

how far basic education fits in with other patterns of education; that is not relevant.

#### Classification of Backward Classes

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\*1524. { Shri Ram Krishan:  
Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Siddiah:  
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sample survey of the living conditions and circumstances of the backward classes has been completed;

(b) if so, whether Government has received the report of the survey; and

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

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) Yes.

(b) The Deputy Registrar General has not prepared any connected report but has only compiled and submitted a number of data in the form of tables giving information collected by him in the course of the survey and their classification in accordance with certain literacy and occupational patterns.

(c) The data supplied by the Deputy Registrar General is too voluminous and unwieldy to be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri Ram Krishan: May I know the nature of the information supplied by the Deputy Registrar General?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I have indicated that in the answer, that it is based on a pattern which takes into account the literacy of the persons, their occupations and the like.

Shri D. C. Sharma: There were complaints that certain backward classes had not been enumerated in the list. May I know what has been done to include them in the sample survey?

Pandit G. B. Pant: No particular class has yet been entered into any official list. The orders as they stand

at present suggest that adequate assistance to the extent of the resources available should be given to those who have been treated as members of the Backward Classes in the past and that whatever is feasible should be done for them.

Shri Achar: May I know whether Government is taking any action in view of this survey that has been made?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Certainly; the survey has been made so that Government may be able to determine the criteria.

Shri Subbiah Ambalam: May I know whether the survey has been conducted in the Madras State also and whether this report has been sent to the Madras Government for comment?

Pandit G. B. Pant: It has been conducted in three States, West Bengal, Bombay and Madras.

Shri Subbiah Ambalam: May I know whether the report has been sent to the Madras Government and whether their reactions have been communicated?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Not so far.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether the classification will be on the basis of 'Backward classes' and the 'Most Backward classes'?

Mr. Speaker: Are there degrees of backward classes?

Pandit G. B. Pant: So far as the present intentions go, it is to have only one class and not too many—not as in the suggestion made by the hon. Member.

Shri Basumatari: What were the terms of reference for this sample survey?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The people who are conducting the sample survey were to be guided by the Deputy Registrar General so as to enable the

Government to get necessary data for preparing the list of Backward Classes.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know whether as a result of this survey there will be a reclassification of the Backward Classes? May I also know whether Government is aware of the practice in Madras State whereby certain groups of Backward Classes are mentioned as the Most Backward Classes getting all the facilities that are given to the Scheduled Castes?

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** I hope it will result in reclassification.

#### Import of Locomotives for Rourkela Steel Plant

\*1525. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) how many locomotives were imported by Rourkela Steel Works;

(b) the cost of each locomotive; and

(c) whether any of them has been cannibalised for want of spare parts?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) 24 locomotives have been imported by Rourkela Steel, Works, of which 10 Numbers are 275 HP each, 10 Nos. 550 HP each and 4 Nos. 800 HP each.

(b) The cost of each of the locomotives is as follows:

275 HP Locomotive	Rs. 2.2 Lakhs
550 .. ..	Rs. 4.45 ..
800 .. ..	Rs. 6.7 ..

(c) While assembling the locomotives, certain parts were found either missing or damaged. In order to put the locomotives immediately into use, these parts were taken out from two locomotives temporarily.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know when the locomotives were imported and when they were put to use?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I could not give the exact date of their arrival

in the country. But, from the information in my possession, it appears that tenders were received in June, 1958 from about a dozen firms in response to tenders issued by the Rourkela project for diesel locomotives. The tender of Messrs. International General Electric Co., was the most attractive, both in respect of price and delivery, and hence their quotation was accepted. I could not give the exact date when they were actually received.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know whether any spare parts were also imported for this locomotive; and, if not, why not?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** The spare parts were also ordered along with the locomotives and they were also imported. But the missing parts were not the normal spares. They appear to be the result of some mischief or the like and it is for this reason that we have constituted a Committee of Inquiry consisting of the Chief Engineer, Rourkela Steel Project and also the Financial Adviser and the Chief Accounts Officer to examine the matter; and investigation is still in progress.

**Shri Subbiah Ambalam:** The hon. Minister has been pleased to say that some of these parts were found missing. May I know whether any communication was sent to the foreign suppliers who have supplied these locomotives; and, if so, what reply have they received?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I have not got this information.

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** ये पार्ट कहां से इम्पोर्ट हुये थे और जो पार्ट खो गये थे, वे रास्ते में खो गये थे या वहां से आये ही नहीं थे ?

**सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह :** अगर यह पता लग जाता कि वे किस जगह खो जा रहे हैं, तो सायद वे खोये ही न जाते ।