

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 10th September, 1957

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Publicity of Programme in Community Development and N.E.S. Blocks

*1818. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) what arrangements have been made in each State for the publicity of the programmes of the Community Development and National Extension Service Blocks;

(b) whether the publicity work of the Community Development and the National Extension Service Blocks is co-ordinated with that of the State Government; and

(c) if so, whether any expenditure is charged by the State Governments for this purpose?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). Publicity programme of the Community Development and National Extension Service Blocks is a part of the overall Plan Publicity Programme and is arranged through the various Media Units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. It is also arranged in collaboration with the States and local Community Development authorities, wherever necessary.

(c) The State Governments make no charge but are assisted by the Central Government by payment of 50 per cent. of the cost of community listening receivers, free supplies of posters and films.

Shri Sanganna: In view of the fact that at a recent conference of the State Ministers it was stated that publicity work at State level was not satisfactory, may I know what improvement do the Government propose in this matter?

Dr. Keskar: It was not said that the work at State level is not satisfactory. Rather, the implementation of the general programmes sometimes suffers from lack of co-ordination, and it is that which was discussed at the State Ministers' conference

Shri Basappa: May I know whether adequate literature in all the fourteen languages for publicity is available?

Dr. Keskar: I do not know what the hon. Member means by 'adequate'. We are publishing large amounts of literature in all the languages and some of the pamphlets and posters are published by us; some are published by the State Governments also

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether the students of the universities are requisitioned for this purpose?

Dr. Keskar: Yes, Sir. We have got the University planning forums which aim at harnessing the students and the teachers to discuss and generate interest in the Plan in the intellectual circles.

Shri Ranga: Is it a part of this publicity work of the N.E.S. Blocks that whosoever is responsible for it will publicise the constructive activities that are being carried on in village

after village within that particular area and also meet the high school students and if there are colleges, the college students also, in that area, and get them interested and enlightened about it?

Dr. Keskar: That would be rather difficult for me to answer—whether in the Blocks efforts are being made to get the students interested. I would have to find out.

श्री भक्त दशगं : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस प्रचार का वास्तविक उद्देश्य क्या है? क्या इसका उद्देश्य यह है कि विकास खंडों के बाहर की जनता परिचित होया वह कि विकास खंडों में रहने वाली जनता परिचित होकर भाग्य बढ़ने के लिए काम कर सके ?

डॉ० फेसकर : इसका उद्देश्य दोनों प्रकार का है । जो विकास क्षेत्र में प्रचार होता है, वह तो विकास क्षेत्र में रहने वालों पर असर डालने के लिए होता है, लेकिन जो यहाँ से प्रचार होता है वह ग्राम जनता के लिए होता है ।

Shri Mohamed Imam: What is the nature and purpose of this publicity? May I know whether it is not a fact that this publicity is often sought recourse to in the absence of sufficient work and to cover the deficiency in the work? Is not the actual work itself sufficient publicity?

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter of opinion. The hon. Members want publicity not only here but abroad also. When it comes to the question of publicity here they want to restrict it.

Incorrect Statements in "Dictionary of Politics"

*1619. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the entries 'Kashmir' and 'India' in the Penguin Reference Book entitled 'A Dictionary of Politics' published by Unwin Brothers Ltd. and printed in

Great Britain in 1957 where incorrect statements about Kashmir and India have been recorded;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to get necessary corrections made therein; and

(c) whether the publisher has agreed to do so?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):
(a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Our High Commission in London has discussed the subject with a Director of Penguins who is taking up the matter with the authors.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether this publisher has given any explanation as to the circumstances and reasons for this glaringly incorrect statement made in the publication?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): As has been read just now, the subject has been discussed by the publisher with the High Commissioner. The publisher said that he will discuss with the author. The publisher does not write it. He publishes. There is no question of explanation. If it is a mistake, as it is, he ought to correct it.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether the publisher has given any indication of the time by which the next edition of the publication will be published?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. We cannot order about the people like this.

Shri Goray: Is there any machinery at the disposal of the Government to screen such books before they are allowed to come here?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Of course not. How can we possibly ask publishers to send us books for our scrutiny before they are published?

Shri Goray: Before they are allowed to come to India.

Mr. Speaker: Any censorship, so far as such books are concerned.