduction of Dyarchy no Chancellor presided over the meetings of the Court/Senate in Southern Universities. If he presides over the meetings of the court he is likely to influence its decisions. It will be like the Deputy Commissioner presiding over the meetings
of the municipal and local boards before the days of dyarchy. The Chancellor must remain outside the Court/ Senate and watch its proceedings and if the court acts unconstitutionally he should bring it to its senses. The Chancellor should preside only on extraordinary occasions and exercise moderating influence.

But we think that the Chancellor should preside over the Convocations to give colour and dignity to them. Without the Chancellor there should be no convocation. So far all convocations have been held under the presidency of the Chancellor.

Appointment of the Vice-Chancellor:

The Chancellor has the power to appoint the Vice-Chancellor of the University. But he has no unlimited power of appointment. He must observe certain limitations imposed on him from time to time by law. The Gauhati University Act, 1947 laid down that the Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor after considering the 'recommendations' of the Court. Thus the Court had no power to 'elect' a Vice-Chancellor. It had the power to recommend. From this it is obvious that the Court should prepare a panel of names say
three or five and submit the list to the Chancellor for his
consideration. The Chancellor had complete discretion to
select any one from the panel or reject the panel and se­
lect one not included in the panel or return the panel to
the Court and direct it to prepare another panel consisting
of more than one name because the key word in the section
is 'recommendations' which is in the plural. In the selec­
tion of a candidate from the panel he need not consult the
Minister for Education or the Chief Minister. Thus, the only
limitations which he had to observe was that he had to
summon the court and direct it to make the recommendations.
There were changes in this procedure. But the Chancellor
still continues to be the authority for the appointment of

Vice-Chancellor.

Appointment:

The Chancellor may, on the recommendation of the
Executive Council, in the case of any casual vacancy in the
office of the Treasurer direct that the Registrar shall act
as Treasurer and perform all the duties and exercise all the
powers of the Treasurer until such time as a regular incum­
bent is appointed to that office. A similar provision is
contained in the Dibrugarh University Act, 1965 but not
in other Acts. On several occasions the Registrar of the Gauhati University acted as the Treasurer whenever there was a temporary vacancy. This provision in the Gauhati University Act does not appear to be necessary. The Treasurer is appointed by the Executive Council which should also be given the power to fill up the temporary vacancy.

Power to nominate members to the Court: Gauhati and Dibrugarh

The Chancellor has power to nominate certain number of persons as members of the Court. This power varied from time to time. In 1947, the Chancellor had the power to nominate two persons to the Court under the Act. One of them must be a woman. Under the Statutes framed under the Act, he was authorised to appoint not more than nine members to the court with a view to secure the representation of interests not otherwise adequately represented and to secure the advice of distinguished educationists from other Provinces. Under this provision the noted idologist and social worker Kaka Kalelkar was nominated to the Court. Thus in 1947 the Chancellor had power to nominate as many as eleven members to the Court.

In 1960, the number of persons to be nominated by the
Chancellor was fixed at five. Who should be those five was not stated in the Act or in the Statutes. In 1966, he was authorised to nominate as many as twenty two. This time the class of persons to be nominated by the Chancellor has been stated. For instance, not exceeding ten persons should be nominated from among the donors each of whom had contributed a sum of rupees five lakhs or more. So far no one had contributed rupees five lakhs or more and therefore no one belonging to this class has been nominated to the Court. Besides these ten the Chancellor has power to nominate ten others distinguished in literature, law, medicine, Engineering, technology, industry and commerce and public life. The Chancellor could also nominate two others from those whose interests were not otherwise represented.

In the case of the Assam Agricultural University, there is no Court; but it has a Board of Management. The Chancellor has power to nominate only one member who must be an eminent agricultural scientist with background of agricultural research or education.

In the case of the Hill University, the Visitor has power to nominate six teachers from the affiliated colleges,
out of whom three will be from colleges in the State of Meghalaya, two from the colleges in the State of Nagaland and one from colleges in the Union Territory of Mizoram, on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor.

When the Chancellor or the Visitor exercised this power, he was guided by the advice of the Minister of Education. The Governor who is the Chancellor of all the three Universities in Assam almost always consulted the Minister for Education before appointing any one to the Court.

Nomination of members to the Executive Council:

Under all the Acts the Chancellor has power to nominate certain number of members to the Executive Council in his individual discretion. He need not consult the Chief Minister or the Education Minister. The Chancellor had power to nominate two members to the Gauhati University Executive Council. One of the two members nominated shall be a woman. In 1975, the number of persons to be nominated by the Chancellor to the Executive Council was increased to three of whom one must be a woman. So far as the Dibrugarh University Executive Council is concerned the Chancellor has power to nominate only two and one of them shall be a woman. So far
as the Hill University is concerned the Chancellor has no power to nominate any one (22).

How this power was exercised by the Chancellor in actual practice? Sometimes the Chief Minister recommended a particular person for a vacancy in the Executive Council (23). Sometimes the Education Minister may suggest a particular person for a vacancy in the Council. At one time the Education Minister recommended a Minister of State. But the Chancellor said that a Minister should not be nominated as that would look awkward. In the meanwhile the Principal of a Girls' College approached the Chancellor with a request to nominate her to the Executive Council. The Chancellor Vishnu Sahay wrote to the Education Minister - 'I have formed a good opinion of this lady's work and suitability

(22) Sec. 12(1)(x) Gauhati University Act 1947.
Sec. 20(viii) Dibrugarh University Act 1965.

(23) The Chief Minister recommended Mrs. Parimal Day of Silchar for the membership of the Executive Council. But she did not attend a single meeting of the Council. She was called upon to explain why she did not attend even one meeting. She informed the Registrar that she could not attend the meetings of the Council for personal reasons and resigned.
and unless you have somebody better in mind I would like to nominate her', The Education Minister agreed with the Chancellor that no Minister should be nominated. In the place of the Minister, the Education Minister recommended the principal of a college and also agreed to the nomination of the Principal of the Girls' College to the Executive Council.

In the case of the Board of Management of the Agricultural University, the Chancellor has power to nominate one eminent agricultural scientist (1). Though the Chancellor has power to nominate one to the Board without consulting any one, in actual practice either the Vice-Chancellor or the Board itself may request the Chancellor to nominate a particular person to the Board.

Academic Council:

In the Gauhati University Act, the Chancellor has power to nominate certain number of persons to the Academic Council. The Statutes of the University, 1947, laid down

(1) Section 10(1)(c) Assam Agricultural University Act 1968.
that the Chancellor might nominate three persons who were not teachers of the University but had expert knowledge in such subjects as might be selected by the ex-officio members of the Academic Council and one person who was capable of advising the academic council on subjects connected with Islamic learning and culture. The Amending Act of 1960 omitted the latter provision. The three persons nominated by the Chancellor must be on the recommendation of the ex-officio members of the Academic Council. No change was made in this respect so far.

In the Dibrugarh University Act the Chancellor has no power to nominate any one to the Academic Council. The Visitor has no power to nominate any one to the Academic Council of the North Eastern Hill University.

**Selection Committee:**

All the Universities have their own Selection Committees. The Chancellor has power to nominate one member to the selection committee of the Gauhati, Dibrugarh and Agricultural Universities but not to the Hill University. Before nominating the Chancellor may consult the Education Minister, who may and where necessary does consult the Vice-
The Chancellor particularly L.P. Singh was interested in personnel administration. When he heard that some teachers of the Dibrugarh University were not confirmed, the Chancellor called for an explanation. He found that most of the Universities did not attach any importance to probation; as a consequence there were many square pegs in round holes. Further, there was no uniformity in the action taken by the University. Therefore the Chancellor minuted:

'I believe that the normal period of probation in the University is one year. If so, within three months of the expiry of the period of one year, a probationer should be confirmed or the probation extended by a specific period as determined by an appropriate authority or when a probationer has been found unsuitable, orders terminating the appointment issued. When a probation is extended it is only fair that the probationer should be informed in writing the grounds on which his probation is extended. Wherever feasible the shortcomings should also be pointed out to the probationer so that he may make an attempt to improve in the particular matters. Within three months of the expiry of the extended period a decision should be taken either to confirm the probationer or to extend the probation for a further period. I should however add that it is not desirable to extend probation repeatedly and if the normal period of probation is one year the total extension of probation should not exceed another year.
or at the most 18 months.

If the cases of probation have to be considered by the Executive Council, it is necessary that the Heads of the departments should be required to submit their reports to the Vice-Chancellor in good time so that the case may be placed before the Executive Council without delay. It should, I feel, be the duty of the Registrar under the control and direction of the Vice-Chancellor to see that the authority concerned sends the report on a probationer within the specified period.

The Chancellor requested the Vice-Chancellor to consider his suggestion. The Vice-Chancellor accepted his suggestion and fresh regulations were issued on 10 March 1976 (1).

The Chancellor doubted the existence of suitable service conditions in the university for its staff-teaching and non-teaching. Therefore he called for the service regulations from the universities under his charge (2).

Chancellor and University Appointments:

Some times the Court and the Executive Council may

(1) GA.6/74/46 dated 1.3.1976; Governor's Secretariate, Dispur.
(2) GA.NE.14/7/789 dated 15.7.1976; Governor's Secretariate, Dispur.
seek the advice of the Chancellor with regard to certain
appointments and his advice has been accepted so far un-
questioningly (1). In case the Executive Council does not
agree with the panel prepared by the Selection Committee

(1) The Dibrugarh University Court referred certain appoint-
ment to the Chancellor whether they were in conformity
with law of the University. The Chancellor raised a
number questions and the University was not able to
answer them. (GA.105/68 dated 16-10-1968).

The Executive Council of the Dibrugarh University re-
quested the Chancellor whether it could appoint any
one recommended by the selection Committee irrespective
of the order of merit. The Chancellor replied 'The
Executive Council can appoint any one of the recommen-
ded candidates irrespective of the order of merit'. At
the same time the Chancellor pointed out 'It is however
a convention to make appointments in order of merit.
But where it is not possible to follow the convention reasons
for not following the convention should be re-
corded in writing. (GA.105/68 dated 16-10-1968).

The Selection Committee selected the Director of Sports
 cum NCC Liaison Officer. This appointment was questioned
by the Executive Council. The matter was referred to the
Chancellor for his opinion. The Chancellor pointed out
that the function of the Statutory Committee was to make
recommendations for the appointment of officers and tea-
chers of the university, the principals and Librarian
of the University Library. The Director of Sports was not
mentioned in the list and so the selection made by the
Selection Committee would have no legal force. If the
Executive Committee had by specific resolution decided
to constitute the Statutory Selection Committee as the
Committee contemplated by the Act to make recommendations
for the post the position would have been different. But
there was no such specific resolution by the Executive
Council. Therefore, the Chancellor set aside the selec-
tion made by the selection Committee. (GA.104/68 dated
16.10.1968).
the matter must be referred to the Chancellor (1). His decision is final. The Chancellor may set aside an appointment if the same made by the Executive Council is not in

(1) The selection committee selected two candidates for two posts in the department of Statistics, Dibrugarh University. The Executive Council did not accept the order of preference recommended by the selection committee. The matter was referred to the Chancellor for his decision. The Chancellor upheld the contention of the Executive Council. He said - 'It is true that ...... got first class at each of the four university examinations at which he appeared. His first class at the Pre-University examination was, however, in Arts and Commerce Group. Further his teaching experience is confined to the degree level and his research experience is also limited possibly because there was relatively small period in which after his Master's degree he could devote himself to research ...... on other hand .... had a first class at the High School level and though he got second class at the intermediate level it was in the sciences group including mathematics and statistics and was awarded first class in Statistics and in Mathematics. He had had four years experience of teaching statistics to M.Sc. students and was doing so to their best satisfaction. He has some research papers to his credit. He has made considerable progress in research work for a Ph.D. degree. It appears to me, therefore, that on a comparison of the totality of the qualifications and experience of the two candidates, the selection committee was right in according ...... on first position to ...... I therefore decide that the two appointments should be made in the order recommended by the Selection Committee.'
conformity with law and the rules made thereunder (1). Or
the Chancellor may return the case to the Executive Coun-
cil for reconsideration if he is not convinced of the
reasons given by it for refusing to accept the recommen-
dation of the Selection Committee (2) or if the Executive

(1) In July 1970, the Executive Council of the Dibrugarh
University recommended the creation of the post of
Development and co-ordination officer and appointed....
as the Development officer. It also decided to re-em-
ploy the Registrar for a period of three years from
5 July 1970. The Chancellor set aside these appoint-
ments as they were not in conformity with the provisions
of the Act. The Chancellor wrote, 'The resolution crea-
ting the post of Development and Co-ordination Officer
is in order. The Executive Council is competent to
create the posts as may be necessary. But the power of
the Executive Council to appoint is subject to the
Proviso of section 3 (f). Therefore the resolution
appointing .... to the post of Development and Co-ordi-
nation Officer is not in order as he has been appointed
without going through the formalities under the section
which says that the officers are to be appointed after
considering the recommendations of the selection Commi-
tee and other committees as may be constituted for the
purpose. It will consequently be necessary for the
Executive Council to advertise the post'.

The Chancellor also pointed out that this subject was
not put in the agenda of the meeting of the Executive
Council. The Finance Committee was not consulted al-
though it was a statutory obligation. Again, there was
no budget provision for the proposal. The Chancellor
came to the conclusion that the Executive Council wanted
to favour a particular person at the expense of the
general tax payer.

(2) The Executive Council of the Dibrugarh University did
not accept the recommendation of the Selection Committee
and selected No. 2 and not No. 1 in the list of candi-
dates recommended by the Selection Committee. The
Council does not give any reasons for refusal (g).

Sometimes an appointment may be irregular. That is some posts are created without the prior sanction of the competent authority. Such cases were also referred to the

Executive Council contended that No. 2 'has a better academic record and has much greater academic experience than No. 1 who possesses only teaching experience of six months. In addition he (No. 2) has also passed a course in Geo-Chemistry in the University of Rome which will prove helpful to the Department'. The Chancellor was not convinced of the arguments advanced by the Executive Council. Therefore he returned the case to it for reconsideration and the Executive Council finally accepted the recommendation of the Selection Committee. (GA. 19-6-1970).

There were two vacancies in the Assamese Department. The Selection Committee recommended two candidates. The Executive Council appointed the first and did not approve the second. The matter was referred to the Chancellor who returned the case to the Executive Council and requested it to give reasons for not accepting the second candidate. The Chancellor insisted that the Executive Council while referring such cases to him must give valid reasons.

Again the selection Committee of Dibrugarh University selected one for the post of Professor and Head of the Department of Statistics. The Executive Council turned down the recommendation of the Selection Committee. The matter was referred to the Chancellor who said 'It is necessary that the Executive Council in referring the matter to the Chancellor should state clearly the reasons for not agreeing with the Selection Committee. In the reference in question no reasons are given! Therefore the matter was returned to the Executive Council requesting it to fulfill the requirements under
Chancellor for his decision (1).

Recruitment of Teachers - Police verification:

Should there be police verification before appointment? Teachers recruited to Government colleges were subjected to police verification. There was no police verifi-

section 29 (3) of the Act (GA.10/68-174 of 8.10.1975).

(1) In one case the Vice-Chancellor of Dibrugarh University did not take the prior sanction of the competent authority and proceeded with the filling up of the post. The matter was referred to the Chancellor. The Chancellor said 'On balance I think that though the consideration of these posts should have been put up to the Academic Council and the Post-graduate Board in proper sequence, the subsequent approval of all the relevant bodies remedied the defect in substance. The Act does not require the previous approval. What the law desires is that the Academic Council should decide what branches of study should be taken and the Post-graduate Board what Professors, Readers and Lecturers should be recruited and what their emoluments should be. This these bodies have done though not in proper sequence. If they thought that the creation of any of the impinged posts or their emoluments prescribed were wrong they had the undoubted right and duty of withholding approval. Their approval made the appointments valid in substance.'
cation so far as the University teachers were concerned. L.P. Singh was against police verification. He said 'Even in regard to recruitment to all India and Central services the earlier instruction regarding police verification was drastically modified some years ago. When the question was raised whether there should be police verification before appointments to education institutions, I had, as Home Secretary, strongly advised against such a course. I had expressed the view that the political antecedents or the views of a person should not be taken into account in determining his suitability for an academic appointment. Even in the tradition bound Britain, well-known Marxists are appointed as Professors and even as Heads of Colleges. Harold Laski, for instance, was a well known Marxist but he remained a Professor of Political Science of the London University until his death. The Master of the Balliol College, Dr. Christopher Hills is a well known Marxist Historian but because he was a distinguished scholar he was appointed to the Mastership of what probably is the most prestigious college at Oxford (1).

(1) Note dated 24 March 1977 by the Chancellor in the file: Governor’s Secretariat, Dispur.
Teaching and Examinations:

On 12 January 1976, Satis Chandra, the Vice-Chairman of the U.G.C. wrote to the Chancellor -

'I have written to the Vice-Chancellors of all the Universities requesting them to chalk out a programme for resuming regular academic sessions and normal schedule for holding examinations on due dates and for timely declaration of results. I shall indeed be grateful if you will kindly use your good offices as the Chancellor of all the universities in the State to ensure the smooth functioning of the universities and proper adjustments in their academic and examination schedule.'. 

The Chancellor requested all the Vice-Chancellors for a comprehensive report on the subject and for a list of holidays. The reports received revealed a disturbing state of affairs. Therefore the Chancellor wrote to all the Vice-Chancellors:

'The schedule of examinations in future years should be determined on a well thought out basis taking fully into account academic requirements and convenience of the students and teachers. I had suggested the completion of all the examinations before the summer vacation so that the students could live in hostels until examinations were completed and might not be faced to make other arrangements for their accommodation which might not be convenient and might involve them to additional expenditure or have to go away to their homes while preparing for their examination and losing the facilities of the libraries'.
Although the Chancellor directed the universities to hold the examinations before the commencement of the summer vacation, the Gauhati University held its examination in September just before the commencement of the All India Services examinations and thereby deprived opportunities to several of its students to appear in the competitive examinations. Even the undergraduate examinations were held during the summer vacation and results were published sometime in August and September and some students lost the opportunity to seek admission in other universities for higher education. The Hill University is better in this respect. So also the Dibrugarh University.

**Holidays:**

The Chancellor called for the list of holidays to find out the number of working days. He found out that the summer vacation would commence from 22 June for the Postgraduate and 1 June for the Undergraduate classes. This amused the Chancellor. He therefore wrote - 'I believe the period of summer vacation is related to climatic conditions and if so the postgraduate students would have to work intensively and to appear at their examination during the hottest part of the year. As far as I am aware the period
of the summer vacation is more or less the same for both Under-graduate and the Post-graduate students in other universities. On the other hand, if other universities in the country and especially the well-run ones can have the summer vacation during the same period for both Under-graduate and Post-graduate students, should it be impossible for the university also to have a common summer vacation? In spite of this comment, the universities in North East India commence the summer vacation from 15 June to 20 July. But this is a big mistake. Although according to the list of holidays the summer vacation is only for a duration of 45 days, actually, it is not less than five months. From 1 June the classes are not held for some reason or other. If the examinations commence in September, the students will not attend class till the middle of October. Puja vacation commences from the middle of October till the middle of November. Classes commence from 15th November to June 1. If we deduct holidays, then the classes are held just for five months. On the average, a teacher delivers not more than 100 lectures. This is a liberal estimate. The situation is the same in the Hill University. They have the winter holidays from 15 December to 15 February. There is no summer so far as Shillong is concerned. Still they close the university for three months unofficially. Thus the university and not the college teacher
has adequate leisure and opportunity for academic improvement.

**Internal Assessment:**

All the Universities in North-East India decided to introduce internal assessment. In Guwahati it was not opposed when it was first introduced. In Dibrugarh there was opposition but the students were persuaded to accept it. In NEHU there was no opposition. When the Chancellor heard of the opposition of the students to internal assessment, he wrote (1):

One should be prepared to retrace one's steps at any stage should this appear to be necessary in the public interest or because of changed conditions. In the present case (internal assessment) the circumstances have apparently not changed and the decision taken by the University authorities is one that will prove beneficial to the students themselves and should contribute to raise the standard of academic performance.

Why exactly the students object to even the modified arrangement baffles me. Is it that they do not want sessional evaluation which would be recorded in the degree certificate ... Do they think that the sessional valuation may not be

---

(1) Letter from the Chancellor to V.C., D.U.
done fairly and objectively; and personal likes and dislikes would become factors in the determination of grades? Or is it that the prospect of close application to studies throughout the session is disliked by certain sections of the students?

It seems to me that a frank discussion with students in small and large groups as you said and the professors may consider appropriate would be well worthwhile. If the students have any misunderstandings and misapprehensions these can possibly be removed by a frank and friendly discussion. If they have any genuine difficulties something could be done to meet them. It is my firm belief that the generality of the students can be brought round to accept fair and reasonable arrangement if matters are explained to them fully and in a sympathetic spirit.

Syllabus:

The Board of Studies, the Faculties and the Academic Council are the bodies that concern themselves with the courses of studies. But out of curiosity, the Chancellor called for information regarding the courses of studies. After an in depth study of the courses prescribed in the three universities the Chancellor observed,

'I have gone through the statements of courses provided at the three universities in Assam. It does not appear that in the Engineering courses at either Guwhati or at Dibrugarh any special courses are provided in electronics. May be the subject is covered under the course in Electrical Engineering, but if I am not mistaken, some
engineering colleges elsewhere in the country and the Institutes of Technology provide a special course in Electronics in view of the growing importance of the subject. I should be grateful if the Vice-Chancellors of the Gauhati and Dibrugarh Universities would let me know whether the question of providing a special course in Electronics has been considered and if so whether there are any particular difficulties in introducing such a course. I should also like to know the stage at which such a course could be introduced.

2. Should not either Gauhati or Dibrugarh also provide a course in production or industrial Engineering? Such a course may prove useful considering that Assam proposes to set up a number of industries in the coming years.

3. I understand it is a standard practice in Japan and also in most western countries to include in the engineering courses instruction in computer technology or at least the use of computers in Management and operational research. I wonder if either Gauhati or Dibrugarh if not both, could include the subject in its engineering courses. I suppose a computer would have to be procured or hired if such a course is to be provided. But I believe simpler computers are now being manufactured in India, and this should not present a problem.

I feel that even the Agricultural University should provide a course in the use of computers.

The Chancellor requested the Vice-Chancellor of all the universities in the State of Assam to give thought to the matter and let him have a note. They could also discuss the matter with the Chancellor when they met him next.

The impact of this note was that both the universities,
Gauhati and Dibrugarh purchased computers for use in their respective universities. The Chancellor used his influence and good offices in securing computers for them.

The Chancellor took keen interest in the Department of Petroleum Technology Dibrugarh University and as a consequence the Dibrugarh University received a handsome recurring annual grant of Rs. 6.50 lakhs from the U.G.C.

The Chancellor L.P. Singh deeply studied the course of study for business management and minuted:

In the matter of Management Education and training only three institutions in the country have done really well namely the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta (Only recently) and the Administrative Staff College, Hyderabad. I am not aware of the products of any of the Management Faculty of any university producing graduates who are in great demand for employment in industry and business though of course such graduates do find employment as Arts and Science graduates do.

My own thinking has been that there should be a great institute of Management for this entire region. Whether it should have an independent existence or be a part of a university is a question on which I have no strong views.

I have gone through the papers in this file, and it does not seem to me that with the sort of staff which the scheme provides, it would be possible to attain the management a high standard, to organize particularly good courses or to give to the manage-
ment a practical orientation. I wonder whether the Vice-Chancellor(GU) has had discussions with the present or the former Director of the Ahmedabad Institute or the Director of the Calcutta Institute of any senior staff member of the Administrative Staff College at Hyderabad. If the University is to provide a Post-graduate course in Business Management the course has to be very carefully designed and some provision is to be made for getting for short periods the help of some persons who are holding managerial appointments in business and industrial undertakings. It would also be advisable to have guest lecturers on adequate payment from the three institutions which have attained the highest standards.

The Chancellor also suggested that there should be uniformity in the syllabus prepared by the universities in the region. He also suggested the local relevance of the syllabus for the various studies in the universities in this region. That is, the syllabus in the universities should be designed keeping in view the problems and needs of the region.

The Chancellor also dealt with the duration of the courses of certain subjects. He said that the duration of the course of two years of Petroleum Technology was not adequate 'in view of the grounding required in the field of

(1) Note of the Chancellor dated 11.3.1976 Governor's Secretariat, Dispur.
chemistry, mechanical, engineering, geology, use of by-products etc. He suggested that the course of Petroleum technology should be comparable with a course in any of the engineering sciences. This course should be comprehensive and should be of three years' duration.

The Chancellor also suggested that the Agricultural university might pay attention to the development of sheep breeding and offered financial help from the North Eastern Council for this purpose. The Centre if properly developed could meet much of the regional needs.

**Working Days:**

On 27 April 1976, the Chancellor wrote to all the Vice-Chancellors, 'My impression is that all the four universities in the region have much smaller number of net instructional days and also shorter working hours. Is there any good reason why the number of net instructional days should not be 220? I am aware that in some renowned universities in other countries, the number of instructional days is less than 220; but the students of these universities make full use of the long vacation doing their private reading and on holiday tours which they undertake.
partly with an eye on their value to their academic pursuits. Our students generally make no such use of their holidays and while away their time doing nothing or at any rate doing nothing of relevance to their academic pursuits.

In spite of the adverse comments by the Chancellor, the universities continue to function as in the past. The responsibility for such a state of affairs must be borne by the universities. Some of the heads of the departments of universities permit the students to go on excursion which ought to be undertaken during holidays. The result is that the departments are practically closed when the students go on excursion. The hill university has two long holidays. The University is closed for winter for two months. Again, the university also does not work from 1 June to 25 August. This is an undeclared holiday. The Gauhati University is closed for summer on 15 June and the classes commence only on 15th November. Thus, the net number of lectures delivered by a teacher does not exceed 100. Therefore the students, the teachers and the administration must be held responsible for this state of affairs.

**Chancellor as an Adviser**

Very often the Chancellor acts as a friend, philosopher
and guide of the universities. Sometimes the Vice-Chancellors themselves seek his advice. Sometimes the Executive Council may seek his advice to get over delicate situations.\(^{(1)}\)

\(^{(1)}\) One of the top officers of a university applied for leave after he was retired. The Executive Council did not like to grant him leave after retirement. Therefore the matter was referred to the Chancellor. The Chancellor said that the officer concerned should have applied for leave before retirement, and therefore was not entitled to leave.

On another occasion the Chancellor advised the Gauhati University in regard to recognition of the Imphal Medical College. The Gauhati University did not recognise the Medical College on the ground that it did not satisfy all the conditions necessary for recognition. The Chancellor wrote to the Vice-Chancellor of the Gauhati University - "The Medical College at Imphal is a regional institution serving all the political units in North Eastern Region except Assam. Every effort is being made to develop the Regional College in a proper way and while progress was made in all other matters, there has been difficulty in getting teachers in certain faculties. It is not a fact that either the Manipur Government or the Governing Body of the institution have not been making every possible effort to get qualified teachers and these efforts will certainly be continued. In fact there is a reasonable prospect of the college getting teachers for the faculty of Pathology and Medicine in the near future. I shall take personal interest in this matter and see that the vacancies are filled as quickly as possible; but I would suggest that in the meantime the students of the college may not be prevented from the second MBBS examination to be held in June 1976. If the students are prevented from taking the examination not only would serious handicap be caused to them, but the region would be deprived of the services of doctors for an additional year. Therefore L.P. Singh advised the Gauhati University to adopt a sympathetic attitude towards the Imphal Medical College and wanted to know from the University the action taken."
Promotion of Higher Education:

The Chancellors were also interested in the promotion of Higher education in North East India. L.P. Singh, found that the provision made for admission in the Post-graduate departments in science subjects was not adequate. So he appointed a committee to study the situation in Guwahati and Dibrugarh universities and to make recommendations. The Committee was also directed to assess the feasibility of introducing Post-graduate classes in the Cotton College with special reference to Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology and Mathematics.

The Chancellor held a conference, the first of the kind in the history of higher education in North East India to discuss the new pattern of education 10+2+3. He wanted to know from the Vice-Chancellors of all the universities in North East India about the implementation of the new pattern of education. He told the Vice-Chancellors that the three year Honours course should be provided only in well established colleges. He did not wish that Honours courses should be introduced in all colleges because that would increase the cost of education without producing beneficial results. The Chancellor also observed that there should be uniformity
among the universities in the region so far as the duration of the courses is concerned. If different universities have different lengths of the course, migration of students from one university to another would be hampered considerably.

The Chancellor also said that a two year pass course would be harmful as the incentive towards excellence would be destroyed when the student would realise that he at the end of the course would only obtain an unclassified degree. He therefore suggested that there should be a two year degree course after which the student should be awarded a classified degree and a three year Honours course for those who intend to go for higher studies. 'In the interest of maintaining higher standard only selected colleges with required facilities should be permitted to introduce Honours course.

The Chancellor dealt with Agricultural Education in Gauhati University. L.P. Singh said that the students who offered this course in Gauhati University were generally not agricultural graduates and were not profitably employed. In view of the opening of the post-graduate classes by the Assam Agricultural University the Chancellor felt that the continuance of this course should be reconsidered. The
members of the Department could be absorbed in the Department of Botany and some of them could be taken over by the Agricultural University.

The Chancellor thought that no stream can rise higher than the source. Therefore higher education could be promoted only by a well equipped and dedicated teaching staff.

The Chancellor also thought that with a view to improve teaching in the colleges, each college should be furnished by the University an evaluation report on the performance of the students in the last examination subjectwise. So that the colleges might know the strength and weakness of the departments.

In order to understand the actual working of the universities and the colleges Chancellor L.P. Singh called for a meeting of all the Vice-Chancellors in North East India once in six months. No other Chancellor so far met the Vice-Chancellors in conference periodically.

**Power to appoint Enquiry Commission:**

In the original Act of the Gauhati University the
Chancellor had no power to cause an enquiry to be made into the affairs of the University. Even the Court had no such power. In 1960, the Court was authorised to request the Chancellor to cause an enquiry to be made into the affairs of the University, if in the opinion of the Court there be any matter requiring such an enquiry. On 16 September 1961 the Court met to consider the situation which resulted in the resignation of the Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Treasurer and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts. The Court decided to request the Chancellor to cause an enquiry into the incident of 16 August, 1961, and determined the terms of reference. The State Government suggested the names of certain persons to be the members of the Commission. The Chancellor placed the list before the Executive Council of the Gauhati University which approved it. The Vice-Chancellor orally protested against the appointment of M.N. Goswami as member Secretary of the Commission on the ground that he contested for the office of Vice-Chancellor unsuccessfully against him. The Chancellor in consultation with Government of India appointed the members of the Commission and the Chairman.

By the Gauhati University Amendment Act of 1965, the Chancellor was given the power to cause an inspection to be
made by such person or persons as he may direct of the University, its buildings, laboratories and equipments and of every institution maintained by it and also of the examinations, teaching and other work conducted or done by the University. A similar provision was inserted in the Dibrugarh University Act of 1965. In the case of the Hill University, the Visitor is vested with similar powers.

**Inspection:**

The State Government has for reasons to be recorded in writing, the power to cause an inspection by such person or persons as it may direct of the university or any institution maintained by the University. It has also power to take over the administration of the university should it come to the conclusion that it is in the interest of the university itself. We suggest that all these powers should be vested in the Chancellor. It is true that provision has been made to consult the Chancellor before any such action is taken. But mere consultation is not enough. We also suggest that there should be a statutory provision enabling the Chancellor to cause an inspection of the university quinquennially. The inspection should be a comprehensive one. The Commission should consist of a finance officer from the
office of the Accountant General to go into the financial administration, two eminent scientists and two social scientists. One of the five will be the Chairman. The report of the Commission should be sent to the Chancellor who will forward it to the Vice-Chancellor for his comment. The comments received from the Vice-Chancellor will be considered by the Chancellor. The Chancellor may direct the university to implement the recommendations of the commission within a time limit and the University will be bound to implement it.

If the Chancellor comes to the conclusion that the administration of a university has touched the rock bottom of inefficiency and incompetency and that the administration will not effect any reform, after due notice, the Chancellor should have the power to supersede the administration and appoint special officer to carry on the administration for a period of one year under the direct control of the Chancellor. The period of supersession may be extended in public interest for another year and no more. Supersession is a sledge hammer, a political poison to be administered very sparingly. It may be argued that the Chancellor should not be vested with such powers of life and death as it militates against academic freedom. But critics may remember that
there is a distinction between university autonomy and university maladministration. Autonomy does not mean freedom to mismanage the affairs of the university. The State Government and the State Legislature which have power to establish and abolish universities are dissolved by the Central Government. Should not the legislature have the power to supersede its own creatures? Supersession is like a gun behind the door. It will be used only when things become shockingly bad. Gangrene cannot be cured with lavender water. Further the Chancellor is a part and parcel of the University.

Not only the Chancellor should have the power to supersede a university, he should have the power to annul any proceedings of the university which is not in conformity with the provisions of the Act, Statutes and Ordinances or Regulations. Before resorting to these extraordinary powers the Chancellor should give an opportunity to the University to show cause why such an action should not be taken against it. The explanation furnished by the University should receive the consideration of the Chancellor before taking final action.

The power to Sanction:

The previous sanction of the Chancellor is necessary
for several things, for instance, the sanction of the Chancellor is necessary for the Vice-Chancellor to leave the headquarters. The Chancellor may or may not permit the Vice-Chancellor to leave his jurisdiction if he should come to the conclusion that it would not be in the interest of the University (1). In a case of selection of the Orator to address the convocation, the Executive Council prepares a panel, the Vice-Chancellor selects one of them and the persons selected by the Vice-Chancellor must be approved by the Chancellor (2). Thirdly, the assent of the Chancellor is necessary for all draft statutes. Thus while the University authorities are competent to frame the statutes no statute shall come into force without previous assent of the Chancellor. Finally while the Academic Council has power to propose conferring the degree of Doctor of Literature or Doctor of Laws (Honoris Causa) on distinguished persons the sanction of the Chancellor is necessary.

(1) When the Vice-Chancellor of the Dibrugarh University sought the permission of the Chancellor to visit Yugoslavia and England, the Chancellor L.F. Singh wrote, 'The Chancellor desires that before you leave you should take suitable measure as may be necessary to ensure that there are no disturbances in the University during your absence'. The Chancellor did not stop there. He must have been worried and therefore he wrote again the next day, 'The Chancellor has agreed to your proposal but he desires that unless you are satisfied that there is no likelihood of any serious students trouble in the University during your absence abroad you are well advised not to leave Dibrugarh'.

(2) When the Vice-Chancellor suggested a particular person for appointment as the Orator, the Chancellor remarked, 'I have no knowledge of him. Perhaps he is a good man'. 
The Chancellor requested the Vice-Chancellors to keep him informed of the activities in the Campus. Sometimes he invited the Vice-Chancellors to Raj Bhawan for personal discussion on certain important matters...., and over a cup of hot coffee he advised them what to do and what not. Sometimes he invited them for dinners and discussed matters of common interest. One of the Chancellors requested the Vice-Chancellors for a periodical report about university administration.

There was a complaint that one of the departments in the University was not functioning properly. The Chancellor called for explanation. The Head of the Department repudiated the charges levelled against him and his colleagues. He wrote that 'the members of the department were his colleagues having a stake and say in the administration of the Department' and that he did 'not believe in issuing orders from above but in arriving at all decisions collectively in consultation with my colleagues and implement them'.

The Chancellor did not accept the explanation furnished by the Departmental head. He observed 'A disturbing report.'
When did the vacancies occur and what action was taken in each case to fill up the vacancy. The retirement of ..... was not an unexpected event and surely steps should have been taken some months before the retirement to fill up the vacancy as soon as it occurred. If the head of the department is not to blame, surely some others in the university are.

Cancellation of classes on a number of occasions and the failure to make ad hoc arrangements do not do credit to the department or the university nor does the non-coverage of the entire syllabus.

The Head of the Department's explanation of his duties and responsibilities may be full of good sentiments but it is not at all sound and it ignores the basic facts that if the head of the department does not manage the department efficiently and receive adequate service from the teachers the interest of the students is sacrificed. I think the Vice-Chancellor has to intervene to correct thing!

Decision of Disputes:

In case of a dispute arising between the University
and an individual as regards membership of any academic body, the matter must be referred to the Chancellor whose decision shall be final (1).

Attitude of the University Authorities towards Students:

On this subject divergent views were expressed by different Chancellors. One Chancellor wrote - 'You and I being charged with the responsibility and the trust of educating the members of the University, should not agree unless overruled by competent authority and competent authority does not include mob pressure to anything which we do not regard as being for the benefit of the students or for the cause of education. One should not in any case agree under duress to anything at all no matter what the

GA Notes of 27-6-1976. For instance, two cases were referred to the Chancellor whether Professor-Emeritus was a member of the Court and Academic Council. The Chancellor said that Emeritus Professor should be treated as an ex-officio member of the Court and Academic Council.

As regards the tenure of office of a student elected or nominated to the Court, the Chancellor said that such persons shall hold office for a period of one year only from the date of his election or nomination as the case might be. But he cannot continue as a member on the expiry of one year. His term cannot be reduced under any circumstances except when he ceases to be a student of the University.
merits of the case may be. Once you start on the road of appeasement the initial steps of which were very easy to take, you end up very quickly with the destruction of all institutions which it is our duty to prevent'. The Chancellor sent a copy of the letter to the Chief Minister who said 'I fully endorse the views expressed by you and would like to thank you for such valuable advice. But another Chancellor said 'One should be prepared to retrace one's steps at any stage should this appear to be necessary in the public interest or because of changed conditions (CA 180/74 dated 21.5.1974). There is no conflict between the two. Both the Chancellors seem to believe in the maintenance of law and order and adopt a firm attitude in regard to this matter.

Conclusion:

We have so far studied the role of the Chancellor in the University administration. The effectiveness of the Chancellor depends on his personality and amount of interest taken by him in the affairs of the University. He should, in addition to his statutory duties play the role of a friend, philosopher and guide. Being outside the day to day administration of the University he can have an objective view of every thing happening in the University and with his extensive and varied experience can guide the University community. He is the link between the
University and the Government. He can exercise his influence in maintaining autonomy of the University within the limits of the law and good administration.