



TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN UNIVERSITY (TAEU)

Reg No: 8079

Delayed Justice is Denied Justice: Eastern University

Why is government delaying action on established academic fraud and politicisation in the appointment of Dr K Kobindarajah as the Vice Chancellor of Eastern University on 13 Feb 2012?

The FUTA academics were the first to break ice in the regime that held people by fright and threat in the past. The academics and the educated from various institutions came around (lawyers, teachers, lecturers) to make a change this time at the election and they probably had a catalytic impact in the tide that swept the country to victory on the 8th January 2015.

Eradication of fraud and malpractices and bringing the offenders to the law and establishing good governance were the theme of the wave, which the Academics were part of. Now, though we recognise many changes and actions, we also see that some obvious and evident ones are being put on hold or onto the slow mail process which is disheartening. One such is the issue of Dr K Kobindarajah, a **non citizen** appointed as VC.

- When Dr K Kobindarajah applied for the position of VC at the Eastern University on 27 August 2011, he was under VOP (vacation of post) from the Eastern University and also not a citizen. He was a Canadian citizen (**Canadian Passport WH 847488**).

The candidate's application should have been rejected. But instead it was accepted by the Registrar and the Competent Authority of the Eastern University at that time.

- The Council was appointed on 2nd January 2012 and they had a meeting with the Hon. Minister of Higher Education Mr S B Dissanayake that week. It was informed that the minister had requested to VOTE for Dr K Kobindarajah. Many of those who voted for him had never seen him. If the Curriculum Vitae are compared with the other applicants, Dr Kobindarajah had no value. (Some of those council members have been reappointed this week by the UGC again indicating that these corruptions do not end unless uprooted). Dr K Kobindarajah was still on VOP at this time on 14th January 2012 when elections took place at the council.

This was pure a political manipulation by the then Minister with the Council of the Eastern University. It is also known that the regional political powers also supported his nomination at that time.

- We had compiled a document of 160 pages on the malpractices of Dr Kobindarajah and Council (including the above) and handed over to the UGC and Ministry of Higher education on 4th November 2013 in the presence of FUTA, and they have not acted on it to this day.



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The UGC needs to be reviewed for its inefficiency and politicisation and ignoring these. Inquiry is needed on every issue stated in these allegations.

- Further when the Applications were called in September 2014 for VC position for the three years term beginning in 2015, the Registrar had checked with the UGC whether a foreign citizen could apply to which the UGC CHAIRPERSON had replied YES.

This is typical of the politicised institutions. One backs the other. The VC elections had its own malpractices including the VC travelling with the voters on the day of the election and holding meetings with them (this was being queried by the Presidential secretariat, as we understand). Candidates who had been found guilty of financial fraud at inquiry were allowed to contest for VC position. Others had been promoted in administrative grades. FUTA protested against this in front of UGC last month.

We have sent these to authorities concerned both past and present (also found in our web: www.esnuta.com) and isn't it good enough to strip DR K. Kobindarajah from VC position as an illegal appointment? Dr Kobindarajah also has committed offence by not declaring the VOP and his citizenship status in the application. When this was queried by the Auditor General, he had merely stated that 'it was not in the advertisement', being the VC in position.

Further DR K Kobindarajah had obtained a duty free car permit (**TTIP/01/014053, dated 25.07.2012**) using his NIC, 662440094 V (where the Position of Vice Chancellor has no provision for duty free vehicle) being a foreigner and under VOP he has no status as a Lecturer. This is a definite misuse of power with political support and may be also a tax fraud.

When he leaves after his term on 12th February 2015 who answers all these queries and the many raised by the teachers Union? Should the citizen toil in this country await leadership from those who run abroad, to return for part time lead positions, taking away and destroying our wealth in terms of administration and practices by serving only their political masters and imposing that culture into our system which is worse than the ETs.

We feel that the appointment of the present VC of the Eastern University should be terminated and inquired to emphasize the erroneous appointment illegal and political, rather than await his period to end which justifies the appointment, in the name of anti corruption and politicisation that are being eradicated under the new government.

Signed
Dr T Jayasingam
President

Signed
Dr K E Karunakaran
Secretary

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