

**Dr. M. M. Das:** I could not follow the question.

**Shri Thanu Pillai:** According to the answer given to part (a) of the question, the colleges are asked not to collect the school fees till the scholarship is given to the Harijan student. But if ultimately the Harijan boy does not get the scholarship, and the colleges do not collect the college fees, who ultimately pays the college fees?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** Ultimately, the college fees have to be paid by the students, if they do not get the Central Government scholarships. We ask the colleges not to collect the fees only in those cases where the boy is likely to get these scholarships, especially in the case of renewals, where it is to some extent sure that if the boy has passed the final examination, he will get scholarship in the next year.

**Shri Thanu Pillai:** If he discontinues studies.

#### JANTA COLLEGES

**\*1445. Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three Janta Colleges are proposed to be started in Andhra in the Community Projects areas; and

(b) if so, the main objects and features of this proposal?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):** (a) Government have received no such information.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** May I know whether, in view of the paucity of trained personnel to take over the community project administration in Andhra, it is in the contemplation of Government to start such rural universities to have trained community project personnel?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** It is the duty of the Andhra Government to send their proposals. But so far as the Janata Colleges are concerned, we have received no such proposals from the Andhra Government.

#### OIL DEPOSITS IN TRIPURA

**\*1446. Shri Biren Dutt:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tripura State Development Committee has approached the Central Government for early exploration of oil deposits in Tripura; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this matter?

**The Minister in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

**Shri Biren Dutt:** May I know whether the Standard Vacuum Oil Company have conducted a survey in this oil region, and if so, what is the result?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** The Standard Vacuum Oil Company have obtained certain licences for prospecting etc. in certain areas. I do not know how far the areas included in the Tripura State come in. I have not got the maps and this specific information.

**Shri Biren Dutt:** Have they submitted any report to Government?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** With regard to that area, I do not know; I require notice.

#### SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

**\*1448. Shri Ramananda Das:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the nature of the schemes and the amount proposed to be spent this year separately for social, economical and educational uplift of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** The main items for which Central grants are given to the States for the uplift of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are:—

**(A) Scheduled Castes—**

(i) Intensive propaganda for removal of untouchability particularly in rural areas through approved non-official organisations which may include—

- (a) holding of social *melas*;
- (b) issuing appropriate posters for display at public places;
- (c) printing of small pamphlets and booklets; and
- (d) showing of cinema slides.

(ii) In Part B and Part C States and in a few select rural areas of Part A States the grant can be utilised for—

- (a) Digging of drinking water wells; and
- (b) construction of houses.

**(B) Scheduled Tribes—**

1. Agricultural development including minor irrigation;
2. Educational Advancement (including hostels and scholarships);
3. Public Health, including anti-malarial operations;
4. Village Roads;
5. Development of Cottage Industries.

Two statements showing the State-wise allocation of grants for various purposes during 1954-55 are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 15.]

**Shri Ramananda Das:** From the statement, it appears that Government are spending more than Rs. 3.17 crores for about two crores of Scheduled Tribes and Rs. 47.3 lakhs only for Scheduled Castes. Considering the large number of Scheduled Castes and their all-round backwardness,

may I know whether this amount will be sufficient and if not, whether some more grant is to be given to them?

**Shri Datar:** The hon. Member will kindly note that under article 275, the Government of India have to make certain grants in respect of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Areas. That is not the case, so far as the Scheduled Castes are concerned, where the responsibility is solely on the States. It is only as a special case that this grant is being made for the removal of untouchability.

**Shri Thimmaiah:** What special care have Government taken to promote the economic interests of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in accordance with the directive principle of the Constitution, which says that the State shall promote with special care the economic and educational interests of the weaker section of the people, particularly, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes?

**Shri Datar:** The hon. Member will include in the expression 'State' all the States in India, so far as economic interests are concerned. So far as the Central Government are concerned, they are making these grants to the various States for the purposes mentioned by me earlier.

**Shri Velayudhan:** It has been stated that Government are giving grants to certain organisations of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. May I know whether the grants are distributed to organisations depending on certain political colouring?

**Shri Datar:** No. In fact we desire that it should have no political colouring, so far as the work to be carried on is concerned.

**श्री गणपति राम :** जैसा कि मंत्री जी ने अभी कहा और जैसे संविधान में दिया गया है कि १० वर्षों के अन्दर हरिजनों की सामाजिक और आर्थिक दशा अन्य समाज के बराबर आ जाएगी,

क्या गवर्नमेंट इस रफतार से हरिजनों की सामाजिक उन्नति इतनी ज्यादा कर सकेगी ?

श्री वातातार : गवर्नमेंट उनकी दशा जरूर सुधारंगी ।

#### RURAL INDEBTEDNESS

\*1449. **Shri Jethalal Joshi:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of rural debt as estimated at present;

(b) how much of it is estimated to have been newly contracted after 1950; and

(c) the total number of Land Mortgage Banks in the country?

**The Minister of Revenue and Defence Expenditure (Shri A. C. Guha):** (a) and (b). Recent data showing the position regarding the nature and extent of rural debt in the country are not available. The only authoritative estimate in this regard is the one made by the Indian Central Banking Enquiry Committee, which in 1931 put the total indebtedness at about Rs. 900 crores for India. The Rural Credit Survey Committee appointed by the Reserve Bank of India has just submitted its Report in which problems of rural indebtedness have received attention along with other aspects of Rural Credit. So we have no up-to-date estimate of rural indebtedness nor of the indebtedness incurred after 1950.

(c) The total number of central Land Mortgage Banks and primary Land Mortgage Banks in the country as on 30th June 1953 was 8 and 301 respectively.

**Shri Jethalal Joshi:** May I know what is the total amount of advances made by the land mortgage banks to agriculturists in 1953-54?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I do not think I have got the actual figure. I can give him information about the general position. I can say from memory that the total amount may be a little above Rs. 1 crore.

**Shri Jethalal Joshi:** What is the overall ratio of the debts to the total assets of the cultivator?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** It has been estimated that 50 per cent. of the total national income of India comes from the agricultural side. So he can calculate. We have not got accurate up-to-date data about rural indebtedness. So I cannot give the ratio.

**Shri Jethalal Joshi:** What is the percentage of cultivators who are debt-ridden and how are Government trying to expedite the measures for clearing these debts?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I think the reply that I have given will suffice to indicate that. We have not got the data available for giving all this information. But as to the steps, I think, they have been indicated several times in this House. I can say one thing, that we are trying to develop the co-operative movement and the Reserve Bank is giving every aid to the co-operative banks, and also giving them some loan. I think this year the total loan to the co-operatives for agricultural credit would be near about Rs. 15 crores.

**Shri Punnoose:** Are there indications to show that rural indebtedness has increased during this period?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I do not think it has increased, because after the Central Banking Enquiry Committee's report, there was another report by the Famine Enquiry Committee, after the 1943 famine, and that has put the figure, I think, near about Rs. 280 crores or something like that, excluding North West Frontier Province, Sind and Orissa. I think according to that estimate, it would be near about Rs. 300 crores. So it may be expected that by that time the rural indebtedness has not increased.

**The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh):** I think hon. Members should await the Rural Credit Survey Committee's report, which should shortly be in their hands. It will give a great deal of information on this subject.