

**SANGEET NATAK AKADAMI (GRANTS)**

**\*442. Shri Keshavalengar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grants have been made so far by the Sangeet Natak Akadami;

(b) if so, to whom and of what amount; and

(c) which are the States in which these Cultural Akadamis have been constituted?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):** (a) The Sangeet Natak Akadami has not made any grants so far.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) Regional Akadamis have so far been set up in Assam, Bihar, Hyderabad, Bhopal, Madhya Bharat and Bilaspur.

**Shri Keshavalengar:** May I know whether any amount is placed at the disposal of this Akadami, and if so, what is the amount?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** There is a provision of Rs. 2,50,000 in the current year's Budget for the establishment of this Akadami. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 1 lakh has already been sanctioned as a grant to this Akadami.

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**DEVNAGARI SCRIPT**

**\*408. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Devnagari Script does not at present have symbols for certain sounds in other local languages; and

(b) if so, whether any reform in the script is being undertaken?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) This is the view of many experts.

(b) The Government of India have not for the time being undertaken any reform in the Devnagari Script. But recently the Government of Uttar Pradesh had called a Conference to consider the problem of reforming Devnagari Script.

**NATIONAL SAMPLE SURVEY**

**\*415. Shri Bansal:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether any final conclusions have been arrived at by the National Sample Survey, in regard to the figures of production of foodgrains in India?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):** No final conclusions have been reached. A statement explaining the position is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 9.]

**ARMY COOKS AND WATER CARRIERS**

**\*416. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether civilian cooks and water-carriers employed in the military are charged any sum for their food;

(b) if so, what is the amount charged; and

(c) whether the amount so collected is credited to Government funds?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a), (b) and (c). Civilian Cooks and Water Carriers employed in the Army are not provided with free rations under normal peace conditions.

In some of the Army units, local arrangements exist under which civilian personnel are provided with food at "cost-price", which varies from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 p.m.

In the Jammu and Kashmir Area, however, free rations are admissible to civilian employees of the Defence Services.