

Shri Chattopadhyaya: I understand that under rule 67(3) of the Rules of Procedure, I may be permitted to ask this question in the absence of the hon. Member concerned, because it is a very important question.

Mr. Speaker: After the first round is over and the questions are exhausted, that will come up.

"Who is Who" in Indian Literature

*1594. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Who is Who" in Indian literature has been compiled and published by the Sahitya Akadami; and

(b) if so, the total amount spent on its publication?

The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) "Who's Who" in Indian literature is under preparation by the Sahitya Akadami.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know whether Indian writers in English will find a place in the "Who is Who"?

Dr. M. M. Das: Yes, Sir.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: What is the criterion for selecting the writers?

Dr. M. M. Das: The criterion is that at least one book of some quality should have been written and published by the writer.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether writers in the regional languages will also find a place in this publication?

Dr. M. M. Das: Certainly.

श्री भक्त वरदान : यह जो "कौन है कौन" शीर्षक की पुस्तक तैयार की जा रही है उसको कौन सज्जन तैयार कर रहे हैं ? अर्थात् यह काम किसके हाथों में दिया गया है ?

Dr. M. M. Das: It is done under the general supervision of the Sahitya Akadami by one gentleman named Shri Tekekar of Bombay.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know whether there is any co-ordination with PEN who have also undertaken this work?

Dr. M. M. Das: There is no connection between this Who is Who and the one prepared by the PEN except that it was the last mentioned gentleman Shri Tekekar of Bombay who compiled that and who is also compiling this book.

Shri Kamath: In this work of compilation, will the guidance and advice of the Prime Minister, who is himself a literatureur, be sought or not?

Dr. M. M. Das: Yes, Sir; certainly.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I find from a questionnaire supplied, I suppose, by the Sahitya Akadami that writers were asked to give the names of their books in Indian languages as well as in English. May I know if any attempt has been made to sift the list of English books so that only books of literary value are mentioned and not the other kinds of books which are usually written by some English writers?

Dr. M. M. Das: That is a very important matter. It is one of the main reasons why it is necessary to edit these replies which we get from the writers.

Educational Survey

*1595. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to conduct a survey of Primary, Basic and Technical Education at Secondary level;

(b) if so, whether the survey will be conducted departmentally; and

(c) if not, the time by which the Survey Committee is likely to be appointed?

The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes Sir, in association with State Governments.

(c) Does not arise.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the purpose of conducting this survey and whether this work has been undertaken?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The main objective of the survey may be described as threefold: to find out and ascertain the population of cities, towns and villages already provided with primary and other schools; the number and the population of villages which are still to be provided with schools and thirdly, the manner in which new school can be started in the school-less villages so as to avoid overlapping and to achieve the maximum of effect at the minimum of cost.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether this work has been undertaken or not?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The work has not yet been started. We have written to the State Governments and we are awaiting the replies. We have already received the replies of some of the State Governments and as soon as the replies are received from the rest, action will be taken

Shri Sinhasan Singh : May I know whether the basic education system is applicable only to the rural area or to the urban area as well and if so, whether there is any scheme to apply it equally to all places, urban and rural?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali : Basic education has been accepted as the pattern of national education.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : May I know whether any departmental committee has been set up for this purpose and whether any time-schedule has been drawn up for submission of the report?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali : No departmental committee has been set up as yet. As I have said we have written to the State Governments. As soon as their replies are received, we shall appoint a special officer. Then, we shall conduct a seminar of the officers who will do this work in the States and a survey will be carried on. Steps are being taken to expedite the work as quickly as possible.

Shri Shree Narayan Das : May I know whether the opinion of the State Governments was taken before deciding on this survey?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali : No, Sir.

Shri Sinhasan Singh : My question was simple; he has not answered it.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Member sat down and allowed another hon. Member to put a question. He now refers to his old question. As soon as he replied, he should have stood up and said that the reply was not sufficient.

Shri Sinhasan Singh : My question was whether the basic system of education is going to be made applicable to urban and rural areas or whether it was meant only for the rural area?

Mr. Speaker : He said that it was the national method of education.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali : We do not make any distinction between rural and urban education.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : The point is whether any institution of this type has been opened in the urban areas so far?

Mr. Speaker : That is not the question. The question is whether the same scheme should be applied to urban and rural areas. He replied that it was a national system of education.

Shri Velayudhan : In view of the fact that so many commissions were appointed and so many investigations were made about the primary, basic and technical education in the past, what new light will this survey throw?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali : I have already explained the main objects which we have in view. The whole problem before us is to implement the Directive Principles of the Constitution as quickly as possible and this survey would help us to avoid wastage and to open new schools where needed.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : The hon. Deputy Minister said earlier that the basic system of education had been accepted as the national pattern of education. May I know whether the Government is acting according to the accepted national principle or whether that principle is not being applied at present?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali : The Government is acting according to that principle. We have repeatedly requested the State Governments to convert the existing schools into basic schools. We have given grants to the State Governments and quite a large number of schools has been converted into basic schools in the First Plan and more will be converted in the course of the next Plan.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : Arising out of this, I ask: how many basic schools have been opened in big cities like Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali : The question is about survey but it is now proceeding towards a discussion on basic education. I shall require notice to answer that question.

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know whether this will be a comprehensive survey or a sample survey? Does 'in association with the State Government' mean that it will be left entirely to them with an officer going from the Centre?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali : No, it will be in association with the State Governments. We shall invite them to depute officers for a seminar for a few days and then the work will be carried on through the State Governments.

Shri Sinhasan Singh : One question Sir.

Mr. Speaker : I have allowed eight questions.

Public School Merit Scholarships

*1596. **Shri Bheekha Bhai :** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of students applying for Public School Merit Scholarships especially from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are rejected at the Screening Stage; and