

consumer attitude or the producers' attitude or middlemen?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari : In a whole list of commodities beginning with paddy, rice and wheat and coarser foodgrains going down to tea and jute bags, it is very difficult for me here to tell the hon. Member the steps taken in regard to every particular commodity. After all, the general index is made up of the prices of various commodities. There has been a little hardening in the price of tea. It certainly has an effect on the general index. So far as paddy stocks are concerned, they are very low. Our hope is that there will be a good crop and the difficult price position will be a matter of a few weeks. It may not be so in other cases. There has been a little hardening in the price of coarser grains largely because of the crops being short. On the other hand, we are told that cotton is going to be reasonably good. So are oilseeds. These are factors which it is very difficult to assess unless they are pieced together. We can only press them together and present a picture. I cannot discuss individual commodities.

Shri Bansal : May I know what is the latest general price index as compared to that about two months back?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari : The price index on September 1st was 422. It came down to 417 on 27th of October. Today it is round about 430.

Indian National Commission for U.N.E.S.C.O.

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

(a) whether the resolutions passed by the second conference of Indian National Commission for U.N.E.S.C.O. held in February, 1956, in New Delhi, have been implemented; and

(b) if so, the details of the main recommendations implemented?

The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 24].

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know who have been appointed as the Architect and Consultant? What would be their remuneration?

Dr. M. M. Das : That question does not arise out of this.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : What were the subjects about which recommendations were made?

Dr. M. M. Das : The Indian Commission for co-operation with the U.N.E.S.C.O. passed resolutions on education, science, culture, mass communication, literature for the neo-literates, etc.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know whether any of the recommendations made by the Indian Commission have been accepted by the U.N.E.S.C.O. and if so, what are they?

Dr. M. M. Das : The Hon. Member knows that the Ninth General Conference of the U.N.E.S.C.O. has not yet concluded. They are still continuing their deliberations. Up till now, two of the recommendations made by the Indian Commission for Co-operation with the U.N.E.S.C.O. have been accepted by the General Conference. These are major projects for mutual appreciation of eastern and western cultural values and increase in the Budget of the U.N.E.S.C.O.

Public Service (Qualifications and Recruitment) Committee's Report

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 { **Shri D.C. Sharma:**
Shri Jhulan Sinha:
 *591 { **Sardar Iqbal Singh :**
Sardar Akarpuri:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1022 on the 13th August, 1956, and state:

(a) whether the Report of the Public Service (Qualifications and Recruitment) Committee and comments of State Governments thereon have been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken thereon?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Most of the State Governments have expressed their comments on the Report of the Committee. Replies from the Governments of Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Orissa, Bombay and Manipur are still awaited.

(b) A decision on the recommendations of the Committee will be taken after replies from all the States have been received and considered.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how many States there are whose replies are still awaited and whether any time limit has been set for the receipt of these replies?

Shri Datar: Replies are being awaited from the Governments of Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Orissa, Bombay and Manipur as also from the Ministries of Education and Finance and the U. P. S. C.

Janata Colleges

*592. **Shri S. C. Samanta :** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any uniformity followed by the existing Janata Colleges in India as regards the syllabus standard and periodicity of training etc.; and

(b) if not, what steps Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Deputy Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government do not think it desirable to have any rigid uniformity in these institutions.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the maximum period of training in the Janata Colleges and the minimum also?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The minimum is two months and the maximum, as far as I know, is five months.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know why Government is not having any uniformity in the period of training as two months' training is nothing to the students and they take time to acquaint themselves with the teachers?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The Government arranged a seminar on Janata Colleges some time back and the seminar made certain recommendations with regard to the courses. The main reason why the Government do not consider it desirable to have uniformity in these institutions with regard to the duration of courses etc. is the fact that the main purpose of these institutions is to train community leaders and there cannot be any rigid courses and curricula for these institutions.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: May I know whether one of the reasons why these Janata Colleges have not really attracted the attention and following that was expected is the fact that none of these courses are given any status for the purpose of higher studies or employment ?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: It was never the purpose of the Janata College to be a stepping stone for higher educational institutions. The main purpose of the Janata College is to take in community leaders and give them a short course in general knowledge and send them back to their communities so that they might serve their own communities in a better way.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is Government aware that a large number of students who have passed the Secondary School Certificate examination or matriculation want to enter these Janata Colleges because they get no opportunity to enter the qualified colleges? Have Government considered a scheme of putting them into technical schools and training them as technical personnel ?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: This is a much wider question which is not directly connected with this question.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The hon. Deputy Minister says that the primary aim of the Janata College is to train community leaders. May I know whether the trainees are properly selected before

they are admitted into the college or does anybody who enters the college become a community leader after the training ?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: It is the responsibility of the Janata College to make the selection.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know whether, even if there is no rigid syllabus for these Colleges, Government publish any text books for general knowledge on science and other subjects so that they will be a guide to these colleges? Or has each college its own syllabus and course.

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Government have not published any text books but as I said in my previous answer the Government had arranged a seminar where all the Principals of the Janata Colleges and other interested persons were invited to discuss how this should be run and to exchange ideas. Their recommendations have been circulated to the State Governments.

Shri Punnoose: May I know how many such colleges are now in existence and where and whether Government intend opening more such colleges?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The total number of Janata Colleges which were started in the last Five Year Plan is 25.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know how many community leaders as the Minister has stated have been produced by these colleges and whether they are having any kind of avocation at present and whether these professors and teachers.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not so many "whethers"; only one "whether".

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I could not hear. Will the hon. Member repeat the question?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right. He will have it a second time. Next question

Religious Teachers

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*593. { Shri Dabhi:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 78 on the 18th July, 1956, and state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision regarding the removal of disparity in the rates of pay of Padres and religious teachers belonging to other denomination; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Orders were issued on the 24th October 1956 to the effect that Padres will in future be recruited on the same rates of pay as are applicable to Religious