

taken before total prohibition could be introduced.

Shri Hem Barua: On a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: After every question he raises a point of order.

Shri Hem Barua: The Minister just now said that all the States have agreed to this prohibition programme. But may I draw his attention to the fact that the Chief Minister of Punjab has decided to consult his people whether to introduce prohibition or not in the State....

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Also West Bengal.

Mr. Speaker: I request the hon. Member to consider whether I have to interpret any rules or the Constitution or any other Statute and to tell him whether it is a point of order or not. The hon. Member should exercise their own discretion and judgment also when they take that opportunity if they want to raise a point of order or a point of information.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a statement made by the Chief Minister of Andhra to the effect that this matter of prohibition be placed in the agenda for the next meeting of the National Development Council?

Shri Datar: I have seen it in the press.

Rural Institute in Kerala

1212. { **Shri Warrior:**
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Shri Ravindra Varma:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the final decision of Kerala Government as to the location of the proposed Rural Institute has been intimated;

(b) if so, which is the place; and

(c) when the institute is expected to begin functioning?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Shri Warrior: May I know whether the Government has got any report on this from the Kerala Government about the decision they have taken to have this institute?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The Kerala Government have written to us that they would like to have a rural institute in Kerala.

Shri Warrior: Is it not the proposal of the Central Government to have the institute and the site will be selected by the State Government?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: They will propose some site. We are proposing to send a visiting committee to select the site.

(Shri Imbichibava put a question).

Shri Nambiar: May I translate it? Has the attention of the Government drawn to the fact that the village of Thavanur where the Sarvodaya Sammelan is being conducted and where *mamankam* was celebrated in ancient days, is an ideal place for this?

Mr. Speaker: That is a suggestion for action.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: The hon. Deputy Minister went to Trivandrum recently and the press reports say that she had discussion about the location of the rural institute with many people and with Government representatives. May I know whether the Deputy Minister had a chance to meet the representatives of the local people and to hear their views on the location of this rural institute?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: No decision has been taken. Certain representations have been received from various voluntary organisations Government will examine all these representations

and after visiting the site, they will make the final selection.

Shri Warrior: His question was, did the Deputy Minister visit the site and had discussion with the interested parties in Trivandrum? If so, what is the opinion of the Deputy Minister who visited the site?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran): I did not visit any site. I had discussion with some people including the Education Minister, Kerala. It is not yet finally decided, because certain conveniences have to be obtained before that. But this much we can say, that the Government of Kerala is very anxious to have the rural institute and they are prepared to give their help.

Oil in Narmada River Bed

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*1213. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
 Shrimati Jamuna Devi:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the search for oil in the Narmada river bed being conducted by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has met with encouraging results;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a survey team from Nagpur has also reported favourably on potentialities for iron and manganese ore mining in the area; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmaiah): (a) and (b). Survey for obtaining only geological information in the Narmada basin is being conducted. Fresh water to marine rocks of cretaceous age have been found.

(c) No party has been sent from the Indian Bureau of Mines Nagpur to survey this area.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what are the indications given in the preliminary report that the Ministry has received and whether those indications are favourable?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajarnavis): For what? If it is for oil, the indications are absolutely unfavourable.

डा० गोविन्द दास : जहां पर नर्मदा के पहाड़ों पर यह खोज की गई है, वह किन किन स्थानों पर की गई है और क्या और भी ऐसी कुछ खोज किये जाने की सम्भावना है ?

श्री हजरतबीस : इसके बारे में तकसील में पाम नहीं है । माननीय सदस्य मुझे अगर इसके बारे में लिखेंगे तो मैं जरूर उनको इस का जवाब दूंगा ।

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what made the Ministry explore this region when the preliminary report has been so unfavourable?

Shri Hajarnavis: The preliminary report is never unfavourable. It is the practice of the Geological Survey to map out every part of the country and make their investigations. If we may not strike oil we may strike something else.

Aid for Construction of Primary Schools

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*1215. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
 Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government have stopped giving of development grant to the State Governments for construction of primary schools;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether representations have been received from the State Governments, particularly from West