

GRANTS TO LITERARY PERSONS

*1615. **Shri B. N. Misra:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 718 asked on the 11th June, 1952 and state how many applications for the grant of allowance were received from persons distinguished in Letters who needed financial help within the prescribed time and how many of them were from Madhya Pradesh?

(b) What action has been taken by Government on those applications?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) No time limit has been prescribed for sending applications. Till the end of March, 1954, 575 applications were received out of which 16 were from Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Out of 16 applications received from Madhya Pradesh nine have been disposed of and the remaining 7 are under consideration.

Shri B. N. Misra: What has been the decision by the Government in disposing of these applications—whether grants have been given to them or not?

Dr. M. M. Das: Sixteen applications have so far been received from Madhya Pradesh out of which nine have been disposed of. Following are the particulars of the cases disposed of.

Mr. Speaker: He does not want the particulars. He wants to know whether any grants have been given, and to how many?

Dr. M. M. Das: In only one case we have given a grant.

Shri B. N. Misra: What is the amount of the grant and to whom has it been given?

Dr. M. M. Das: The grant has been given to Shri Zahurbux Machheryahi. He is a writer in Hindi. The allowance sanctioned is Rs. 150 per

month for one year from December, 1953.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know whether there is any Committee which goes into these applications and makes selections?

Dr. M. M. Das: Yes, Sir. There is a committee which goes into these applications.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know if there is any provision for Government to grant allowances or pensions to writers who are in distress but who cannot persuade themselves to make a formal written application to Government?

Dr. M. M. Das: There is a provision in which important organisations of the States have been asked to send to the Government such information.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defence (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): This procedure was started about a year ago. It is a kind of *ad hoc* procedure which we wish to make more definite, and a certain sum of money was set aside for the purpose. A Committee consisting of the Education Minister, the Finance Minister and myself was constituted, and rather informal Advisory Committees in regard to the various languages consisting of some Members of this House or the Council of State,—there is one for Hindi, another for Bengali—to whom these applications are sent, and then they advise. Then this Committee decides.

RESERVATION FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

*1616. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to refer to the answer given to starred question No. 1263 on the 24th March, 1954 and state:

(a) the quota of clerks and assistants reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Government of Manipur and Tripura States;

(b) whether the quota has been filled up;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to make good the shortage?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

Shri B. S. Murthy: This question is being continuously asked for the last six or seven months. I do not know what steps are being taken to gather the information.

Dr. Katju: I do not know whether my friend is accurate about six or seven months. Anyway, I shall send a telegraphic reminder to the Chief Commissioner to send me immediate information.

Mr. Speaker: Next question. Mr. Reddi.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Mr. Reddi is not here.

Mr. Speaker: He is not here? Then it will come last.

GOODWILL CRUISES

*1618. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether our Naval Ships visited any foreign countries during the year 1953-54 on Goodwill cruises; and

(b) if so, what were the countries visited?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) Yes; ships of the Indian Navy carried out visits to various countries in 1953 as a normal feature of goodwill cruises.

(b) United Kingdom for Coronation Review.

Italy.

Yugoslavia.

Turkey.

Syria and Lebanon.

Israel.

Egypt.

Saudi Arabia

Eritrea.

Greece.

Ceylon.

Burma.

Malaya.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What was the expenditure incurred when we detailed our three ships in response to the invitation from the United Kingdom in connection with the Coronation Review?

Shri Tyagi: I believe I had answered this question some time ago. I have not got that figure ready now, but the total expenditure on these cruises is mostly expenditure that is incurred on fuel or entertainment only. The rest of the expenditure is normal.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Did any exercise take place on the high seas except those done in collaboration with the U. K. fleet in the Mediterranean?

Shri Tyagi: Some exercises are undertaken here locally also, but this time we intend sending a cruise to the East.

Shri N. L. Joshi: May I know whether goodwill missions from other countries also visited India during the year 1953?

Shri Tyagi: Goodwill missions come from various countries. I have not got ready the figures just now.

FOREIGN BRANCHES OF INDIAN BANKS

*1619. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from Banks for opening branches in foreign countries and how many of them were sanctioned and how many rejected or are still pending;

(b) the nature of the difficulties that Banks had to encounter in opening branches in foreign countries;