

Shri Nath Pal: Key jobs are always small in number.

Mr. Speaker: Progressively they are reducing the number.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the countries to which these people belong, and the nature of the work entrusted to them?

Mr. Speaker: That will require a separate statement.

Shri Goray: My name is there in the question.

Mr. Speaker: I want to make this clear to hon. Members. If a number of hon. Members ask questions on the same matter, I put their names together. This was not the practice before. I started this practice so as to give them opportunity to ask supplementary questions, if possible. Otherwise, I won't admit those questions. I will admit only one question, and let only one or two hon. Members ask questions. If every hon. Member feels that because I have included his name, he must have a chance and if he insists on his being called to ask questions, I will put them separately, they will take their chance.

Their names won't appear at all before the House.

Shri Nath Pal: This was not mentioned as a matter of insistence. But once you gave a ruling....

Mr. Speaker: As soon as I find that a particular question....

Shri Nath Pal: Let me finish my sentence....

Mr. Speaker: ... has been sufficiently answered and sufficient information has been elicited and the Minister is not in a position to give anything more, there is no good spending the time merely because a number of hon. Members have tabled the question and their names appear there. You must allow discretion to me to find out if the question has been sufficiently answered or not. The hon. Member, Shri B. S. Murthy,

wanted that he must be called because his name appeared in the question. But I find that no more questions can be usefully asked. Therefore, I am entitled to proceed to the next question. But now it appears hon. Members feel that because their names appear here, they have got the right to ask questions until it is exhausted.

Shri Goray: I wanted to ask when they thought they would complete the Indianisation of the services. I do not think this question was asked by anybody.

Mr. Speaker: I do not deny that a number of questions can be asked from all aspects. But 'as soon as possible' will be the answer.

Scheduled Castes Students

*1595. **Shri Wasnik:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tuition fee is charged from the Scheduled Castes students prosecuting their studies in the Government educational or research institutions; and

(b) whether this fee is deducted from the amount of scholarships the Scheduled Caste students receive from Government?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) The Scheduled Castes students in most of the Government educational and research institutions of the country are exempted from the payment of tuition fees.

(b) No, Sir, on the other hand the Scheduled Castes students in receipt of the Government of India Scholarships, who are not exempted from the payment of tuition fees, are paid such fees as a part of their scholarships.

Shri Baikrishna Wasnik: May I know whether in the Agricultural Research Institute at Izzatnagar, the amount of tuition fees is deducted from the amount of scholarship and

the amount that is left is so small that it is very insufficient to meet the needs of the scholars?

Dr. K. L. Shrimani: The hon. Member is asking a question with regard to a particular institution. I do not have that information. But my information is that we do not deduct tuition fees from the amount of scholarships. In fact, tuition fees are paid as part of the scholarships. If the hon. Member has any difficulty in regard to a particular institution, he may kindly draw my attention to it; I will look into it.

Shri Barman: Is the hon. Minister aware that there are certain States where fees have to be paid even in government institutions as for instance in West Bengal?

Dr. K. L. Shrimani: As far as I know, the West Bengal Government is the only Government which has not granted exemption from payment of tuition fees.

Shri Sonavane: Are Government aware that scholarships awarded to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students in colleges do not reach them in time? If so, what steps are Government taking to see that such delay is avoided in future?

Dr. K. L. Shrimani: Government place certain *ad hoc* grants at the disposal of the educational institutions and they are expected to disburse these amounts, because scholarships are given to all eligible Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students.

Shri Thimmaiah: May I know whether Government propose to take any steps to see that the States completely exempt these students from payment of tuition fees, and instead the Central Government pay the tuition fees?

Dr. K. L. Shrimani: The attention of the West Bengal Government was drawn to it, but they were unable to accept our proposal because of financial reasons.

Shri K. U. Parmar: Is the hon. Minister aware that sons of Scheduled

Caste people who are serving the railways have to pay their tuition fees, and their fees are deducted from the pay of these servants?

Dr. K. L. Shrimani: I have made a categorical statement. The hon. Member may refer to the answer to part (b).

Shri B. C. Mullick: May I know whether Government are aware that Scheduled Caste students in basic schools in Bihar are charged tuition fees?

Mr. Speaker: Individual cases may be brought to the notice of the Minister separately.

Dr. K. L. Shrimani: It is not possible for me to give information regarding particular States.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: The hon. Minister has said that the Government of West Bengal is the only Government that find it impossible to bear the financial liabilities which would arise from granting exemption to Scheduled Caste students from paying fees in government institutions. Have the Government of India enquired as to what is the total amount, and whether they are convinced that a State like West Bengal cannot bear this small additional liability?

Dr. K. L. Shrimani: If that Government say that they are unable to pay, naturally the Government of India have to accept their statement. I do not think the Government of India can force any State Government to exempt students.

Shri Basumatari: Whether the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes awarded scholarship are exempted from paying fees in all States?

Dr. K. L. Shrimani: I could not follow the question.

Mr. Speaker: Nor could I.

Shri Dasappa: It is very simple. How many States make education free for students of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

Mr. Speaker: All except West Bengal, which has not made education free for Scheduled Castes.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I have already answered it.

Excise Duty on Tobacco

*1598. **Shri K. U. Parmar:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that nearly 1 lakh maunds of inferior grade tobacco of 1952-53 crop has remained duty un-paid (unsold) in C. Ex. Baroda Collectorate so far due to heavy rate of excise duties;

(b) whether any requests have been received from tobacco merchants or their associations to reduce the rate of duty on such inferior crop of 1952-53; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) The reason for non-disposal of nearly 1 lakh maunds of tobacco of 1952-53 crop in the Baroda Collectorate of Central Excise is not the heavy rate of duty but the inferior quality of these stocks which were not cleared even at the concessional rate of duty which remained in force for about 1-3/4 years.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. They are under consideration of Government.

Shri Fatehsinh Ghodasar: May I know whether Government have received any petition from growers requesting Government not to give any concession in the rate of duty on the 1952-53 tobacco? If so, what action do Government propose to take in the matter?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I could not follow the question. So far as representations are concerned, we received representations from merchants which the Government considered and said that in view of the fact that only a very little amount out of the 320 million lbs. of tobacco which were given concessions of reduced taxation

—only 8 million lbs.—are left and as it is the considered opinion of Government that no concession in taxation would enable the holders of the stock to dispose them of because they are of inferior quality and good quality tobacco of later years has flooded the market, we reject the applications. But, we have received representations from two hon. Members of this House to which, as I said, we are giving further consideration.

Shri C. D. Pande: Has Government received any representation this year that owing to the faulty interpretation of the excise duties, crops were burnt in Farrukhabad and Bareilly districts?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: This refers to U.P. to which, I think, the hon. Finance Minister also replied that in certain cases we have taken the hardships caused by change in the specification of the duty into account and we have given concessions in some cases.

Shri Ranga: What happens to this 8 million lbs. of stuff which is placed at the disposal of the Collectorate? If the merchants or the growers themselves are unable to pay the duty and are unable to sell it, would the Government exonerate them from payment and themselves take possession of the stuff and dispose it of or burn it or throw it in the sea?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The hon. Member is not aware of the circumstances in regard to the particular matter raised by an hon. Member opposite. It happens to deal with certain stocks of tobacco in the Collectorate of Baroda and these stocks go up to 1952-53. The bulk of these stocks have been cleared by concessions given from time to time and a small residue is left. Naturally, the question now remains whether they want to destroy it or they want to pay the duty and sell it. It is generally believed that these stocks are not saleable. I do not see what Government could do in this particular matter. In fact, I think, if anything, the Government was at