

required for the country by the end of the Third Plan will be carried somehow, and, if so, may I know what that "somehow" is?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We are still waiting for the third Plan to conclude and we shall see whether our efforts have been fruitful or not.

Shri Hem Barua: He had said that all the coal would be carried. That was a very encouraging statement. Surely, he is not going to carry it on his back. Therefore, let him indicate the measures that he proposes to take to "somehow" carry all the coal.

Mr. Speaker: That was not an information but only a prediction. If it is not fulfilled, one ought not to be surprised.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether it is a fact that coal for North Bihar, Allahabad and Banaras is to be dumped somewhere in South Bihar on the banks of the Ganges and, if so, may I know whether the Government has satisfied itself that the river is navigable up to Allahabad and, if not, what steps have been taken to make it navigable?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The scheme has not yet been sanctioned by the Government, although a lot of preliminary preparations have been made. So far as our information goes, the river is navigable as far as Allahabad.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: On the basis of the latest available assessment, how do the Government propose to meet the shortage of wagons for the transport of coal, when the availability is only 4,500 wagons as against the requirement of 9,000 wagons?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The railways are trying to increase the allotment and there has been, of late, some increase in the allotment. We hope that we shall work out a programme, which is getting ready before us.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : जब ट्रकों उत्तर प्रदेश से बिहार में कोयला लेने जाती हैं तो कलैक्टर की परमिशन लेने के बाद भी उन्हें सौ रुपये से ज्यादा देना पड़ता है। अगर ट्रकों को इस कोयले को ढोने में लगाया जाये तो आप को क्या कोई ऐतराज है ?

श्री कै० दे० मालवीय : जरूर लगाया जाये ढोने में। हम तो चाहते हैं कि ट्रकों का इस्तेमाल हो, रेलों के अलावा और साथ ही साथ नदी का भी इस्तेमाल हो। स्वादिश हमारी जरूर है।

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'Means Test'

*826. **Shri Sonavane:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Means Test' for giving educational facilities for Scheduled Castes has been prescribed by the Central Government;

(b) whether any instructions have been given to the States to introduce the 'Means Test';

(c) whether it is a fact that major organisations representing the Scheduled Castes have expressed their resentment against the introduction of 'Means Test'; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that most of the Committees set up by Government have embodied in their recommendations that 'Means Test' would hit hard the Scheduled Castes and suggested that it should not be introduced?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Representations were received from one major organisation and some of the local organisations.

(d) The Study Group on the Welfare of the Weaker Sections of the Village Community has recommended that the 'Means Test' should not be

made applicable to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students.

Shri Sonavane: What are the States which have introduced this means test and what advantages are there in introducing this means test and putting the scheduled castes to botheration and hardship in producing these certificates?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: We have asked all the State Governments to introduce the means test. The advantages are obvious; those who can afford should not receive scholarships. Scholarships are really meant for economically backward people.

Shri Sonavane: Is it to be taken that the Government has come to the conclusion that the scheduled castes have come up to the economic level of others by the introduction of this means test?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I would not say for the whole scheduled caste, but I would say there may be some individuals amongst the scheduled castes who have enough income and who should not receive scholarships.

Shri N. R. Laskar: Will the Hon'ble Minister be able to tell us the total number of scheduled castes who will come under this means test?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Approximately those who will be affected will be about 1 per cent.

Shri Krishnapal Singh: Is merit going to be no consideration for the award of scholarships?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: We have merit scholarships also.

श्री बड़े : क्या यह सच है कि मीज टैस्ट के लिये तहसील तहसील में, कलेक्टर के कार्यालय में आठ आठ बार चक्कर लगाने पड़ते हैं और इतने चक्कर लगाने पर भी मीज टैट मिलता नहीं है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : इस में कहीं पर भी कोई कठिनाई हो तो वहां की राज्य सरकार को आप इतिला दीजिये । अगर आप

मुझे भी इतिला देंगे तो मैं भी जो कुछ हो सकेगा करूंगा ।

Shrimati Sarojini Mahishi: May I know the main grounds on which the committee has not recommended the means test for scheduled castes?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I do not know of any committee which has made this recommendation.

Shri Basumatari: What are the criteria fixed for this means test for scheduled castes?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Scheduled Caste students whose parents 'or guardians' income exceeds Rs. 6000 per annum are not given scholarships.

6 Manufacture of Auto Parts

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*827. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri B. K. Das:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of raw materials for the manufacture of Auto parts; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to meet the shortage?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The major raw materials required for Auto parts are tool and alloy steel and non-ferrous metals which have to be imported. Every effort is being made to meet the requirements within the limited foreign exchange resources available.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether this shortage is due to the import cut or due to any other reason?

Shri P. C. Sethi: The shortage is due to overall shortage of foreign exchange.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know how many firms are at present using these indigenous raw materials for manufacture of these auto parts in our country?