7344

Jammu and Kashmir

*746, { Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Shri Yashpal Singh: Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir has expressed himself in favour of full integration of that State with the rest of the Indian Union by the repeal or abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken or being taken towards that end?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi):
(a) I have seen reports of the Press statement made by Shri G. M. Sadiq.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: After this recent categorical statement of the new Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, are there still any elements or individuals opposed to the complete integration of that State with the rest of the Indian Union and if the answer be in the negative, has the Government asked or do the Government propose to ask the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir to help expedite the process of integration by forwarding the recommendations of the State Assembly, besides the Government's, as required by the proviso to clause (3) of article 370, as soon as possible

The Minister Without Portfolio (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Mr. Sadiq has already made a categorical statement in this regard. It would not be possible, I think, to take up the whole matter concerning article 370 in this very session. The Assembly will perhaps adjourn tomorrow. As the hon. Member might be aware, they are considering two matters. One is the change of name from Prime Minister to Chief Minister and the other in regard to the Governor But

the Bill contains something more than the mere change of nomenclature and it has been referred to the Select Committee. I do not know what will happen tomorrow. But Mr. Sadiq is very particular that he should be able to get through those two amendments.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is there any basis for certain Press reports to the effect that the Government is actively considering, in consultation with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir the release of Sheikh Abdullah, the former Chief Minister and if so . . .

Mr. Speaker: That is not connected with this.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: . . . and if so, in view of conflicting reports about his attitude to this question of integration, has the Government tried to ascertain . . . (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I should be given that liberty or discretion to decide.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: That is right, Sir. In view of conflicting reports about his attitude to this question of integration, have Government tried to ascertain what his attitude to this matter is, so as to come to a wise decision and so as not to queer the pitch for integration later on?

Mr. Speaker: That is not the question here.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: How Sir? This is a question about integration.

Mr. Speaker: Not the release.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Because there are reports in the Press, some reports to the effect that he opposes integration and some others that he favours it, has the Government considered this aspect of the matter and tried to ascertain his views?

Mr Speaker: Will the hon. Minister answer it?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Does he want to know whether any assessment has been made about

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether any assessment has been made about the views of Sheikh Abdullah in respect of integration.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: He is in jail. We have not met him, nor have we made any assessment.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: May I know whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the recent statement by Pakistan's Foreign Minister in which he has stated that after the recent debate in the Security Council, the Security Council has indicated to the Government of India that they should not proceed in any way for the integration of Jammu and Kashmir?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: The Security Council has given no such indication. Well, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan can say anything he likes, but we will pursue our own policy.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार बतला सकती है कि ग्राज कल जो चारों तरफ इडि-पेंडेंट काश्मीर का नारा है, इस नारे को दबाने के लिए सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

ग्रनेक माननीय सदस्य : कहां नारा है ?

श्री लाल बहाबुर ज्ञास्त्री: चारों तरफ ऐसा नारा है, यह बात तो बिल्कुल ही गलत है।

Shri Abdul Ghani Goni: Article 370 of the Indian Constitution is provisional, temporary and special. In view of the recent statements of the hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Shri Chagla, the hon. Shri Shastri and Shri Sadiq, the new Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir...

Mr. Speaker: Not such a long question—already the time is over.

An Hon, Member: The Question Hour is over.

Shri Abdul Ghani Goni: The hon. Minister without Portfolio referred to the latest Bill. They have said that this article is in the process of erosion . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Vijnan Mandirs

*736. Shri Subodh Hansda; Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Vijnan Mandirs have proved useful;
- (b) if so, how people are utilising the services of such Mandirs;
- (c) whether new Mandirs are proposed to be set up during 1964-65, and if so, the number thereof; and
- (d) whether these will be attached to educational institutes?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):
(a) Yes.

- (b) The rural people are utilising the services of Vijnan Mandirs by adopting scientific principles in the different spheres of their daily life, e.g. Health, Sanitation, Food, Agriculture etc. These principles are explained to them by demonstration, lectures, film shows, organising science clubs etc.
- (c) With the transfer of the administrative control of the Vijnan Mandirs to the respective State Governments, the establishment of new Vijnan Mandirs will be at the discretion of the State Governments, subject to availability of funds from the Centre.
- (d) When the administrative control of Vijnan Mandirs was transferred to the State Governments, it was contemplated that separate entity of Vijnan Mandirs will continue to be maintained.