

Compulsory Primary Education in Delhi

*1394. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which compulsory primary education would be introduced in the Union Territory of Delhi; and

(b) the reasons why it has not been introduced so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). The Punjab Primary Education Act 1940 (Parts II and III) regarding compulsory primary education was extended to Delhi Territory in 1953. Full compulsion has not become operative.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What is the percentage of school-going children that are attending the primary schools in Delhi at present?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Does the hon. Member want to know for Delhi?

Mr. Speaker: Yes. What is the estimated percentage of school-going children that are attending schools?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: It is a long statement from which I have to check up the figures. I will let the hon. Member know the figures.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What is the target date for introducing compulsory primary education in the Union Territory of Delhi and how much will it cost?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: By the end of the Third Five Year Plan we propose to make education free and compulsory in the whole country. I am hoping that Delhi also would be able to have free and compulsory education in the Third Five Year Plan for the age group 6-11.

Mr. Speaker: What would be the estimated cost?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Rough estimates have been made for all the Union

Territories. For Delhi it is Rs. 56.4 lakhs; for other Centrally administered area it is Rs. 271.9 lakhs, the total being Rs. 358.3 lakhs.

Commonwealth Bank

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*1395. { **Shri V. C. Shukla:**
Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether any initiative has been taken by the Government of India in regard to the setting up of a Commonwealth Bank to assist the under-developed countries in developing their domestic resources?

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

Shri V. C. Shukla: Have any of the Commonwealth countries formally proposed to the Government of India to set up this type of banks?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: This matter was considered several times at various levels in the Commonwealth Conference, including the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference since 1952. But, somehow or other, due to some difficulties, it has not taken any definite concrete shape.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether this scheme was discussed at the last meeting of the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference held at Ottawa where our Finance Minister also was present?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: So far as my information goes, the last Finance Ministers' Conference at which this was discussed was the one held in January 1954 at Sydney. I do not know whether it was discussed in Ottawa.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Just now, the hon. Minister said that the matter was discussed in the Finance Ministers' conferences many times. May I know what were the difficulties in the way of having such a bank? In view of the fact that most of the countries in the Commonwealth are under-developed, may I know whether any other country outside the Com-

Commonwealth has also expressed its desire to extend help?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: The very name of the Bank, Commonwealth Bank, shows that the Members would be the Commonwealth countries and the funds would also come from the Commonwealth countries. Any outside country, at the very beginning, is ruled out. The main difficulty is where the funds will come from.

Shri Joachim Alva: Do the difficulties arise on account of the operation of powerful British Exchange Banks within these territories?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion: want of money.

Shri Heda: Since the proposal would benefit under-developed countries, and India being one, may I know whether we are pursuing the proposal and if so, what efforts we are making?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: It is the U.K. Government which has initiated this and they are in correspondence with the various Commonwealth countries. When a reference was made to us, we have also given our tentative opinion about this. As I said, it is entirely in the exploratory stage. The indications from India as well as the other Commonwealth countries are of the various difficulties and the nature of the machinery. Nothing definite or concrete has come out.

Status of Teachers

*1396. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have issued certain directions to the State Governments to raise the status of teachers in their States; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table of the

Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI annexure No. 93].

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know whether the recommendations have been implemented?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Yes, Sir. Many of the recommendations have been implemented. The most important recommendation which we made was with regard to increment of the salaries of teachers. I am glad to say that most of the States are now co-operating in increasing the salaries of school teachers.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : राज्य सरकारों को जो प्राइमरी स्कूलों के अध्यापकों के वेतन में बढ़ोतरी करने का परामर्श दिया गया है तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सारे देश में प्राइमरी स्कूलों के अध्यापकों के वेतन में कितनी बढ़ोतरी हुई है और केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उस सम्बन्ध में कितनी सहायता दी है ?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Since the hon. Member wants to know for the whole country, I will be very glad to place a statement on the Table of the House showing the increment that has taken place in each State.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know about elementary school teachers.

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The names of the States are: In 1956-57, the States which participated were nine: West Bengal, Kerala, U.P., Madras, Bihar, Orissa, Assam, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. In 1957-58, Assam, Bihar, Bombay, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Mysore, U.P., West Bengal, Rajasthan and Punjab.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Which of the States pays the highest and which pays the lowest?