

Shri M. C. Chagla: Yes, Sir. I agree with the hon. Member that we should pay much more attention to rural education. It has been neglected, it is not up to the standard we should like it to be, and I assure my hon. friend that we are really paying more attention to improving standards of rural education.

Employment of the Educated Blind

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*1236. { **Dr. Saradish Roy:**
Dr. Ramen Sen:
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to place educated blind persons in suitable jobs; and

(b) the policy of Government in this respect?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Education (Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandram): (a) Eight Special Employment Exchanges have been established to place physically handicapped persons, including the blind. Other Employment Exchanges in the country have also been asked to give every possible assistance to them. Physically handicapped persons including the blind, have been included in priority III for the purpose of submission of candidates by Employment Exchanges against vacancies referred to them by employers.

(b) The policy of the Government of India is to consider the applications of physically handicapped persons, including the blind, for employment with the utmost sympathy.

Dr. Saradish Roy: May I know whether the Central Government has defined jobs that are found suitable for the blind persons, and if so, whether instructions have been sent to the private employers and State Governments?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: Yes, Sir. We have asked for the co-operation of all the State Governments. These employment exchanges are run by the State Governments with our help; therefore, there is co-ordination.

Dr. Saradish Roy: My question is not answered. I want to know whether the Central Government has defined jobs that are found suitable for the blind persons.

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: Yes, Sir. For the blind person, it is more often the jobs which should be repeated. There are certain jobs for which they are suitable. All these exchanges know them, and they have some instructor who is familiar with the way of job placement for the blind.

Shri Warior: May I know whether blind persons who have qualified academically are debarred from appearance in the UPSC.. tests for employment?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: Not at all.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: From the statement of the hon. Minister it appears that there is enough opportunity for the blind to seek employment. I would like to know whether definite instructions have been issued to all the employment exchanges either by the Centre or the State Governments to see that those who are enrolled since last one year are given some job at least. Nobody has been given a job in U.P.

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: I will not say we have done everything possible, or that every educated blind person is getting a job. I shall be very humble in my presentation of the case, because it is very difficult to get these well qualified blind persons in suitable jobs because of various difficulties. The attempt of creating these new employment ex-

changes was started only in 1959. After that, I am glad to say that we have placed 1,022 handicapped persons so far in these four years till January, 1964; out of that, only 177 are blind persons. So, we are changing the pattern of training, giving them light engineering training, where there is better scope for their employment, rather than the traditional weaving and basket-making etc.

Mr. Speaker: Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda.

Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda: Sir, I wanted to know how many were employed; the hon. Deputy Minister has already replied to that.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार बतला सकती है कि देहरादून के सेंट्रल ब्रैल प्रेस में जा कि अन्ये व्यक्तियों का बड़ा भारी आर्गेनाइजेशन है, कितने अन्ये व्यक्ति काम पर लगाय गये ।

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: I do not have that information.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि देश में नेत्रहीन व्यक्तियों के कितने कालेज हैं, वहाँ पर कितने व्यक्ति प्रति वर्ष शिक्षा लेने आते हैं और शिक्षा ले कर जात हैं, उनमें महिलायें कितनी हैं और पुरुष कितने हैं और कितनों को काम दिया जाता है ।

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: There is no difficulty for the blind girls and boys in the university colleges because there are no separate colleges and we do not find any difficulty. For the various schools we have got, they are run by the State Governments for the blind boys and girls separately. There is a national institution for the blind in Dehra Dun run by the Central Government for the boys and girls separately.

Shri S. Kandappan: What are the avenues open for the blind—a list of it—and whether the blind school in Poonamalli in Madras receiving any Central assistance?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: The avenues are self-employment by learning these crafts—cane chair making, cane works, book-binding, weaving, etc. Light engineering and braille press are there which are not very many. Light engineering offers the best scope. I have not got the information about the Poonamalli school because it does not arise from this. As far as I know we are not giving any special assistance except what is given through the States.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं मिला ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इतने जवाब तब आ ही नहीं सकते कि हर एक कालेज में कितनी महिलायें हैं, कितने लड़के हैं, उनकी उम्र क्या है ?

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : टाटल क्या है ।

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Is one of the reasons for poor placement the fact that adequate training is not being imparted in the existing institutions and the institutions are less in number compared to the large number of candidates who want to get training

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: We need quite a large number of training institutions and we are also trying to run centrally sponsored institutions in various regions. The type of training which was given, the old method of training, was in weaving, etc. and we found it did not help these people very much. That is why we started this institution in Dehra Dun and we are asking the other State Governments to take up this matter, and we would give them assistance according to our pattern. Quite a large number of private institutions also which are catering for training and placement of blind persons, are coming forward and recently we have approved one institute at Ahmedabad. We have now started training teachers in an extensive way so that they may get properly trained teachers.

श्री राज बिहारी मेहरोत्रा : क्या मंत्री महादय बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि जो ऐसे अन्धे स्नातक हैं जो कि व्याकरण में और आयुर्वेद में स्नातक प्राप्त कर चुके हैं, उनके एम्प्लायमेंट का कोई इंतजाम है।

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: I have answered the question about steps taken by the Government to place educated blind persons in suitable jobs. We shall try to do our best with the State Governments also. I do not know whether this arises out of this question.

Shri Hem Barua: Those who are educated and yet would not see are worse than the blind. May I know whether Mr. Chagla has made any arrangement for them also?

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : प्रायः यह देखा जाता है कि प्रजाचक्षु लांग गाना गाने में बहुत सिद्धहस्त होते हैं। तो क्या सरकार राष्ट्रात्यान के गानों के प्रचार में उनका लगा कर कार्य देगी।

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: Quite a large number of them seem to have talent for music. Scholarships are given to them to go for higher training in music, and many of them are getting employment in the schools as music teachers. I do not know exactly whether some are employed as pracharakas for defence purposes.

Dr. Ranen Sen: Now-a-days, both in offices—at least in some offices—and factories, there is an advancement in mechanisation. So, may I know if the Government have considered this aspect.—whether, due to this mechanisation, blind persons can be utilised more easily in employment, and, if so, what are the steps taken in this respect?

Shrimati Soundaram Ramachandran: Yes, Sir. That is why in the special employment exchanges we are having a craft instructor who would survey the surrounding industries and find out the possible places for the blind persons which are suitable for this

purpose, and then another way is, we are also trying to attach one instructor to other employment exchanges also so that this survey would be done to find out where a blind person can be employed in these industrial estates and industries without any prejudice to the industry as well as the person.

Admission in Delhi Colleges

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*1237. { **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:
Shri Murli Manohar:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that admission to the Degree Course of the colleges under the Delhi University is being restricted to students obtaining certain percentage of marks in their qualifying examination;

(b) if so, on what considerations; and

(c) the steps being suggested for the other students for their higher education?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Yes, Sir; the admission to B.A. (Pass) Course will be restricted to those securing at least 40 per cent marks in the qualifying examination.

(b) The University authorities, after taking into account the report of the Examination Reforms Committee, decided that selective admission was necessary to raise the standard at the under-graduate level.

(c) It is open to students securing less than 40 per cent marks to enrol themselves for the B.A. (Pass) Correspondence Course of the University of Delhi.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : जब यह निर्णय लिया गया था तो इस निर्णय के सम्बंध में दिल्ली यूनीवर्सिटी के उपकुलपति और डिप्टी कालेजेज के प्रिंसिपल्स से परामर्श कर लिया गया था ?