

Shri C. E. Pattabhi Raman: Will the Government ensure that a uniform policy obtains so far as secondary education is concerned throughout India?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: This is beside the question.

Shri Thimmaiah: May I know the names of the universities where this research is being conducted?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: It is a long list. There are 20 institutions. If the hon. Member is interested, I shall place a list on the Table of the House.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: As a result of the results achieved in this direction, may I know whether the Government propose to continue this programme for research, and, if so, what is the period?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Yes, Sir. It is going to be continued.

Mr. Speaker: Before I call upon the sponsor of the question, the hon. Members will get up in their seats and catch the eye of the Chair.

Education Ministers' Conference

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*328. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**
Shri Bibhu: Mishra:
Shri Radha Raman:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Naval P. abhakar:
Shri Kumaran:
Shri Sanganna:
Shri N. E. Munsamy:
Shri Mahanty:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the subjects discussed at the conference of the State Ministers of Education held at New Delhi on the 19th and 20th September, 1957 under the auspices of the Union Minister of Education;

(b) the nature of decisions arrived at on various subjects, especially in respect of—

(i) introduction of universal free and compulsory education for

children up to the age of eleven,

(ii) constitution of a smaller joint body of the representatives of the Union and State Governments in place of the Central Advisory Board of Education,

(iii) nationalisation of text books, and

(iv) sanction of grants directly to Hindi organisations of a national character for propagation of Hindi in non-Hindi speaking areas; and

(c) the steps taken so far for implementation of these decisions?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 34.]

Shri Shree Narayan Das: From the statement, it appears that there was a large number of questions with regard to each item and that there are some conclusions reached by the Conference. May I know whether any time-limit has been fixed during which the State Governments and other concerns have been asked to implement those resolutions?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: No, Sir. No time-limit has been fixed. From the nature of the work, it is difficult to place any time-limit, but we have already sent the minutes of the Conference to the State Governments and have requested them to implement them as early as possible. As far as the Central Government are concerned, they are examining their own proposals and they are taking necessary action.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement, we find that the three-year degree course has also been discussed, and may I know whether this proposal is being opposed by Bombay and Uttar Pradesh?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: As far as I know, there are two universities which have not yet accepted this scheme—the Bombay University and the University of Agra. As far as other Universities are concerned, most of them have accepted this three-year degree course in principle and are implementing it in due course.

Shri Damani rose—

Mr. Speaker: Shri Sanganna.

Some Hon. Members: He is not Shri Sanganna.

Mr. Speaker: I have called this hon. Member. I called Shri Sanganna. He did not get up. He did not hear. He is not here possibly. I have called this hon. Member. I know most of them by name. I am trying to get to know the names of others.

Shri Damani: May I know whether Government have considered the changes that take place in the textbooks and whether any decisions have been taken to see that changes of textbooks are made after a long period?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: This is beyond this question.

Shri E. Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether the Kerala Education Bill was one of the subjects that was discussed in this Conference?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: No, Sir.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know whether the Education Ministers' Conference had discussion with regard to the inclusion of manual work before any degree or diploma or certificate is awarded to the students of higher secondary schools?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The whole statement has been placed on the Table of the House, and it gives full information with regard to all the points that have been discussed at the Conference.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The other day, the hon. Minister said that he was thoroughly dissatisfied with the state of affairs in the Delhi schools. May I know what efforts the Government propose to make the education of

children between the ages of 6 and 11 compulsory and for that purpose what improvements are they going to effect throughout the country?

Mr. Speaker: How does this arise out of this question? These are decisions of the Conference.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The hon. Minister mentioned the other day specifically. They say that the education of children of the age-group 6-11 should be made free, compulsory and universal by the end of the third Five Year Plan at the latest. What efforts they are going to make in this direction?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: As far as the Centrally administered areas are concerned, I might inform the hon. Member that we are only making estimates for introducing free and compulsory education for the age-group 6-11. But there is no provision in the Plan for the expansion of education in Delhi. We are now trying to find out if funds could be available from other sources to implement this Plan for Delhi.

Shri N. E. Munisamy: May I enquire what is the estimate of additional expenditure that will be incurred in giving effect to the proposals taken at the Conference and the conclusions that have been arrived at? What is the amount to be incurred?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: It is very difficult for me to give the estimates for all the recommendations—for free and compulsory introduction of education, the reorganisation of universities, etc. I would refer the hon. Member to the Planning Commission's report which gives a fair picture of the amount that will be needed and that is allotted to it.

Mr. Speaker: For sometime past, I have been considering as to what I should do with respect to questions to which a number of names have been added. I cannot obviously give opportunity to every hon. Member who put the question—even to all those Members whose names appear here. Others also want to take part. Therefore, in such cases, I would rather

more easily grant a half-hour discussion if the hon. Members are not satisfied with the answers given here and some more elucidation is necessary, in which case, those hon. Members will each put a question and in the end the hon. Minister will give a reply.

Now, with respect to matters where a statement is laid on the Table of the House, the hon. Minister, whoever might be in charge, cannot be expected to go into the details of everyone of the items. Then it becomes a discussion. The House wants to know what has happened at the Conference. Here and there, one or two questions may be put, but the details regarding the Conference as to why a particular decision was taken or was not taken would not come within the scope of the questions here. I do not know; I would like to consult the Business Advisory Committee or the General Purposes Committee as to what we shall do with regard to such matters—how far an opportunity is necessary and how an opportunity can be given.

Arms Act

*329. **Shri D. C. Sharma** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether the Government of India have finalised their proposals to amend the Arms Act?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The matter is under consideration.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know for how long the matter has been under consideration, because whenever I put this question, I am given the same answer. May I know for how long this matter has been under consideration and for how long it is going to be under consideration? I want a very firm reply to this question.

Shri Datar: May I point out to this House that we have to consult all the State Governments and have their opinion? There was also a Private Member's Resolution which was circulated for public opinion. So, a volume of public opinion has been received and it has to be considered. I assure the hon. Member that Government

would take a decision at a very early date.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the amended Arms Act will be placed before the Lok Sabha in the next session?

Shri Datar: We shall try our best to place it before the House in the next session.

Shri Thimmalah: When Dr. Katju was the Home Minister, he was kind enough to say that he would come with an amended Act before this House. May I know why there is a lot of delay?

Shri Datar: We stand by that promise.

Shri Joachim Alva: Do Government propose to categorise all citizens who can possess elementary arms on mere application and in that category, do Government propose to include M.Ps. also?

Shri Datar: The hon. Member will kindly wait until the Bill is placed before this House.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: Can we not do away with licences altogether?

Shri Datar: I am afraid we cannot.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि मेट्रो प्राम्बली के जो मेम्बर लोग थे वे प्राम्बलेक्ट से एग्जैम्प्ट थे। जो प्राम्बलेक्ट नया प्राम्बलेक्ट लावेंगे उसमें म० पी० लोगों को उमी प्रसार एग्जैम्प्ट करेंगे या नहीं ?

श्री दातार : गवर्नमेंट इस प्रस्ताव पर विचार कर रही है।

Shri P. R. Patel: Certain Government servants are exempted from the operation of the law. May I know whether M.L.As., M.Ps., Presidents of Municipalities and local boards will also be exempted?

Shri Datar: There are certain difficulties in connection with the acceptance of this suggestion. All the State Governments are considering this matter.