

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Since several batches of students have already completed their post-basic education, may I know how long this Committee is likely to take to give its decision so that the students do not waste too much time before they can go on with further studies?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I cannot say exactly when the report will be finished, but that need not prevent the State Governments from taking necessary action. In fact, at the last Education Ministers' Conference, it was decided that we should not have two parallel schemes. Both the Central Advisory Board of Education and the Education Ministers' Conference decided that we should have only one scheme and not two schemes, and the Government of India have accepted basic education as the pattern of national education.

Law Commission

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*180. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Ram Krishan.
Sardar Iqbal Singh;
Shri Jaganatha Rao;
Shri Balmiki;
Shri Easwara Iyer:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 114 on the 13th February, 1958 and state

(a) whether the Law Commission has submitted its final report on Statute Law revision, and

(b) if so, whether a copy of the report will be laid on the Table?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): (a) and (b) The Law Commission functions in two Sections the first Section dealing with Reform of Judicial Administration and the second with Statute Law Revision. The latter Section examines individual Acts or a group of allied Acts and submits a report on each Act or group of Acts separately after each such examination is completed. Eight such reports on the following eight subjects/

statutes have been submitted to Government so far—

1. The Liability of State in Tort.
2. Parliamentary Legislation relating to Sales Tax
3. The Limitation Act, 1908.
4. On the proposal that High Courts should sit in Benches at different places in a State
5. British Statutes applicable to India
6. The Indian Registration Act, 1908
7. The Indian Partnership Act, 1932
8. The Sale of Goods Act, 1930

The first seven Reports have already been laid on the Table of the House. The Eighth Report will be laid on the Table shortly. The Commission's Reports on the Specific Relief Act, 1878, the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 and the Income-tax Act, 1922 are also likely to be submitted to Government shortly.

Shri D. C. Sharma: The hon. Deputy Minister has given almost the same reply which he gave last time when I put this question, and it was said in answer to a supplementary that the Commission will complete its work by the end of June, 1958 and that the report will be submitted before the 30th June, 1958. That was the answer given by the hon. Deputy Minister.

Shri Hajarnavis: I do not think I said so.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what has delayed the publication of these reports and why the examination of these Acts to which the hon. Minister referred has taken so long?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): I think the question really rolls up two questions. The first question related to the propriety of an earlier answer or reply, and the second about

the delay which has taken place regarding the publication of these reports. So far as the first question is concerned, the original reply was in relation to a query as to the possible time within which the Law Commission's report regarding judicial reform would be out. That was stated to be June of this year. So far as these reports are concerned, it is a continuous work, and the Law Commission takes up one statute after another. There is no question of any delay being met with for the revision of these statutes. They take the time necessary for revising each statute.

Shri Easwara Iyer: In view of the fact that the members of the Law Commission, as constituted at present, have other onerous responsibilities and are only part-time members, may I know if the Government are aware that there is considerable delay in their discharge of their duties?

Shri A. K. Sen: There have been complaints regarding that, but the Government cannot share the conclusion that there has been considerable delay. But the fact that members of the Law Commission have other duties to perform simultaneously is certainly one of the matters under consideration of the Government at the present moment.

Shri Tangamani: The Deputy Minister of Law stated that amongst the reports which are submitted, one dealt with Parliament's functions so far as the sale-tax is concerned. May I know whether the Government have taken any decision on the recommendation of the Law Commission on that particular statute?

Shri Hajarnavis: That is the basis of the Central Sales-tax Act which has already been put on the statute-book.

Shri Supakar: May I know what steps the Government are taking to translate into action so far as the recommendations of the Commission regarding important matters like registration, partnership and limitation law are concerned?

Shri Hajarnavis: The hon. Member means the implementation of the recommendations.

Shri Supakar: Yes.

Shri Hajarnavis: They are circulated to the State Governments in some cases and their reports are awaited.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: May I know whether the Law Commission will go into the question of extent, formation and procedure of administrative law as well?

Shri A. K. Sen: It is difficult to anticipate; it is expected that they will deal with the matter as well.

Shri Kasliwal: From the answer that the hon. Minister has given it appears that the section of Law Commission which deals with judicial administration was to report by the end of June, and it has not yet reported. May I know whether this section has made any interim report with regard to judicial reform?

Shri A. K. Sen: That question was answered by the Home Minister, I think, last year—I forget the date now,—when certain reports appeared in certain papers regarding alleged interim reports having been made by the Law Commission, and the Government sticks to that reply.

Shri Easwara Iyer: The Law Minister said that the Law Commission is entrusted with the responsibility of judicial reforms also. May I know whether the Law Commission is also asked to give suggestions and recommendations regarding the matter of delay in the disposal of cases in the judiciary?

Shri A. K. Sen: The hon. Member is referred to the terms of reference under which the Law Commission was appointed, and a perusal of the terms of reference would show that this is one of the matters entrusted to it.