

to various State Governments for their adoption?

Shri Datar: It is not within our purview to make recommendations to the State Governments—it is for them to act; they may adopt these things also.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Are these directions of a permissive nature or obligatory nature?

Shri Datar: They are of a recommendatory nature.

SANGEET NATAK AKADAMI

*417. **Shri Keshavalengar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the institutions to which the Sangeet Natak Akadami has afforded recognition and given facilities;

(b) how many of them are amateur dramatic associations; and

(c) how many of them are institutions dealing with dancing?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):

(a) The Sangeet Natak Akadami has not yet recognised any institution.

(b) and (c). The question does not arise.

Shri Keshavalenger: May I know if the Akadami has invited applications for recognition?

Dr. M. M. Das: It is an autonomous body, and our information is that a sub-committee consisting of several members of the Akadami has been set up by the Sangeet Natak Akadami for recommending recognition to institutions, and the sub-committee is being to consider the matter in March.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether there is no Sanskrit or Hindi equivalent for the term Academy?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: May I know whether recognition by this Akadami carries with it any form of financial

assistance to the institution concerned?

Dr. M. M. Das: Sir, I cannot commit myself, but it appears that this recognition means eligibility for financial aid.

KANDLA CORRUPTION CASE

*418. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Anti-corruption branch of the Central Police has unearthed at Kandla port, a conspiracy to falsify measurements of earth works which form the basis for payment to contractors; and

(b) if so, the details of the conspiracy?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes. Information purporting to show the existence of such a conspiracy has been received and is now under verification.

(b) The investigation of the case is proceeding. Details are not available at present.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether any persons have been apprehended in this connection?

Shri Datar: A preliminary enquiry has been going on, and till now no person has been apprehended.

Shri Dabhi: At what stage was the conspiracy unearthed?

Shri Datar: The conspiracy was unearthed at a stage when it was found that an amount larger than the one sanctioned was taken away.

Shri Dabhi: May I know what was the larger amount?

Shri Datar: The original amount sanctioned was Rs. 2,40,000 and the amounts in respect of which payments were made were Rs. 4,08,000.

Shri Vallatharas: Apart from the conspiracy in the case, has there been any evidence about the commission of the act?

Mr. Speaker: I think the matter is under investigation. It will be premature to go into it, and not even proper.

Shri Vallatharas: In the F. I. R. there may be a conspiracy

Mr. Speaker: Let it be left to the investigation.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know whether anybody has been kept under suspension, pending enquiry?

Shri Datar: That itself has to be considered. The enquiry is at a preliminary stage.

LITERATURE FOR CHILDREN

*419. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a scheme for preparing some literature for children;

(b) if so, under whom this scheme is being finalized; and

(c) the language in which this literature is expected to be prepared?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) Yes.

(b) The scheme has been formulated by the Government of India (Ministry of Education).

(c) Hindi.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know if some non-official agencies which are already engaged in this kind of work are consulted in preparing these schemes?

Dr. M. M. Das: The *Makhtaba Jamia* have undertaken this work.

Shri S. N. Das: What is the amount that is required for the implementation of the scheme at present?

Dr. M. M. Das: Rs. 2.5 lakhs have been earmarked for this scheme.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know why Government are not producing the literature in languages other than Hindi?

Dr. M. M. Das: Government hopes that the work of preparing the literature in other languages will be taken up by the respective State Governments

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know if the institution which has been entrusted with the preparation of the literature has any experience of this work?

Dr. M. M. Das: There can be no doubt about that, Sir.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जिस संस्था को यह काम सौंपा गया है, उस संस्था को किसकी सिफारिश से सौंपा गया है और उसके लिये क्या और भी संस्थाओं से बातचीत की गई थी और उसके बाद उस को सौंपा गया है या केवल इसी संस्था को सौंपा गया है ?

Dr. M. M. Das: These organisations, *Makhtaba Jamia*, have undertaken the complete work, that is, preparation of a hundred books for children.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : यह मेरे यह सवाल का जवाब नहीं है ।

Mr. Speaker: The question is, on whose recommendation was this institution entrusted with the work; whether other institutions were previously consulted and informed as to whether they would be willing to take up the work in question or not?

Dr. M. M. Das: I require notice for this question.

AIR BASE IN THE NICOBAR ISLANDS

*420. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an air base in the Nicobar Islands; and

(b) if so, for what purposes that air base is being utilised at present?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) Yes, Sir. It is