

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The reduction has been as a result of the directive of the Reserve Bank which other Banks implemented.

Shri Bimal Ghose: May I know if the Government have ever enquired and found out the reason why the advances in 1953-54 and 1954-55 when we had the largest food production were lower than in 1956-57?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I can't quite comprehend what the hon. Member said. Would he repeat the question?

Mr. Speaker: The advances in 1953 were much lower when production of foodgrains was the highest.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I won't like to hazard an answer because I have not got the figures before me. The hon. Member will recognise that the index figures for foodgrains in 1953-54 came down to about 86. It is now somewhere about 109. The very fact that prices were lower could certainly necessitate the advance amount being lower even though the stocks were higher. It is quite possible that the figure might have been lower than what it is today. I would like to say in addition to what my young colleague has said, the hon. Member opposite has asked for a discussion of this matter and it has been directed that a discussion should take place. I am collecting information and I expect to be able to give the Lok Sabha Secretariat the date on which I will be ready for the discussion. This matter may be thrashed out in full on that date.

English Language Teaching Institute

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*336. { **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
Shri Kumaran:
Shri Wodeyar:

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

(a) whether Government propose to set up an autonomous institute to improve the teaching of English in the country;

(b) if so, whether the plan for the same has been prepared;

(c) where and when that institute is likely to be set up; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Ford Foundation of America has made a grant for the establishment of such an institute?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Institute is likely to be set up at Hyderabad in the near future.

(d) No, Sir, the grant has not yet been received.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the plan for setting up that institute in Hyderabad has been finally decided and the date has also been fixed for setting up the institute?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: As I said, the institute is likely to be set up at Hyderabad and the Osmania University has already offered a part of its buildings for the location of this Institute. Final decision has still to be taken. As far as I can see, most probably, it will be in Hyderabad that the Institute will be set up. What is the other question?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: By what time?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: We are now awaiting the final sanction from the Finance Ministry for the whole scheme. As soon as that is received, the work will be started.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May know how much Government propose to spend over this institute?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The total estimate will be Rs. 41 lakhs for the first five years. This does not, of course, include the cost of separate buildings which will cost approximately another Rs. 10 lakhs.

Shri Kumaran: May I know whether the committee appointed by the University Grants Commission has submitted its report on this question, and whether it is on the recommendation of that committee that the institute is going to be set up?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: No.

Shri Biren Roy: May I know what kind of English will be taught here, American English or English English, or whether we are going to develop Asian English?

An Hon. Member: Indian English.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know whether any such institutes are also being set up for improving the teaching of Hindi and other regional languages of India?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: This is an institution which is meant specially for English.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: May I know the special reason for bypassing the universities, which have been functioning for so many centuries in the matter of teaching English, and for switching over to a new institution which will cost such a big amount as Rs. 40 lakhs or so?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: There is no question of bypassing the universities. There has been a general feeling among educationists and the universities themselves that there has been a general deterioration of standards in the teaching of English. It is in order to meet that situation that a special institution is necessary, which will offer courses to English teachers, that is, teachers of the English language in the high schools and in the training schools, and will also conduct researches in the learning of foreign language, and also advise the State Governments and the universities with regard to the problem of teaching English and how the standards could be raised.

Shri Dasappa: Will similar institutes be started for other foreign

languages like German, French, Russian and so on?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I hope my hon. friend is not comparing English with the other languages. English has a special position in our country.

Shri Thanu Pillai: May I know whether the deterioration in the teaching of English is due to our switching over to teaching in the medium of the mother-tongue or due to the inefficiency of the method of teaching? What is the aspect in which special training is going to be given in this institute?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: There is not one single factor. There are many factors. But this is beyond the scope of the question.

Contribution to Political Parties

-337. { **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**
Shri M. Elias:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to reply given to Starred Question No. 342 on the 25th July, 1957 and state whether any decision has been reached about amending the Companies Act, 1956, in the light of judicial observations in regard to contribution by joint stock companies to political parties?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. E. Bhagat): No, Sir.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know whether Government have any reports about the actual amounts contributed by certain companies like the Tatas and Martin Burns to political parties, and if so, whether those reports would be available to the House?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: This does not arise out of this question.

Shri Nagi Reddy: No, it does.

Shri Tangamani: It relates to reform.....

Mr. Speaker: The question was whether any decision had been reached about amending the Companies Act