

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 21st May, 1957

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Propagation of Hindi

*187. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) what are the important agencies and organisations recognised by Government which are engaged in propagating Hindi in non-Hindi speaking States;

(b) the nature and amount of financial help that these agencies and organisations have received from Government up to 1956-57 for the purpose;

(c) whether any assessment of their work has been made by Government; and

(d) if so, whether any report in this regard is available?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 1]

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know what is the agency at the Centre or at the various State capitals which assess the work of these institutions to which grants are given every year?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The Government of India has set up the Hindi Siksha

Samiti which ordinarily looks into all these applications for grants and the development of Hindi.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether this Hindi Siksha Samiti has any organisation or has any strength to assess the work of all these institutions who are giving aid to the various States?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The assessment is being done by the Ministry of Education.

Shri Dasappa: May I know how it happens that out of Rs. 2,63,130 given to Hindi organisations for the purposes of propagation, etc., only Rs. 31,350 is given to non-Hindi-speaking areas?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The position with regard to these grants to non-Hindi-speaking States is that applications are invited by the State Governments. The applications are scrutinised and grants are given; during the past few years, the grants have not been fully utilised by the State Governments.

Shri Dasappa: My question relates to organisation. I am very sorry the Minister has turned over to the grants to the States. I am referring to organisation.

Mr. Speaker: Evidently, he means that these organisations get the grants or subsidies only through the States. Is it so?

Shri Dasappa: No, Sir.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: There are certain organisations to which grants are given directly by the Ministry of Education. Then, we are also giving grants to State Governments for propagation of Hindi in non-Hindi-speaking States. As far as I have been able to understand.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants to have an answer to the earlier portion.

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: As far as I have been able to understand, the hon. Member wants to know why the grants given to non-Hindi-speaking areas have not been—

Shri Dasappa: Let the Minister understand the question. Here is the list of organisations which are given aid directly from the Centre. I say that out of the grants to the organisations, not through the States but directly, totalling Rs. 2,63,130—only a sum of Rs. 31,350 is given to the non-Hindi-speaking States. Why is it that in Hindi-speaking States they give as much as Rs. 2 lakhs and over and why is it so much less for the non-Hindi-speaking States?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: If there are some organisations in Hindi-speaking States, naturally we have to give grants to those areas. I do not think that the Government of India makes any discrimination between organisations and organisations, and if there are any organisations which are willing to do that work, the Ministry of Education will certainly consider those cases. But the policy that we have adopted now is that we do not ordinarily give grants to organisations as such. We give grants only to the State Governments and it is for the State Governments to disburse those grants to the organisations existing in those areas.

Shri Dasappa: Is not the hon. Minister well aware of the fact that certain organisations in non-Hindi areas have approached the Government for aid with the support of the State Government? How is it that they have not been given aid?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The hon. Member is probably referring to the organisation with which he is connected. I have fully explained the position to him.

Mr. Speaker: There is no harm in it; in his personal capacity as the head of an organisation, he is asking.

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I have fully explained the position to the hon. Member. It is for the Mysore Government to make the recommendation.

Shri Dasappa: I am not worried about the Mysore Government....

Mr. Speaker: Shri Shree Narayan Das.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: In reply to part (d) of the question, it has been stated that a bulletin on the steps taken by the various State Governments for the promotion of Hindi from 15-8-1947 to 31-10-1956 is under print. I want to know whether during all these years any assessment has been made as to how many persons in different non-Hindi-speaking areas have been taught Hindi. That is not the thing under print.

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I am afraid I could not give that information just now as to how many people have actually learnt Hindi. But we have generally made an assessment of the work that is being done; the pamphlet refers to that assessment. I do not think the Ministry has any statistics with regard to the number of persons who have learnt Hindi during the last ten years.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Dasappa wanted to ascertain if any special steps are being taken to encourage the study of Hindi in non-Hindi-speaking areas. That is the point he was driving at. He wants to know how it happened that for institutions of similar nature in the non-Hindi-speaking areas only Rs. 31,000 have been given whereas in Hindi-speaking areas similar institutions have been given Rs. 2 lakhs and odd. Does the Central Government make any effort in this direction?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: There are certain organisations like the Nagari Pracharini Sabha and the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan in Hindi-speaking areas, which have put forward some

schemes which will help in the propagation of Hindi. As far as non-Hindi-speaking areas are concerned, certain organisations have put forward certain proposals, but we do not consider these organisations to be of all-India nature and the work is not considered to be of all-India importance; it is considered to be of local importance. Therefore, we have requested those organisations to send their applications through the respective State Governments. As soon as the State Governments accept those proposals, we will be willing to consider those applications for grants.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I seek a clarification as to what the hon. Deputy Minister means by local nature?

Mr. Speaker: Next question. The Hindi matter will come up before the House.

Life Insurance Corporation

*188. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has prepared its report under Section 27 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956; and

(b) if so, when it will be laid on the Table?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). The Life Insurance Corporation has decided to adopt the calendar year as its financial year in keeping with the practice prevalent in insurance companies prior to nationalisation. The Corporation came into being only on 1st September, 1956 and as such the preparation of a separate account for four months of the year was not considered necessary because the period was too small. The Corporation has accordingly decided that its first financial year will be for sixteen months ending 31st December, 1957 and thereafter it will correspond to a calendar year. The first report will,

therefore, be submitted to Government sometime during 1958 and thereafter it will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I would like to add to the answer that has been given. Since the House wants to know what the Corporation does, I am asking the Corporation to submit an interim report for as many months as possible. I hope it will be possible for me to give the House an account in the next session.

Shri Radha Raman: The hon. Minister has just now said that he will be placing an interim report before the House in the next session. May I know if the Government was receiving from the various zones under the Life Insurance Corporation regular reports? If they are received, what is the duration for which they are called for?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Having constituted the Corporation, it is not possible for us to keep in touch with the work in the zones. The Corporation gets reports from the zones. After all, the Government can only deal with the Corporation as such and not with the respective offices in the zones. I do not think the hon. Member wants the Government to keep in touch with the zones as it is not possible for us to do so by passing the Central Office of this Corporation.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether the total life business done by the Life Insurance Corporation has increased since the inception of the Corporation? Is it more than the life insurance business that was being done by the three hundred odd companies in this country?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The position can only be compared on the basis of a calendar year and during the calendar year 1956 there has been a drop in the business of about Rs. 68 crores.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know whether the provisions of the Life