

Governments on their own initiative or as Central Government sponsored schemes. Therefore, certain principles are being evolved on the basis of which this new scheme will work.

**Shri Gidwani:** What about public co-operation?

**Shri Datar:** The question of public co-operation will also arise, and there this officer as also the field officers will be of use to the State Government in the implementation of this.

**Shri N. R. Muniawamy:** May I know the scales of pay fixed for these field officers?

**Shri Datar:** That question is under consideration; but I may point out that the pay is likely to be the same as that of an Assistant Commissioner, because they are to be on the same footing.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether there will be Regional Committees or State Committees to assist these field officers to secure public co-operation?

**Shri Datar:** The field officer will deal more directly with the State Governments and their officers. It is for the State Governments to have these committees wherever they are not there already.

#### French Currency

\*250. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether French currency used in the former French India establishments has been completely withdrawn, and

(b) the total value of Indian currency issued in exchange of French currency up to the 31st October, 1956?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 37,14,809.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know the total amount of French currency withdrawn?

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** The total currency withdrawn was Rs. 37,58,108.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know whether small coins have also been withdrawn or whether they continue?

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Currency including coins also.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** May I know how far this scheme will help the poor students on a poverty basis, irrespective of merit?

**Mr. Speaker:** How does it arise out of this question?

#### Post-matric Merit Scholarships

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 { **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:**  
**Shri Jhulan Sinha:**  
**Shri Dabhi:**  
 \*251. { **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**  
**Shri Veeraswamy:**  
**Shri Gidwani:**  
**Shri Wodeyar:**  
**Shri Nettur P. Damodaran:**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the implementation of the scheme for the grant of merit scholarships for post-matriculation study in India; and

(b) the number of scholarships awarded (State-wise) for the year 1956-57?

**The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):** (a) Applications have been invited.

(b) None as yet.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** What is the total amount provided for these scholarships?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The budget provision for the current year 1956-57 for 400 scholarships is Rs. 2,75,000.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know whether any special consideration has been given to any special class?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The only special consideration that will be given during the selection of the candidates will be the special provision for the children of workers for technical courses.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** May I know how far this scheme will help the poor students on a poverty basis without any consideration whatsoever regarding merit?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** There are two points to be considered in giving the scholarship—poverty and merit; mere poverty will not be enough.

**Shri M. K. Moltra:** The matric results are generally out by May or June. Will Government be pleased to state when they invited the applications for scholarships?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** This scheme of giving scholarships has been initiated only in the current year. The scholarship were sanctioned late and the last date of receipt of the applications by the Central Government from the State Governments is 17th December, 1956.

**Shri M. K. Mohtra:** I asked when the applications were invited.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The applications were invited on the 11th September, 1956.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know how and who will decide the question of merit? Will there be a new examination?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The merit will be decided from the university examination results.

**Shri Nettur P. Damodaran:** May I know whether any quota is reserved for Scheduled Classes and Backward Classes in the matter of these scholarships?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** There is a separate scholarship for the Scheduled and Backward Classes.

**Shri Gidwani:** What will be the method of selection?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The scholarships are to be given on a population basis to each State. That particular State Government will collect and co-ordinate all the applications and will send three times the number of scholarships allotted to that particular State, to the Central Government. The Central Government will constitute a committee which will make the final selection.

**Shri Heda:** The question is whether in the final analysis, it will be the merit of the scholars that will count or the discretion of the officers of the committee?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** There is no discretion. If the father or the guardian of the student is rich or has a decent income, the student is not eligible for this scholarship; in that case, he will get a certificate from the Government that he is a good student.

**श्रीमती कमलेश्वरिणी शाह :** क्या मैं जान सकती हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश के चार पहाड़ी जिलों के स्टूडेंट्स को कोई स्कालरशिप्स दिए गए हैं और खास तौर से टिहरी-गढ़वाल के स्टूडेंट्स को, क्योंकि मैं समझती हूँ कि उनको कोई स्कालरशिप्स नहीं मिल रहे हैं ?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** So far as U.P. is concerned, the scholarships will be distributed according to the population of U.P. We will receive the applications from the U.P. Government.

### Nefa Newsprint Factory

\*254. { **Shri R. P. Garg :**  
**Shri Bhabha Nath Roy :**

Will the Minister of Heavy Industries be pleased to state :

(a) the total output of Nefanagar Newsprint Factory in Madhya Pradesh during 1955-56 ;

(b) the time by which the factory will go into full production, if it has not done so already ;

(c) the time by which India will be self-sufficient in the production of newsprint keeping in view the increase in demand due to spread of literacy in the country ; and

(d) the quantity and quality of newsprint imported from foreign countries (Country-wise) during 1955-56 ?

**The Minister of Heavy Industries (Shri M. M. Shah):** (a) 3,655 tons.

(b) Production has already reached the optimum level of 60 tons per day under present conditions and according to the capacity of machinery and equipment. It is expected that with the completion of certain readjustments to the pulp plant in the course of the next year, production may reach the level of 100 tons per day, i.e., 30,000 tons per annum.

(c) and (d). A statement giving quantity of newsprint imported (country-wise) during the year 1955-56 is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix II, annexure No. 17]. As regards quality, newsprint manufactured from mechanical wood pulp containing not less than 70 per cent. of the fibre contents is generally imported. Our annual requirement of newsprint is about 80 to 90 thousand tons at present and is expected to rise to 1,20,000 to 1,40,000 tons by 1960-61. The National Industrial Development Corporation is, therefore, going to put up a newsprint plant at Shakarnagar (Hyderabad) with an annual capacity of 30,000 tons. Further steps are being taken to create additional capacity to meet the country's requirements.

**Shri R. P. Garg :** May I know whether there has been any increase in the production per month of the Nefanagar Factory as compared to last year ?

**Shri M. M. Shah :** Yes ; last year the capacity was 3,655 tons, i.e., 12 tons per day ; now it is 60 tons per day.

**Shri R. P. Garg :** What is the total foreign exchange that the Government has spent for the import of newsprint to meet the needs of the country ?