

Syllabus for Rural Institute :

*1724. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary :** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether a unified syllabus has been finalised for rural Institutes?

The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall) : Yes, Sir.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary : May I know what are the special features of this syllabus from and how this differs from the ordinary syllabus ?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall : I will place a copy of the syllabus on the Table of the House. The main consideration which the Committee had in view in drafting the syllabus was that the special conditions of our rural areas might be kept in view .

Mr. Speaker : A copy will be placed in the Library as whatever is placed on the Table has to be printed.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary : May I know the number of rural institutes established in different States?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall : There are in all ten institutions to which we have given grants for developing them into rural institutes.

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know whether the State Governments have been consulted about the syllabi and, if so, their reactions thereto?

Dr. K. L. Shrimati : No, Sir.

Shrimati Sushama Sen : May I know whether there are special schools for girls and, if so, whether any separate syllabus is made out for them in the rural areas?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall : No, Sir.

Shri Madiah Gowda : May I know whether this syllabus is the same as the one broadly prepared by the Shrimall Committee or it differs and if it differs, in what way?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall : It is broadly on the lines suggested by the Committee.

Shri D. C. Sharma : May I know if the syllabus part of the rural institute is going to influence rural education that already exists or only education which is contemplated in these rural areas?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall : As the hon. Member would remember, the University Education Commission had recommended the setting up of rural universities. Then there was another committee which went into the whole question thoroughly and they suggested that instead of rural universities these rural institutes might

be set up and it is in the light of those recommendations that these institutes are being set up. I could not follow the exact question of the hon. Member.

Shrimati Kamlendu Mati Shah
rose—

Mr. Speaker : I am not going to allow any more supplementaries. I have already allowed a number of questions.

International Astronomical Union

*1725. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi :** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state :

(a) the contribution of India to the International Astronomical Union in 1955;

(b) the main activities of the Union during the same period; and

(c) whether any report has been submitted thereon?

The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya) : (a) to (c). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XI, annexure No. 2].

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know what special work is proposed to be done at Kodaikanal observatory?

Shri K. D. Malaviya : I require notice to answer this question.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know when the report of the International Astronomical Union is likely to be received?

Shri K. D. Malaviya : A brief account of the proceedings was received by us. We are still awaiting the detailed report.

Converts to Christianity

*1726. **Shri Bheekha Bhai :** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1176 on the 4th April, 1956 and state:

(a) the number of converts to Christianity during 1955-56 in Rajasthan;

(b) whether Government have received any representation as to the appointment of an inquiry Committee to go into the matter; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar) : (a) It is requested that the information asked for is not available.