

LOK SABHA DEBATES

3601

3602

LOK SABHA

Saturday, 30th August, 1958

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Government of India Scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe Students

+

*695. { Shri D. A. Katti:
Shri B. K. Gaikwad:
Shri Siva Raj:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that obtaining a certain percentage of marks in the pre-university examination is made a condition precedent while awarding Government of India scholarships to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students undertaking university education,

(b) if so, what led the Government of India to lay such a condition this year only; and

(c) what is the percentage of marks required to be obtained by these students to get the India Government scholarships?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure, No. 80.]

Shri D. A. Katti: In view of the fact that because of this policy which

140 L.S.D.—1.

Government is now adopting a considerably large number of Scheduled Caste students will be deprived of their educational facilities, may I know whether Government proposes to reconsider this policy, or it wants to continue this policy in future too ignoring the spirit underlying this provision?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The House is aware that Government is more sympathetic towards the whole question of giving scholarships, and the Home Minister took a lot of interest and the amount was raised to Rs 2 crores. It is not possible during the Second Plan period to increase this amount any further, and therefore this selection was inevitable.

Shri D. A. Katti: May I know the number of scholarships awarded last year and the number of applications received so far?

An Hon. Member: Sir, the lights are off.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Community Development (Shri B. S. Murthy): Because of the Harijans' woes

Mr. Speaker: Harijans are expected to shed light.

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Sir, the number of scholarships awarded to candidates of all the three categories for the year 1957-58 is as follows: Scheduled Castes 26,447 scholarships awarded, expenditure incurred—Rs 1,37,00,379; Scheduled Tribes: number of scholarships awarded—4,300, expenditure incurred—Rs 18,97,538; Other Backward Classes: number of scholarships awarded—13,668, expenditure incurred—Rs 82,18,575; the total is: number

of scholarships awarded—44,415—Sir, the light is dim, and therefore these figures are subject to correction—and the expenditure incurred—Rs. 2,38,16,492.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any data is available with the Government as to how much fresh students will be eligible if a standard is fixed for awarding the scholarships?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Sir, I will be able to give that information only after all the applications are received—that is, after September.

Shri Jagannatha Rao: Sir, I rise to a point of order. Shri B. S. Murthy is a Parliamentary Secretary. How can he put a question?

Mr. Speaker: He also wants information.

Shri Barman: Although the exact number of years was not definitely fixed, it was expressed in the Advisory Board that for some years to come the policy of giving scholarships to students who will pass the examination should continue. May I know whether this change of policy has been put before the Advisory Board; if so, what was the decision of the Board?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The Board is always consulted about matters of policy.

Shri Siva Raj: In the statement it is stated that the number of Scheduled Caste students applying for these scholarships is increasing every year. I am happy to hear that. If that is so, may I know if it is the policy of Government to make education of Scheduled Caste people depend upon their ways and means position, or they want to give this subject a high priority?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: We have to take these factors into account. The number of students is increasing every year, and the amount at our disposal is limited. If the number goes on increasing—we should be happy that the number of students coming out of schools and colleges is increasing

every year—naturally a selection will have to be made. It was after considerable difficulty that we were able to fix the ceiling of Rs. 2 crores. In fact, the Home Minister took a great deal of interest, and he had to persuade the Finance Minister to accept this amount during the Plan period. It is not possible to increase the amount any further and, considering the two factors, increase in the number of students and the availability of limited funds, there is no other alternative except to make the selection.

Shri Thimmaiah: In the last year of the First Five Year Plan the amount sanctioned stood at Rs. 2 crores, and in the Second Plan a larger amount has been sanctioned for education, taking the Plan as a whole. How is it that in the Second Plan also the figure stands at Rs. 2 crores, same as it stood at the end of the First Five Year Plan?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The hon. Member is not properly informed. I do not have the exact figures with me, but I think it is not correct to say that the same amount was available in the First Plan because, I think, it was only two years back that this amount was increased.

Shri B. K. Galkwad: May I know whether it is a fact that by refusing scholarship to Scheduled Caste students Government is acting against the directive principles enunciated in article 46 of the Constitution?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: No, Sir; not at all. The article is not being violated in any way. We have to take into account the availability of funds, and when there are larger number of students coming out, it is natural that the principle of selection will have to be applied. I may also inform the House that as far as university education is concerned in every country some kind of selection has to be made. University education is not meant for all kinds of people; it is only those who can derive the maximum benefit out of university education who would be admitted. (Interruption.)

Shri B. S. Murthy: There is no untouchability in other countries

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि हरिजन कल्याण के निमित्त जो राशि रक्खी गई थी, उस में से कुछ रुपया ले कर के इन छात्रों को दे दिया जायेगा ?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I do not know about that Harijan Welfare Fund. It is not at my disposal, and I cannot possibly answer that question. The hon. Member may table a separate question for that.

Mr. Speaker: Next question

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed a sufficient number of supplementaries

Shri B. K. Gaikwad. I shall put only one question

Mr. Speaker: Yes

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: Was there any announcement made by the Government to the effect that the number of Scheduled Caste students is increasing year after year and hence the element of selection would be introduced?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall. I have already said that selection will be made

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: I want to know whether an announcement was made to that effect

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The institutions have been informed that selection would be made

Agricultural Courses in Higher Secondary Schools

*697. { **Shri Bihuti Mishra:**
Shri Ram Krishan:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Panigrahi:
Shri I. Eacharan:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state

(a) whether the scheme for instituting agricultural courses in higher

secondary schools in the rural areas of the country has been finalised,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the States where these courses have been introduced?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No 81]

श्री विभूति मिश्र : इस स्टेटमेंट से पता चलता है कि कुछ स्टेट्स को दिया गया है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कौन से आंध्र पर इन स्टेट्स को चुना गया है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : स्टेटमेंट से आप को मालूम होगा कि जो कोर्सज इस विषय के लिये रखे गये हैं वे सीमित हैं। यह सम्भव नहीं था कि सभी स्टेट्स को दे दिया जाये। जिन स्टेट्स की हमारे पास पहले दर-ह्वास्ते आ गईं उन को मजूरी दे दी गयी। एक, दो या तीन ऐसी स्टेट्स हैं, मुझे ठीक नम्बर याद नहीं है। जो कि रह गयी है। लेकिन बाकी की स्टेट्स ने इस के लिये दर-ह्वास्त भी नहीं दी थी।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार ने इस बात का ध्यान नहीं रखा कि जो डेफिसिट स्टेट्स हैं वहाँ के विद्यार्थियों को शिक्षा दी जाय ताकि वे अपने यहाँ खेती की उन्नति कर सकें।

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : सरकार को इस का पूरा ध्यान है। मैं माननीय सदस्य महोदय से निवेदन करूँगा कि जिस राज्य के बारे में व कहना चाहते हैं उन को यह बात जा कर कहे कि जितनी जल्दी हाँ सके वह दर-ह्वास्त भेजा करे।

Mr. Speaker. Shri Panigrahi

Shri Jadhav: May I know whether Bombay

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Bombay did apply