

Shri A. C. Guha : I cannot understand, Sir, There is no question of any decision. I have already said that the reports of the Government do not support the allegation. Where is the question of decision?

Shri Sanganna: The hon. Minister stated that there is a proposal to exempt tobacco grown on a small scale from tax. So I want to know when the Government is going to take action on that matter.

Shri A. C. Guha: In the reply I have stated that most of these places are sparse-growing areas, and as such most of the tobacco is exempted from being assessed.

Shri Raghavaiah: In view of the fact that this tax is a war time measure that was intended during the war time for the collection of revenues to fill the Exchequer of the State, will the Government see that this tax is not imposed on the peasants who grow tobacco now ?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. I won't allow such a question. This can be discussed at the time of the budget or finance debate.

Shri Raghavaiah: There is a grievance that.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A tax is always a grievance.

Shri Heda: Can the hon. Minister give us an idea about the percentage that this tobacco tax forms of the present tobacco price in the market?

Shri A. C. Guha: I think the hon. Member knows the rate of the tax, and he can easily calculate the proportion. I have not got the figures now with me. It is a matter of ordinary mathematical calculation.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know why large-scale purchasers and growers like the Indian Leaf Tobacco Trading Co., a British concern, are exempted from this levy of tobacco tax?

Shri A. C. Guha: No, Sir. They are not exempted.

Shri Badshah Gupta: May I know the highest amount of tobacco that is exempted from tax for the consumption of the cultivator himself?

Shri A. C. Guha: In most cases it is 30 seers that is exempted.

Shri B. C. Das: If the complaint is true that the Government are realizing now in one instalment all the arrears of the tax, do the Government propose to postpone collection of these arrears?

Shri A. C. Guha: No, Sir. Government cannot give an assurance that they will postpone the collection of arrears, but I think the first part of the question is not correct. The Government have been taking every step to minimise the hardship of the tenants in paying the tax.

Shri B. C. Das: Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the fact that last year these tobacco growers have incurred huge losses?

Shri A. C. Guha: The question relates only to two districts in Orissa and since now a general discussion is going on, I can only give this assurance that the Government is aware that in some cases there is a certain amount of hardship, and Government have taken sufficient precautions to minimise the hardship to the tenants; and everytime the Government has been revising its policy, only recently from 20 seers, the exemption has been raised to 30 seers.

BASIC EDUCATION (TRIPURA)

*844. **Shri Biren Dutt:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state what amount has been spent on basic education scheme in Tripura?

(b) What are the names of such basic education centres?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) The amount spent on basic education in Tripura during 1952-53 was Rs. 41,305.

(b) Tripura Loka Shikshalaya at Champaknagar.

Shri Biren Dutt: May I know whether in the name of introducing this

basic education, private schools in tribal areas are not recognized by the Government of Tripura?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am not aware of any such thing, Sir.

Shri Biren Dutt: May I know how many petitions from the tribal people have been received by the Education Department to recognize their private schools?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: That information is not here. The Tripura Government might be possessing it.

Shri Biren Dutt: Will the Minister be pleased to assure that the primary schools in the tribal areas will not be suppressed in the name of this basic education scheme?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Certainly it is not our intention to suppress the expansion of primary education or primary schools on the ground that we want to have basic education.

Shri Punnoose: May I know the literacy in the State and also the percentage of money spent on basic education as compared to education as a whole?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have just now mentioned that Rs. 41,305 was spent during 1952-53 in Tripura State. I have no figure here with regard to the annual sanction for education as a whole.

Shri Punnoose: What is the percentage of literacy?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Literacy cannot be more than what is there in any other province.

Shri Nanadas: May I know the number of students that are undergoing basic training in that State?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have no information here just now.

Shri Raghavalah: May I know if the basic education introduced in Tripura State will encourage cottage industries there or discourage them.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: That is certainly the intention—to encourage cottage industries.

लाला अचिन्त राम : क्या मंत्री जी बतलायेंगे कि जब गवर्नमेंट इतना रुपया बेसिक शिक्षा के लिये खर्च कर रही है तो वहां जो बेसिक शिक्षा का एक्सपैरीमेंट हो रहा है वह कामयाब साबित हो रहा है ?

श्री कॅ० डी० मालवीय : जी हां। त्रिपुरा गवर्नमेंट का यही ब्याल है कि बेसिक शिक्षा का जो प्रचार हो रहा है वह सन्तोषजनक है। इसीलिये उस के प्रचार के लिये उन्होंने ने और रुपया मांगा है और उन की स्कीमें चल रही हैं।

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next question.

Lala Achint Ram rose—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Suddenly the hon. Member has stood up, after all the others have finished supplementaries.

Lala Achint Ram: You were looking towards that side, and I being in the middle, you have not called me.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: As soon as hon. Members get up, I get a general picture as to who all want to put supplementaries. Subsequently they sit back, and I look from one side of the House to the other, and call on them. I do not forget anybody.

The hon. Member had not stood up earlier.

लाला अचिन्त राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बतलायेंगे कि यह सेंटर जहां मधव दी जा रही है, इन में से कोई ऐसे सेंटर हैं जो पाश्चिमी या होलली सैल्फ सफीशियेंट हों या जिन के ऐसा होने की सम्भावना हो ?

श्री कॅ० डी० मालवीय : मुझे नहीं मालम और त्रिपुरा गवर्नमेंट ने ऐसी कोई सूचना हमें नहीं दी है।