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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, September, 4, 1963/ Bhadra 13, 1885 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

University Text Books

*476. Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Hem Raj:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Union Ministry of Education have formulated a scheme to assist the publication of university text books written by Indian authors; and
- (b) if so, the broad outlines of the scheme?

The Minister in charge Ministry of Education (Shri Humayun Kabir):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main object of the Scheme is to bring out low-priced republications of standard educational works at university level written by Indian authors on the basis of evaluation by a panel of experts. The Ministry of Education will offer a suitable subsidy not exceeding Rs. 5000 to the publishers concerned for bringing down the price of the book.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि यह योजना सिर्फ़ ग्रंग्रेज़ी की किताबों के लिये हैं या बाकी जो हिन्दुस्तान की चौदह जथानें हैं उन के लिये भी है ? 1076(Ai)LSD—1. 4278

श्री हमायून किबर : पःले तो ग्रंग्रेजी की किताबों से शुरूश्रात की जायेगी।

श्रीयशपाल सिंह: क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि कितनी कितावें तैयार हो चुकीं हैं श्रीर कितनी तैयार होनी वाकी हैं ?

Shri Humayun Kabir: There can be no limit to that. In the beginning, about 25 titles have been evaluated, but this will be a continuous process.

Shri Kapur Singh: May I know whether the scheme is confined to mere selection out of existing written material or also extends to the commissioning of new writing, and if the latter, whether Government accept the principle of State direction over such intellectual activity?

Shri Humayun Kabir: This scheme is confined to standard books which have already been established as classics, and, therefore, this will not apply to new books. For new books we have other schemes.

Dr. Ranen Sen: There are some publications by the universities concerned on certain classical matters and important matters. What would be the effect of these publications by the Uuion Ministry of Education on those publications that are used in the universities?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I think that the hon. Member is not perhaps clear about the scheme. If you would permit me, I shall explain it very briefly. One of the major handicaps of students is to get standard text-books at reasonable prices. Most of the textbooks from abroad are very highly priced. So, at first the American Government and then the British Government are co-operating in a scheme to reduce substantially the price of standard textbooks. The Soviet Government have also offered

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a similar scheme. When we accepted these schemes, Indian publishers represented that there were also certain standard textbooks by Indian authors, and if these American and British and Soviet books were subsidised, the Indian authors suffer. So, we accepted the scheme that in the case of standard books by Indian authors, which have recognition not only in this country but outside we should also subsidise them so that they could compete on equal terms with books which are sponsored by the Americans or the British or the British or the Soviet.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know the criteria for selecting the standard books published by Indian authors, whether a committee will be set up to give a list of such standard books, and also whether the list will be placed on the Table of the House?

Shri Humayun Kabir: My hon. friend is a distinguished educationist himself, and he knows how books become standard. Some books recognised. Nevertheless, we have a panel of experts in every subject, who will make recommendations, and then these will be placed before a committee consisting of one sentative of the University Commission, one of the Ministry of Education and one of the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs.

Shri Fatehsinhrao Gaekwad: May I know whether these textbooks will be standardised on an all-India basis, or whether they would vary from State to State and from university to university?

Shri Humayun Kabir: My hon. friend perhaps did not hear me when I said earlier that these were books which had already been recognised as standard text-books and were sometimes in use even outside the country.

Dr. Colaco: May I know whether among these textbooks is included any book on civic education such as is prescribed in some countries from the primary stage and going up to the secondary and the other higher rungs of education, because that is necessary for the working of a succesful democracy?

Shri Humayun Kabir: As I have stated, the scope is limited. This concerns only universities. Therefore, primary education does not come into this.

श्री शिव नारायरण: मैं यह जनना चाहता हूं कि भारत के कल्चर के अनुसार जो इंडियन राइटर्स हैं उन की लिखी हुई पुस्तकों को सारी यूनिवर्सिटीज के लिये मानने में क्या आपत्ति हैं? क्या जितनी फेसिलिटीज फारेन राइटर्स को हैं उतनी अपने मुल्क के राइटर्स को हैं?

Shri Humayun Kabir: This is an academic question. If I have to reply to that, it will take too much of time.

Mr. Speaker: Then, he need not reply.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether the hon. Minister is satisfied with the price at which these books will be sold after the grant of this subsidy under this scheme?

Shri Humayun Kabir: It is precisely in order to reduce the prices that we have done this.

Science Graduates and Diploma Holders

*477. Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a job analysis has been conducted at the instance of the Home Ministry's Manpower Directorate regarding the replacement of science graduates by diploma holders; and
- (b) if so, the purpose of such analysis?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekber): (a) and (b). No job