

Mr. Speaker: These are all arguments.

Shri V. Raja: Or discrimination?

Mr. Speaker: The very fact that it has not recognised some political parties is itself discrimination.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the proposal that every year the draft electoral roll will be supplied to each political party or to each Member of Legislature has been accepted or not?

Shri A. K. Sen: As I have already said, it was decided by the Government to supply free electoral rolls to every political party to whom a symbol was allotted by the Election Commission and that decision stands until it is revoked.

State Social Welfare Boards

*81. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Conference of the Chairmen of all the States Social Welfare Boards was held in New Delhi in second week of April 1957; and

(b) if so, the main decisions of the Conference and how far they are being given effect to?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 25].

श्री विभूति मिश्र : इस स्टेटमेंट में लिखा है —

The Board will undertake the work relating to the welfare of women, children and the physically handicapped....

मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि फिजिकली हैंडिकैप्ड के लिए बोर्ड क्या काम करेगा ।

डा० का० सा० श्रीवास्ती : बैलफोर बोर्ड का काम यह है कि जितने भी फिजिकली-हैंडिकैप्ड बच्चे हैं, उन की शिक्षा सम्बन्धी और दूसरी कठिनाइयों के विषय में विचार करे और जिस तरह हो सके, उन की मदद करे ।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या गवर्नमेंट के सामने कोई स्पष्ट स्कीम है या नहीं कि उनके लिए क्या काम किया जायगा ?

डा० का० सा० श्रीवास्ती : फिजिकली हैंडिकैप्ड बच्चों के लिए विशेष प्रकार के स्कूल, पाठ्यविधि और प्रबन्ध होते हैं । बोर्ड इन सब बातों पर विचार कर के, इस विषय में जो भी सहायता दी जा सकेगी, उस का प्रबन्ध करेगा ।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : सरकार ने इस काम के लिए कितना खर्चा व्यय करने के लिए रखा है ?

डा० का० सा० श्रीवास्ती : माननीय सदस्य ने कान्फरेंस के बारे में प्रश्न पूछा था अगर वह ज्यादा इतिला चाहते हैं, तो नोटिस दें ।

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: The main difficulty experienced at this conference being the quick examination of schemes for help offered to the Board, may I know what are the steps taken to eliminate these difficulties?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The full statement is laid on the Table of the House which gives all the information regarding the decisions taken at this conference.

Indian Museum, Calcutta

*82. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken regarding the provision of ample space for better and scientific display of the valuable exhibits in the Indian Museum, Calcutta; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the construction, already officially approved, of a fire proof building in the Museum compound for housing certain zoological exhibits has not been proceeded with?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Steps have been taken to provide additional space.

(b) No, Sir.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: In view of the fact that the Indian Museum has the largest and most representative collection in the country and is visited by an enormous number of people from all parts of the country, will the Government give an assurance that there is no intention to refuse its developmental requirements and reduce its importance in the cultural set-up?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: No. Government have no intention to reduce its importance. In fact, they would like to increase its importance.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know if it is not a fact that the Planning Commission's allocations for different museums and their development are, on account of certain delay in connection with the Indian Museum, likely to be diverted elsewhere to the detriment of the Indian Museum's legitimate needs?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I am not aware of it. I will look into the question.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: May I request that in view of its importance, Q. 92 may be answered?

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Member mean the question relating to sterling balances? The Question Hour is over. If the Minister is willing to answer, I have no objection.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not mind. But I have said all that I possibly can say yesterday. I do not mind answering the question, if that is the direction of the Chair.

Mr. Speaker: I am not interested one way or the other. If the Minister thinks that something more has to be said regarding this matter, I have no objection to allow him to say it.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have got the answer. I shall read it out if the Chair permits me to do so.

Mr. Speaker: I have no objection.

Sterling Balances

*92. { Shri S. V. Ramaswami:
Shri L. N. Mishra:
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of India's sterling balance;

(b) the rate at which it is being withdrawn per month;

(c) the steps Government have taken to stem the drain; and

(d) how far they have proved effective?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) On the 3rd May, 1957, the sterling balances amounted to Rs. 496.42 crores.

(b) About Rs. 24 crores a month on the average since May 1956.

(c) and (d). I would invite a reference to my budget speech of yesterday and the White paper thereon.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: Are there any special reasons for this pressure on the sterling balances now?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I had dealt with it yesterday in my budget speech. I would like my hon. friend to read it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member heard the whole story yesterday.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In view of the fact that a major portion of the sterling balances is going away in the import of capital goods and machinery, may I know how we are