

Untouchability

673. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any circular has been issued to Government Offices regarding the removal of untouchability in all States in the country;

(b) if so, whether any defaulting Government employee has been punished in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes. A circular was issued on 8-12-61 in relation to Offices of the Government of India. On 9-12-61, a communication was sent to the State Governments suggesting that they issue similar instructions.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Concessions to Children belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

675. Shri Basumatari: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that irrespective of any ceilings on the income of parents, the children of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are eligible for educational and various other concessions granted by Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) and (b). In the case of post-matric scholarships, which is the only educational scheme wholly financed by the Government of India, a means test is applied in the case of Scheduled Castes. No means test has, however, been prescribed for the Scheduled Tribes, as this is considered a little premature.

Institute of Library Science, Delhi

676. Shri Rama Chandra Mallick: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students admitted to various courses of the Institute of Library Science in Delhi,

(b) the total number of institutes of this kind in India;

(c) the number of librarians deputed by the State Governments to the Institute of Library Science, Delhi during the last three years, and

(d) the concessions enjoyed by the deputed librarians at this Institute?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) 215

(b) One

(c) 25

(d) The State-deputed candidates were exempted from payment of tuition fees. In addition, such candidates were paid Rs. 235/- each towards hostel charges.

Basic Schools in Tribal Areas

677. Shri A. N. Vidyalkar: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of basic schools in the tribal areas of NEFA, Tripura and Manipur separately;

(b) the text-books specially prepared for the tribal areas in tribal languages;

(c) whether it is the policy of Government to impart education to the children in the tribal areas at least in the elementary stage in the tribal languages; and

(d) whether it is a fact that in most of the schools in the tribal areas English is compulsory from the Third primary classes while Hindi is not compulsory in the primary schools?