

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: That will be done by the vital statistics and if the statistics are correct. So, it is a vicious circle.

Criteria for Backwardness

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*182 { **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**
Shri Sham Lal Saraf:
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 914 on the 17th April, 1963 and to supplementaries raised thereon and state:

(a) whether some States have contrary to the Government directive, adopted criteria other than the economic one, for categorising persons as backward;

(b) if so, which States; and

(c) the reasons therefor, in each case?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) to (c). The Government of India decided in May, 1961 not to draw up any all-India list of Other Backward Classes, and have left it to the State Governments to draw their own lists. The State Governments were also informed that, in the view of the Government of India it would be better to apply economic tests than go by caste.

Since then, the States of Mysore, Punjab and Orissa have adopted the economic criterion. Maharashtra and Gujarat had already been following this criterion. Other States are considering the matter.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is it a fact that a few months ago an order of the Mysore Government in this regard was challenged in the Supreme Court, and it was quashed by the Supreme Court which described the order as a fraud upon the Constitution, and if so, what directions or instructions has the Central Government issued to the Mysore Government in this regard?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I think the hon. Member has not followed my main answer.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I have followed it. Only the Deputy Minister has not followed my supplementary question.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I have said that since then the Mysore State has followed the economic criterion. Whatever might have been their opinion is quite a different thing. The Supreme Court's judgment was about admission to educational institutions under the Mysore Government.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: My question has not been answered....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Mysore Government have accepted the criteria suggested by the Central Government or the instructions given by the Central Government.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Was it consequent upon the Supreme Court judgment? Were the instructions issued to them after the Supreme Court judgment or earlier? The Deputy Minister must answer that part of the question also.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: May I have the question repeated?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Were those instructions issued by the Central Government to the Mysore Government before the Supreme Court judgment or after it?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: All the State Governments agreed to the principle of having the economic criterion at the conference of Ministers for Backward Classes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He wants to know whether the instructions were issued before the Supreme Court judgment or after it.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: It was before the Supreme Court judgment.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: What?— Then my question has not been

answered. You must help us. Before the Supreme Court judgment, they issued instructions. In spite of that, afterwards, the Supreme Court quashed the order of the Mysore Government and held it to be a fraud upon the Constitution. What action has been taken after that?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It must have been an earlier order.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: No, no. I am sorry. If I understood her aright she said that instructions were issued by the Central Government before the Supreme Court passed that judgment. So it appears that in spite of the Central Government's order—instructions—to the Mysore Government, the Mysore Government passed an order contrary to that and it was quashed by the Supreme Court which described it as a fraud on the Constitution. What has been done after that?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The case must have been before the Supreme Court. It must have come in appeal against the High Court's decision. That must have happened much earlier.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I plead with you. Let the Minister—senior Minister or junior Minister—say whether the Mysore Government passed that order after the Central Government issued instructions and the Supreme Court quashed that order. That has not been answered.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That has been answered. After the Central Government issued directions, the Supreme Court quashed the order.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Even after that, what has been done from here?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Central Government has accepted it.

Shri Tyagi: He is more interested in 'fraud' rather than in information.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I might make one point clear. No instructions as such were issued nor were direc-

tions given. In this matter, we cannot issue directives.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Emergency—article 353.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: No, no. The hon. Member is mistaken. It was done much before the emergency. Therefore, the question of emergency did not arise at that moment. We advised all State Governments that the means test should be observed. Instead of going by caste, whatever scholarship or financial assistance is given should be given on the basis of the means, the economic condition of the persons concerned. That advice was accepted by some State Governments. At that time, Mysore did not accept it; many others have not even yet accepted that advice. As my hon. colleague has said just now, 5 States have accepted it; others have not. We may again take it up and I think we must persuade them to agree, and then it would be implemented.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: May I put my second supplementary?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has already asked.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: This is strange. I am sorry. I must protest against this. I put only one supplementary. I head the list here.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has already put it.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: My question was not answered. Therefore, I had to ask again. I have put only one question. It may be checked up from the records.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : आपने एक आदमी को खड़ा कर दिया है और किसी की सुनते ही नहीं हैं।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right. Shri Kamath.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is it a fact that in some of those States, which the Minister said have not accepted this advice, if not instruc-

tions, of the central Government, there is a growing tendency among certain sections of the population to describe or classify themselves as backward? If, so, has Government reasons to believe that this will engender a vested interest in backwardness?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Yes, there has been some tendency, or it may be true that there may be some tendency even now. It is in order to counteract this tendency that these steps have been taken. I am really glad that the Mysore Government should have been the first Government to have accepted this advice. Maharashtra and Gujarat have done it earlier. But now after the Supreme Court judgment and our further advice, the Mysore Government which had almost declared a very large percentage of its population as backward classes, has accepted this advice.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know if this criterion of economic backwardness would be observed between individuals of particular castes themselves or only between backward and non-backward classes?

Shrimati Chandasekhar: The economic criterion will be taken into consideration and no caste at all as far as 'other Backward Classes' are concerned.

Shri P. K. Deo: In view of the casteless and classless society we are going to build, may I know if the various reservations that are being made in the educational institutions for the admission of the students of the backward communities and the various reservations made in the services, both at the Centre and in the States, is going to be scrapped?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: We do not make any reservation of seats in colleges, at least those colleges which are of the Central Government, according to caste criterion at all. It is only on economic criterion. There is one exemption there, it is the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes

which are given protection by the Constitution.

Shri P. K. Deo: My question relates to backward classes and not to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. So, the reply of the hon. Deputy Minister is wrong.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He is asking about backward classes.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I have already answered. I have gone a little further to say there is an exception and that is with regard to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: Although the advice given by the Central Government is good in principle, may I know whether the Central Government has considered the possibility of implementing this advice immediately in all the States, and may I know whether Government has advised the State Governments to take their own time in implementing this principle?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The answer has been given, I think.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I think the Home Minister answered very clearly that we are expecting them by persuasion to come to the economic criterion and leave the caste criterion completely.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : सरकार ने जो १२०० रुपया न्यूनतम आय के ऊपर सहाय्यता देने के लिए रक्खा है वह कम है और उस में वह अपने बच्चों को नहीं पढ़ा सकते हैं तो क्या सरकार ने इसको बढ़ाने के बारे में भी कुछ सोचविचार किया है ?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: This is a different question; besides, it is dependent on the funds available with us.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो पिछड़ापन आंका गया है निश्चित किया गया है यह किस नीति से किया गया है केवल आर्थिक दृष्टि से निश्चित किया गया है या शिक्षा की दृष्टि

से और इसको दूर करने के लिए सरकार क्या उपाय कर रही है ?

Shri Swell: May we also have some chance?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : इस का उत्तर तो माननीय सदस्य को दिया जा चुका है । . . .

Some Hon. Members rose—

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I am answering the question. Either I should sit down, or the hon. Members should sit down.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मैंने सुना नहीं कि क्या उत्तर दिया गया है ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप धीरे-धीरे धर कर बैठें । बाद में दे दिया जायेगा ।

Shri Jashvant Mehta: After the Supreme Court judgment and the different States have not implemented the instructions. May I know whether Government is thinking of evolving a uniform formula all over the country for considering backwardness on economic criterion?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: The State Government Ministers who attended the backward classes conference all agreed in principle that they would switch over to the economic criterion, but they are taking their own time. They may have certain difficulties, and I suppose we have to give some time to them to get over the difficulties.

श्री रामसेवक पादव : केन्द्र ने जाति को पिछड़ेपन को आधार न मान कर आर्थिक विपन्नता को पिछड़ेपन का आधार मानने का जो निर्देश राज्यों को दिया है तो क्या सरकार अपना यह आदेश राज्यों पर लादना चाहती है ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : अभी जवाब दिया गया कि हम कोई किसी चीज़ की जबरदस्ती नहीं करना चाहते । तमाम राज्यों के मिनिस्टर्स मिले थे और उनकी एक कान्फ़ेस

हुई थी । उस कान्फ़ेस में सब ने इस उसूल को माना कि बैकवर्ड क्लासेज़ या बैकवर्ड कम्युनिटीज़ को जो मदद दी जाय वह शिक्षा व जाति आदि के आधार पर अब न दी जाकर उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति के आधार पर दी जाये । ५ राज्य सरकारों ने इस को मान लिया है और इसको अपने यहां लागू भी कर दिया है । बाक़ी स्टेट्स समय निकाल कर जैसा वह मुनासिब समझेंगी, करेंगी ।

श्री जि० मंडल : भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद ३४० के अन्तर्गत उस में सिर्फ़ शैक्षणिक और समाजिक पिछड़ेपन को ही क्राइटेरिया माना गया है इसलिए क्या आर्थिक अवस्था को क्राइटेरिया मानना संविधान के अनुच्छेद ३४० के विरुद्ध नहीं होगा ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : जी नहीं कांस्टीट्यूशन के अनुसार शैल्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स को पिछड़ा हुआ माना गया है और बैकवर्ड क्लासेज़ के सम्बन्ध में उसमें चर्चा है । इमीलिए गवर्नमेंट ने एक कमिशन वगैरह भी बिठाया था । उसमें भी विचार हुआ । कुछ राय उसमें अलग थी लेकिन यह हमारा फैसला कांस्टीट्यूशन के विरुद्ध नहीं है । पहले भारत सरकार ने उसको माना और अमल में लाया और जैसा मैंने कहा तमाम प्रदेशों के मिनिस्टर्स ने इस उसूल को माना है ।

Shri Manean: May I know whether it is a fact that the Pali speaking communities are treated as backward classes in certain States and not so in some other States and if so whether we should not have the same standard for recognition of Pali community as backward?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: If they are economically backward, if they speak Pali in this place or that place, they should be considered backward.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: What does the hon. Minister propose to do in respect of widespread prevalence of utter backwardness in certain

classes and communities irrespective of their economic conditions?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Backwardness is the same over all classes and communities in this country. We are generally a poor country and we have our common development programme plans and our schemes and all the castes and communities will develop side by side with the development of the country as a whole.

Shri Basumatari: Has any State suggested that the Scheduled Castes and Tribes should come under economic criteria even though there is a constitutional guarantee for them?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: Even the Scheduled Castes will gradually be governed by economic criteria. We are giving our post-matric scholarships only subject to a means test.

Assessment of University Education

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- *193. { **Shri Bishanchander Seth:**
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Sarjoo Pandey:
Shri J. B. Singh:
Shri Warrior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of the Committee appointed by the University Grants Commission to make an assessment of University education in India;

(b) if so, what are its main recommendations; and

(c) how far they have been accepted by Government?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

श्री बिशनचन्द्र सेठ : मैं यह जानना चाहता था कि अगर यह नहीं आप कर रहे

हैं तो इसकी वजह आप बतला सकते हैं कि क्या है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : आपने यह पूछा था कि रिपोर्ट आई या नहीं, मैंने उत्तर दिया कि अभी नहीं आई है।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या माननीय शिक्षा मन्त्री को इस बात का थोड़ा बहुत पता है कि इस रिपोर्ट के मातहत जो लड़के यूनिवर्सिटीज में फर्स्ट डिवीजन में पास होते हैं सैकड़ों की तादाद में वह गरीबी की वजह से इस शिक्षा को जारी नहीं रख सके तो क्या इसके मुतालिक भी कुछ कहा गया है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : इससे यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता लेकिन मैं आपको जवाब देना चाहता हूँ कि आपको मालूम है कि भारत सरकार ने अभी हाल ही में ६ करोड़ की एक योजना रखी है जिससे जो गरीब विद्यार्थी हैं उनको लॉस स्कालरशिप मिलेगा।

श्री सरजू पांडेय : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस कमेटी में कौन कौन लोग हैं और उसके प्रतिवेदन पर यह सरकार कब तक फैसला कर लेगी और उसको कार्यान्वित करेगी ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : उसके पहले चेयरमैन प्रोफसर सिद्धान्त थे। उनका देहान्त होने के बाद श्री गोविन्द राजालू जो कि वेंकटेश्वरा यूनिवर्सिटी के वाइस चांसलर हैं, इसके चेयरमैन हैं और उनके अलावा आप चाहें तो मैं नाम पढ़ दूंगा, ११ व्यक्ति हैं जो कि इस कमेटी के सदस्य हैं।

Shri Warrior: What are the terms of reference to this Committee?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: This committee has been asked to investigate and evaluate the standards of university education. There has been criticism in Parliament and outside about the standards having been deteriorated. Therefore, the UGC is making a thorough and systematic investigation.