

tered by the State Governments. Therefore, the number of applications received, etc., these figures are not with us. They are with the State Governments. If the hon. Member is interested, I can obtain from the State Governments. They are not available with me at present.

Post-Matric Scholarships to Backward Classes Students

*113. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central grants for award of Post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes Students have been issued in full to all the States for the year 1961-62;

(b) if so, manner of distribution of amount;

(c) whether it is a fact that in the States like Madras scholarships were not awarded for competent students for lack of funds; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed for helping such candidates?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). Funds available for award of post-Matric scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes students are placed at the disposal of the State Governments in the form of grants. Grants of the entire amount for 1961-62 were made to the State Governments in the month of June, 1961.

(c) and (d). All the eligible Scheduled Castes students are awarded scholarships on the basis of mere pass in their last annual examination, i.e., without any selection by merit, but on the application of Means Tests. Selection of students belonging to Other Backward Classes is made on the basis of merit. Due to limited funds available for this category of students, as compared to the number of applicants, only meritorious ones come within the range of selection and are awarded scholarships. Other Backward Classes have been declared

the responsibility of State Governments concerned. Funds for these students are, therefore, not going to be increased.

Shri Tangamani: May I know how much money has been sanctioned for the year 1961-62 and out of that, how much was granted to the State of Madras?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: As far as the Government of Madras is concerned, the total amount sanctioned was Rs. 23,67,400. Does the hon. Member want the break-up of the figures among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

Shri Tangamani: I want to know the total amount that was allotted to all the States.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The total amount sanctioned was Rs. 23,67,400.

Shri Tangamani: That is for Madras. I want to know how much has been sanctioned for the entire country.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The total amount which was made available by the Education Ministry—total Rs. 2,22,63,000.

Shri Tangamani: From the statement I find that selection of students belonging to other Backward Classes is made on the basis of merit. May I know whether instances have been brought to the notice of the Government where in spite of a standard fixed for this merit, students who have obtained those particular marks have not been given these scholarships because of want of funds?

Shri K. L. Shrimali: The hon. Member is aware that the scheme is no more being administered by the Central Government. It has been decentralised. Funds are made available to the State Governments. Applications are received by the State Governments and they decide. If there are any complaints, the complaints will have to be brought to the notice of the State Government. If the hon. Member

brings any complaint to my notice, I shall make enquiries from the State Governments.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact—this is my personal experience also—that students of the backward classes and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are experiencing great difficulties in the matter of allotment of stipends and also in the matter of regularity in payment since the scheme was made a responsibility of the State Governments, may I know whether the Union Government would hold an enquiry into these matters and see that students are not forced to face difficulties because of these anomalies?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: As far as I know, no complaints have been brought to our notice. If the hon. Member has any complaints with him, he will forward them to me and I shall certainly institute an enquiry.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I find that in the award of scholarships, in some cases, merit test is applied. In other cases, means test is applied. May I know why it is that there are two different standards for award of scholarships and whether the Government cannot adopt one single uniform standard for the award of these scholarships to these backward classes?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: In this matter, the general principle that has been adopted is, as far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned, we would like to give scholarships to all the people who are eligible for scholarships, that is, all those who pass the examination, for the obvious reason that the Scheduled Tribes are most backward. Educationally they are backward, also economically and culturally. Therefore, whatever funds we have, we would like to place at their disposal so that we may bring up their level. So far as the backward classes are concerned, that is not the situation with them. The number of students coming in among backward classes is so large that it is just impossible to

give scholarship to each and every one. Merit will be considered.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that when this scheme was being administered by the Central Government from Delhi, initially some amounts were allotted to each State Government and afterwards, when the State Government could not spend that amount, that was being transferred to other States? What arrangement has been made after decentralisation about this amount?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: When the scheme was administered by the Central Government, no funds were allotted to the State Governments. The Scheme was directly administered by the Central Government.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know the reason for the inordinate delay in the payment of these scholarship amounts, especially in Mysore?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: As far as I am aware, there is no delay. The hon. Member will have to take up the matter with the State Government. This matter was fully discussed here and hon. Members themselves desired that the scheme should be decentralised. If there is delay, the Central Government cannot obviously take any responsibility. If there are any complaints, we will write to the State Governments. It is the State Governments which are now administering the scheme.

Shri Tyagi: Some complaints have come to the notice of Members mostly that well to do amongst these classes get better off in these scholarships. Are the Government proposing to lay down any standards whereby only those who are needy or those who get below the average level of income are benefited and those whose parents have got enough income may not be benefited?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The means test is being applied to the backward classes. It is also being applied to the Scheduled Castes. In the case of

the Scheduled Tribes, we are not applying the means test because most of the children who are coming from the Scheduled Tribes are generally poor.

Shri Basumatari: May I know whether the Assam Government recommended to the Central Government to consider a section of the backward classes, namely the Tea garden workers, to be accepted as more backward and sanction some money for awarding scholarships to them? Is there any recommendation from the State Government?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I could not say offhand with regard to any particular State. If the hon. Member will kindly table a separate question I will be glad to answer.

Demands of Delhi School Teachers

*114. **Shri Balraj Madhok:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi School Teachers' Association has submitted memorandum of demands to the Ministry of Education;

(b) if so, what are the major demands put forth in that memorandum; and

(c) what action Government have taken on these demands so far?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No memorandum of demands was submitted by the Delhi School Teachers' Association directly to the Ministry of Education but the Ministry did receive a copy of a letter addressed by the Association to the Commissioner, Delhi Municipal Corporation and a printed leaflet which *inter alia* contained certain demands:

(b) and (c). A statement showing the major demands put forth by the Delhi School Teachers' Association in the communications referred to above and the action taken on each demand by the Delhi Municipal Corporation/Government is laid on the

Table. [See Appendix I, annexure no. 39].

Shri Balraj Madhok: May I know whether it is a fact that the Delhi Teachers' Association has demanded gratuity and pension benefit for the teachers in aided schools and they have arranged direct action for that?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Representatives of Teachers' Associations not only from Delhi but from other States also came and saw me and I told them that the Ministry of Education has been taking up their case with the State Governments and it was not desirable on their part to take any direct action. As far as I understand, they accepted my advice. They were assured that the Ministry of Education has done everything that is possible to ameliorate the conditions of the teachers and to improve their service condition. This question with regard to the benefits has been taken up with the State Governments and several State Governments have responded very well. They are taking up the scheme. It will take some time. This is not a case where direct action is required.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In the statement it is stated, payment to teachers of 'A' class city allowance with effect from 1st July, 1961 by the Delhi Municipal Corporation. I would like to know whether funds have been made available to pay this particular benefit from 1st July, 1959.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: It is a long statement. I do not know to which portion the hon. Member is referring.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am referring to the statement laid by the hon. Minister. It is not very long. I want to know the reaction of the Government to the demand made by the teachers in regard to the payment of 'A' class city allowance with effect from 1st July, 1961. I shall make my question more specific. Since the Second Pay Commission's recommendations have now been accepted by the Delhi Municipal Corporation in