

in the day-to-day administration of the university, and in prescribing the courses and curricula. The Government have given certain freedom to the university in this matter, and the university is free to choose the medium of instruction.

Shri Khadiikar: May I know whether it is a fact that when the decision was taken there was a difference of opinion in the Senate itself, and that over-riding the opinion of the Senate, the Vice-Chancellor took the decision regarding Hindi?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I am not aware of the details. It was a decision taken probably by the majority. I have no information about this. But as far as I know, the decision has been taken by the academic body of the university.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: While the desirability of a change-over to Hindi and the other Indian national languages is absolutely incontestable, since Delhi University is a central university, directed by Government from the capital itself, and where students come from different parts of India because of a variety of reasons, may I know if Government will consider the desirability of holding its hand in regard to a change which should come first of all in the other universities where the regional languages should have precedence?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri D. C. Sharma: It was announced in the newspapers that the university had drawn up a phased programme for the conversion of the medium of instruction from English to Hindi, and that phased programme was published in the papers. May I know what has happened now, so that the phased programme has been given up, and what has happened now so that the university is going again to consult the University Grants Commission? Was all that done without consulting anybody and without any scientific or linguistic preparation beforehand?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The presumption of the hon. Member is wrong when he said that the university has given up the programme. I have already said that the university has not given up the programme and it proposes to continue and stick to that programme.

Chairman, University Grants Commission

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S.N.Q. 7. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 { Shri Braj Raj Singh:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri C. D. Deshmukh, Chairman of the University Grants Commission is to retire in January, 1961;

(b) whether under the rules he is not entitled to any extension beyond January, 1961;

(c) whether the opinion of the Attorney General of India has been sought;

(d) if so, what are his reactions;

(e) whether Government propose to change the rules in this connection; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) No, Sir.

The U.G.C. (Disqualification, Retirement and Conditions of Service of Members) Rules, 1956, provide that the Chairman shall retire on his completing the age of sixty-five, unless there is a contract to the contrary. As no such contract exists in the case of Shri Deshmukh, he is to retire on the 14th of January, 1961, when he completes the age of 65 years.

(c) and (d). The opinion of the Attorney-General was sought on the following questions:

(i) whether the relevant rule is *ultra-vires* of the U.G.C. Act, 1956; and

- (ii) whether Shri Deshmukh is entitled to continue as a member for the remaining period of six years from the date of his appointment as a member even after his retirement as the Chairman.

The Attorney-General advised that the said rule is not *ultra-vires* of the Act and the answer to the second question was in the negative.

(e) Government do not propose to change the rule with regard to the age limit.

(f) Does not arise.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that the late Maulana Azad wanted Shri Deshmukh to continue even after the age of 65, that is, after January, 1961 also, and if so, may I know whether the Government propose to agree to that request?

Mr. Speaker: He said 'No'.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Shri Deshmukh has sent me a copy of the letter he received from a Minister which says that it was Maulana Azad's intention that Shri Deshmukh should complete his full term and that he might continue as long as he would like to continue.

Shri Tyagi: Which Minister was it?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: What is the name of the Minister who has sent such a letter, which the Education Minister is now referring to, and what is the contents of that letter? May I know whether that Minister was somehow connected with the late Maulana Azad? (*Interruptions*).

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: This letter was produced by Shri Deshmukh; it was written by Shri Humayun Kabir and Shri Humayun Kabir was said to be negotiating at that time. He was said to be the intermediary between Shri Deshmukh and Maulana Azad and it is on that basis that Shri Deshmukh got that letter.

Shri Tyagi: Did Shri Humayun Kabir write this letter as Secretary of the Education Ministry, or now, when he became a Minister? If he wrote it as a Minister, did he consult the Education Minister before he wrote that letter to Shri Deshmukh?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Shri Humayun Kabir did not consult me. He was also not in the Government as Education Secretary at that time.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know whether Shri Deshmukh had agreed to work on a salary of Re. 1 per mensem and, if so, what is the salary that he is getting at present?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: In this connection, if you will permit me to read the correspondence between....

Shri Raghunath Singh: My question is very simple: whether he had agreed to work on Re. 1 per mensem as salary, what he is getting at present, and since how long he is getting the present salary. (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It does not arise out of this question.

Shri Raghunath Singh: It arises, Sir. Shri Deshmukh is the Chairman of the University Grants Commission. It is a very important question, Sir.

Shri Ranga: Was there a condition precedent that he should agree to work on a salary of Re. 1 per mensem in order to be appointed as the Chairman?

Mr. Speaker: Evidently the hon. Member wants to know whether he would continue on Re. 1 per mensem if he should be continued. That is the point, I think.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The Chairman is drawing Rs. 3,000 at present. (*Interruptions*).

Shri Kalika Singh rose—

Mr. Speaker: Shri Kalika Singh.

Shri Raghunath Singh: I want to know since when he is getting Rs. 3,000 per mensem.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: In the beginning, Shri Deshmukh desired to draw a token salary of Re. 1 per mensem, and orders were therefore issued accordingly. But these orders were effective from 5th November, 1956 to 28th February, 1957. On 16th April, 1957, orders were again issued authorising Shri Deshmukh to continue to draw the token salary from the year 1957-58. On 3rd April, 1958 the Secretary of the University Grants Commission informed this Ministry that Shri Deshmukh wanted to continue to draw the token salary from 1st March, 1958 to 29th February, 1959. Further on 30th March, 1959, Shri Iengar, Assistant Secretary, UGC, wrote to this Ministry that the Chairman has expressed the view that he would like to draw his full sanctioned salary for the post with effect from 1st March, 1959, i.e., the pay drawable on 1st April, 1959. Accordingly orders were issued fixing the salary of Shri Deshmukh at Rs. 3,000 per month exclusive of pension or pensionary benefits with effect from 1st March, 1959.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. No hon. Member should stand while I am standing. So far as the salary is concerned, it does not arise straightaway from this question. I thought if there is a doubt whether he should be continued or not continued, the hon. Member wanted to say he may be continued on some terms without salary, or with salary which he originally agreed or which was fixed later on, etc. For that purpose, I allowed one question. I am not going to allow any more question.

Shri Kalika Singh: May I know whether the rule about retirement was not in existence at the time when Shri Deshmukh was appointed?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I shall explain the whole position with regard to this matter also. The position is, Shri Deshmukh was appointed as Chairman before the Act came into force. When the Act came into force, certain rules were framed. He was re-appointed as

Chairman when the Act came into force. The rules were framed simultaneously. Both the Act and the rules came into force simultaneously.

Shri Tyagi: Mine is not a controversial question. I want to know if he can place on the Table of the House the correspondence that has passed on between Shri Deshmukh and the Minister.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I am in your hands. If you want the correspondence to be placed on the Table, I have no objection.

Mr. Speaker: There is absolutely nothing secret about everything that has passed between an officer and the Government. He may place these papers on the Table of the House. What is the harm?

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Coal Washeries

*1004. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 67 on the 11th February, 1960 and state:

(a) the progress so far made in setting up of proposed new Coal washeries at Dugda, Patherdih and Bhojudih; and

(b) whether any plan for setting up new coal washeries according to the targets fixed for the Third Five Year Plan has been prepared?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 81].

(b) Yes, Sir.