

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: In view of the fact that especially at Konarak pavement stones have been actually used in a very incongruous fashion, may I know whether the Minister will take special precaution that in future that is not done and pieces of sculpture are not thrown about in the way it had been in the case of Konarak?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have already told him that what happened in Konarak happened in 1904 and some honourable gentleman who should have known better repeated these things even when his errors were pointed out to him and even after somebody who posed to be an expert was found to be a complete hoax. But, I never expected my hon. friend to repeat that statement here in the House a second time.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Since the days of Fergusson there have been repeated allegations regarding the P.W.D. and the Archaeological Department as its successor having behaved rather shabbily in regard to the maintenance of our national monuments. And, I do want an assurance from the hon. Minister that he is not there to go by the reports of officials and he is going to make further investigations whenever allegations appear in the papers.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have inspected the place personally and I have seen that some of the things which the particular gentleman whom my hon. friend has in mind referred to were in photographs which were taken in 1905 or so.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that in many places in Konarak finest architectural stones have been replaced by simple plain stones? (Interruption).

Shri Humayun Kabir: As I said, in certain cases that was done. But now whenever there is any question of any repair, it is done under the

supervision of the Archaeological Engineer. But, obviously, we cannot replace old sculpture because the question which my hon. friend has just now asked goes contrary to what my hon. friend Shri Mukerjee said a moment ago.

Moral Education in Schools and Colleges

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*2203. { Shri Ayyakannu:
 { Shri Harish Chandra Mather:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Ministry of Education has decided to set up a Committee to work out a scheme for the introduction of moral education in schools and colleges; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

The question of imparting moral and spiritual instruction in educational institutions was considered at the last meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education held at Madras in January last. The Board recommended that a small committee should be set up to look into the matter. The recommendation of the Board has been accepted. The constitution and terms of reference of the Committee are still under consideration.

Shri Ayyakannu: In the statement it is said that the constitution and terms of reference of the committee are still under consideration. May I know the main features of the terms of reference that are under consideration?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: This committee is being appointed on the recommendation of the Board and I will re-

produce the recommendations of the Board. They are as follow:

"The Board stresses the need to make provision for moral and spiritual instruction in all educational institutions.

It authorises the Chairman to appoint a committee to make a detailed study of the entire question and make suitable recommendations in the matter."

सेठ गोबिन्द दास चूक शिक्षा राज्य का विषय है इसलिये क्या इस सम्बन्ध में भिन्न भिन्न राज्यों से भी कोई प्रतिवेदन केन्द्रीय सरकार को प्राप्त हुए हैं और यदि हुए हैं तो उनका क्या मन्तव्य है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीवाली : मैंने प्राप्त से निवेदन किया है कि यह मामला पिछली मेट्रोल एडवाइजरी बोर्ड की मीटिंग में लाया गया था और सेंट्रल एडवाइजरी बोर्ड में राज्यों के सब प्रतिनिधि उपस्थित होते हैं तो उनके परामर्श में ही यह कमेटी नियुक्त की जा रही है।

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Do I understand that Government gave no consideration to this particular matter before the committee recommended it at its last meeting? If it is not so, what recommendation was given in the past and what action was taken?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: This matter has been discussed in the previous reports on education also. As early as 1944, this matter was discussed in the Central Advisory Board of Education. A committee was also appointed but the report of the committee did not lead to anything. Later on, this matter was discussed by the Secondary Education Commission and the University Grants Commission and both the Commission strongly recommended that there was need for stressing this moral and spiritual education in our educational institutions. The matter was again discussed at the last meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education and the Board

recommended that such a committee should be appointed. It is in view of this suggestion that this committee is being appointed.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Do I understand that at present nowhere such moral and spiritual education is being imparted? May I know whether Government is giving any assistance for such education or not?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The Government is not giving any assistance for any particular project under this scheme. Government is giving assistance for various programmes to the State Governments and Universities. The whole question has to be looked into by this committee.

Shri Ranga: Has Government thought of appointing only such members to this committee or commission who have been very well-known for their own moral and spiritual character and their attainments? Would Government also consider taking the advice of the President and the Vice-President before they finalise the personnel of this particular committee?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Government will take full care before appointing this committee.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know what do Government mean by moral and spiritual education? Do they mean education in the quintessence of the different religions or something else?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: We all understand the meaning of moral and spiritual education; and I do not think it is necessary for me to expound this subject in this House.

Shri Hem Barua: Do they mean the quintessence of different religions or codes of moral and spiritual relationship to be framed?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: That matter has to be examined by this committee which is to be appointed.

Shrimati Manjula Devi: What about the moral and spiritual education of teachers? Is there any scheme for the teachers?

Mr Speaker: For teachers (*Interruptions*)

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: If we could give proper education to our students in the educational institutions, we would have educated the future teachers because teachers will come out of the educational institutions

Text-books Prescribed for Schools in Kerala

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*2204. { **Shri Maniyangadan:**
Shri Kutt Krishnan Nair:
Shri Nallakoya:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 621 on the 5th December, 1958 and state

(a) whether the examination of the representation received in connection with text-books prescribed for schools in Kerala has since been completed, and

(b) if so, what are the conclusions arrived at?

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

(b) The matter has been dropped

Shri Maniyangadan: May I know whether a committee was appointed by the State Government to go into this question and whether the report submitted by the committee has been looked into by this Government?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: As far as I am aware, the State Government had a proposal to appoint a committee. I have no information, and I am not in a position to give to the House any more information.

Shri V. Kacharam: May I know whether it has come to the notice of the hon Minister that at the 13th session of the Basic Education Con-

ference Vinobaji took the view that the nationalisation of text-books is regimentation of minds and thoughts of the people? If so, how does this Government view the nationalisation of text-books in Kerala?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Vinobaji is quite free to express his opinion

Shri Maniyangadan: May I know whether it appeared in the papers—and all sorts of statements were made by responsible people—that these text-books contain lessons which wounded the religious and political sentiments of the people?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I do not want to express any opinion. This is really a matter of opinion. As I said, as far as we are concerned, we have dropped this matter.

Shri Narayanankntty Menon: May I know whether it is a fact that the subscribers of the memorandum have objected to the inclusion of the Prime Minister's books *Letters to his Daughter* because it disseminates materialism?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: This does not arise out of this question.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Is it not a fact that the University Grants Commission in its last report has pointedly invited the attention of the Government to the need for paying some attention to this question of preparing certain text-books and, if so, what is the Government's reaction to it?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I cannot understand how this question can arise here. This makes reference to certain representations received in connection with text-books in Kerala. My friend is raising the question which does not have any relation to this particular question tabled in the House.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: It is directly related to that.

Shri Maniyangadan: May I know whether the Central Government has got a body to go into the text-books