

tant positions, they are always encouraged to study Hindi. As far as translation work is concerned I can assure you that it is never given to persons who do not know that language at all. In fact it is in our own interest not to get our English documents translated in wrong Hindi. It is because if that happens our policy enunciated in English document will be very correct but we will be misinterpreted as far as Hindi translation is concerned and we do not entrust the work of translation to those who are not well equipped and well versed in Hindi language. As far as the aspect of forcing is concerned, what we have been doing in connection with Hindi language is, we are encouraging Hindi language and we are not forcing the Hindi language at all.

**SHRI K. GOPAL:** How about the other part of my question about expenditure?

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** As far as that part is concerned, I require separate notice.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question No. 928. Mr. Mavalankar is not here.

**SHRI NATHU SINGH:** I would like to ask that question. It is an important question. This relates to Jaipur.

**MR. SPEAKER:** He has authorised Mr. Kamath to put the question. What is all this?

Next Question.

### Reforms of Electoral Laws



**SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:**

\*930. **SHRI HITENDRA DESAI:**

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) is Government considering reforms of electoral laws; and

(b) what are the main points for consideration?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The proposals relate to subjects like maintenance up-to-date of electoral rolls, avoidance of misuse of official authority and machinery at elections, removal of corrupt practices and money power at elections, reduction of election expenses, quick disposal of election petitions, reduction of voting age, etc.

**SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:** Thanks to hon. Minister that he is ready to consider the reform of Electoral laws. Tarkunde Committee Report has been placed. A comprehensive seven point scheme of assistance through public revenues to the candidates of Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections has been recommended by the five member Committee headed by Shri V. M. Tarkunde which was appointed by the National Executive Council of the Citizens or Democracy at the instance of Shri Jayaprakash Narayan.

Under the circumstances I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will amend the Election Rules in such a manner (a) that a provision for "Right to recall" will be made in the election laws to prevent defection for the purpose of stability of democracy and discourage floor crossing—which happens very often even in this House—and it tantamounts to heinous crime on the part of the elected Member; (b) just to check frivolous candidate and to provide through public revenues the infrastructure of election expenses by way of which it will place the candidates of modest means on an equal footing with the economically privileged.

**SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN:** Tarkunde Committee Report in which various electoral reforms have been suggested

is under the active consideration of the Government. I am happy to inform the House that a Cabinet Committee has been constituted to consider all the various recommendations which have been made not only by the Tarkunde Committee but also certain reform proposals which have been made by the Election Commission. There was earlier a Joint Committee of the Members of Parliament which has gone into the question of electoral reforms and in fact a Bill has already been introduced. But thereafter it was decided that the matter should be discussed with the other Opposition parties also. The Cabinet Committee is going into all these matters and after it has reached tentative conclusions, the matter will be discussed with the political parties. But so far as the specific matters to which the hon. Member has referred are concerned, viz., the Right to recall, that is also a matter which would be considered by the Cabinet Committee. So far as the provision to prevent defection is concerned, the question of bringing a Bill before the House is under the active consideration of the Government and so far as the state financing of elections is concerned, that is also a matter on which some thought has already been devoted by the Cabinet Committee.

**SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether a Committee with the Members of all the recognised political parties will be formed to conduct the elections?

**SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN:** As I have said, all these matters are under the consideration of the Cabinet Committee and after the Cabinet Committee has reached tentative conclusions, all these proposals will be discussed with the other opposition parties so that a final view can be taken and only thereafter something would be done.

**श्री किरंगी प्रसाद :** तारकुंडे समिति की जो रिपोर्ट है उस पर मंत्रिमंडलीय समिति

जो विचार कर रही है उसमें अभी तक किन किन बातों पर सहमति हो गई है क्या आप इसे स्पष्ट करेंगे ?

**श्री शान्ति भूषण :** अभी तक उन प्रोजेक्ट पर विचार चल रहा है। कैबिनेट कमेटी की भी कुछ मीटिंगें हुई हैं। जब तक पूरी तरह विचार न हो जाए तब तक यह कैसे कहा जा सकता है कि किन-किन बातों पर सहमति हो चुकी है।

**SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU:** I would like to know whether the Government is considering proportional representation as a reform.

**SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN:** The question of proportional representation is also a matter which is covered by the reports of various Committees. Evidently that is also a matter on which proposals have been made from time to time and it is bound to be taken into consideration. Whether the principle should be accepted or should not be accepted is or some other method which might be mid-way somewhere should be accepted or proportional representation should be completely rejected, all these are matters to which some thought is being given.

**महाराष्ट्र में नई रेल लाइनें**

\*931. **श्री केशव राव घोडगे :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या महाराष्ट्र राज्य के मराठवाड़ा क्षेत्र में नांदेड से जवगीर अथवा बानूर और गगाखेड से बोधन तक नई रेल लाइन बिछाने की मांग है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार इस बीच नांदेड से कलेबर सहकारी शुगर फैक्टरी तक और अग्राे कंधार तक नई रेल लाइन बिछाने का है ; और