

[The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): You can put the question in Hindi. I will be glad to reply.]

सेठ गोविन्द बास : यह जो शिक्षकों की संख्या घटी है उस का कारण अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह बतलाया था कि विद्यार्थियों की संख्या घटी थी मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस संख्या को बढ़ाने के लिए क्या सरकार की कर्मचारियों को कोई प्रोत्साहन देने की योजना है। या कोई इस प्रकार की योजना है कि अगर वे हिन्दी नहीं सीखेंगे तो उन की आगे की तरक्की में बाधा पड़ेगी। क्या सरकार इस प्रकार की किसी योजना पर विचार कर रही है।

مولانا آزاد - سروس के आदमी ये ऐसी तरफ से सम्भव हों कि वे अब अन्होंने न हिन्दी सीखे ली तो वे अस से अन का फूज़ोर मन्त्री नहीं जानेंगा और विद्या ऐसा हो जानेगा - लिकन अभी तक वे अन के लिए कोई खास लिस्ट नहीं दिया जाना चाहिए बातों को सम्मिलित करने की योजना नहीं मुलायम हो रही है लेकिन गोविन्द सौजन्य देही है कि वे अस बारे में कौन कौन न कहे तब तक उन्होंने कोई जानकारी नहीं दी।

[Maulana Azad: The employees very well understand that if they learn Hindi their future will be secure and better. But for various considerations it is not proper to lay any such conditions. The Government are, however, thinking of taking some steps in this connection.]

सेठ गोविन्द बास : यह जो हमारे कर्मचारियों को शिक्षा दी जा रही है इस का पाठ्य क्रम क्या है और यह कितनी कक्षाओं

चलाई जा रही हैं जहां पर उन को शिक्षा दी जा रही है ?

مولانا آزاد : جونहे बीस के एस्कूलों के लिए जून ड्रेज़ की हिन्दी बुधानी है वो दोहरी की है -

[Maulana Azad: The standard of Hindi is the same as in Junior basic Schools.]

COST OF LIVING INDEX

*1168. Shri S. N. Das: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of the preparation and publication by a competent authority of a broad-based All-India Cost-of-living index on an up-to-date basis has been considered by Government as suggested by the Dearness Allowance Committee; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As stated in my reply to unstarred question No. 381, on the 9th Dec. '53, an all-India working Class Cost-of-living index, with base 1944 is being regularly published by the Labour Bureau since the publication of the Report of the Dearness Allowance Committee. The question of compiling a parallel series of all-India Middle Class Index and also of later integrating the two series into a composite all-India index is under active consideration, in consultation with the Central Statistical Organisation.

Shri S. N. Das: In reply to the question referred to by the hon. Minister it was stated that the matter was under active consideration, in consultation with the Central Statistical Organisation. This was said on the 9th December 1953. May I know whether any progress has been made?

Shri M. C. Shah: Yes. A committee has been appointed. This committee

has met in February 1954 and the work is progressing.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether it is proposed to give this work to the Central Statistical Organisation, or whether any other body is going to be entrusted with this task?

Shri M. C. Shah: For the time being it is proposed to give this work only to the Central Statistical Organisation attached to the Cabinet Secretariat.

BOMBAY CUSTOMS APPRAISING DEPARTMENT

*1169. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been any cases of less customs charges in the Appraising Department of the Bombay Customs, during 1951-52 and 1952-53;

(b) whether any claims were withdrawn on the basis of original assessment; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Demands for customs duties and other charges short levied by the assessing officers through inadvertence, errors, collusion or misconstruction on the part of the Officers of Customs, or through mis-statement as to real value, quantity or description on the part of the owner are required under Section 39 of the Sea Customs Act to be made within three months. In the Custom Houses there is a system of second scrutiny of assessment documents and if on such scrutiny *prima facie* there is reason to believe that duty has been short levied, due either to incorrect value or classification, a demand is made immediately pending further investigation in order to avoid it becoming time barred. If on further investigation and study of the documents the original assessment is found to be correct, the provisional demand made under section 39 is withdrawn; most of the withdrawals were for this reason.

Shri Gidwani: The answer was not audible to me at least. It was a big answer in the form of a statement. It could have been placed on the Table of the House or given to me earlier.

Mr. Speaker: If he wants, it can be placed on the Table of the House. But he will have no opportunity to ask supplementary questions.

Shri A. C. Guha: There is nothing new in it. If you will kindly permit me, Sir, according to a certain section of the Sea Customs Act, if there is any suspicion that certain articles are short levied, within three months a fresh assessment is to be sent. Otherwise, after that period, it will be time barred. In certain cases a fresh assessment is sent and after final scrutiny if it is found that the previous assessment was correct, the second assessment is withdrawn or if it is found that the previous assessment was not correct an amount according to the fresh assessment or some other amount as found suitable is realised from the party.

Shri Gidwani: What is the difference between the amount which would have been realised if the original assessment had been imposed and the subsequent assessment?

Mr. Speaker: That would depend on each individual case.

Shri A. C. Guha: I can say...

Mr. Speaker: I do not want that question to be answered. It is obvious it will depend on each individual case.

Shri K. K. Basu: May we know the number of cases which have been time barred regarding assessment?

Shri A. C. Guha: I think no case is allowed to be time barred. In 1950-51, in 2076 cases fresh demands were made out of which 730 were withdrawn on the final assessment. In 1952-53, in 1154 cases second assessment was made and 358 were withdrawn.