

Motion, I want to say something. Shri Nath Pai may resume his seat; I am on my legs. Yesterday, hon. Members on both sides of the House not only from the Opposition but also from the Congress side, wanted a statement by the Minister about the strike by the teachers. Naturally, I wanted to admit a Calling Attention Notice but, then, the Minister himself has agreed to make a statement.

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR (Peer-made): The Calling Attention Notice could have been admitted.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already admitted one each for today, tomorrow and the day after. So, instead of prolonging the agonies of the teachers now on strike, I thought I will allow the Minister to make a statement. Later on, if necessary, I will allow a discussion. I repeat that on every statement that is made on the floor of the House, if it is on an important matter, I am allowing a discussion. So, this can also be discussed. It is for the Business Advisory Committee to decide it. Now, it is only a statement by the Minister. After that, we shall decide in the BAC whether we need one hour discussion or some other discussion. After this statement, we will take up the No-Confidence motion

12.27 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: TEACHERS' STRIKE

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. TRIGUNA SEN): I regret to say that the teachers in Delhi have resorted to general strike from 19th February, 1968 on the plea that their demands have not been met by the Government. Their main demand has been for revision of salary scales. The Hon'ble Members will recall my statement in the House on 21st December, 1967, when I informed the Sēbha that after taking into account the emoluments of teachers in various categories in different parts of the country and considering other relevant aspects

of the matter, the Government had decided to improve the salary scales of teachers in Delhi. Subsequent to this announcement, Government improved further the maximum of the revised scale of Matric Trained Primary Teachers and raised it from Rs. 250 to Rs. 270 bringing it at par with the maximum of the Higher Secondary Trained Primary Teachers. The revised pay scales are given in the Annexure. Salary scales of teachers in Delhi were revised last in 1959 by applying the same principles as were applied in the case of other Central Government servants in accordance with the recommendations of the Second Pay Commission. On account of the prevailing acute financial stringency in the country, the present time was not opportune for considering any programme, however important, involving considerable outlay of expenditure. Even so, as a very special case, the Government decided to revise salary scales of the teachers in Delhi and asked the Delhi Administration to implement the decision with effect from 21st December, 1967 in accordance with the Fundamental Rules.

The revised pay scales represent an improvement on the present position in respect of all the categories of teachers. There has been an increase in the maximum in all cases, and in so far as the minimum is concerned, there has generally been an increase. The annual rate of increment has also been improved in several cases. The Delhi teachers have been receiving full benefits of increasing dearness allowance granted to the Central Government servants. Thus, the total emoluments of the different categories of teachers in Delhi under the revised pay scales generally exceed those recommended by the Education Commission as well as those enjoyed by their counter-parts in most parts of the country.

With the permission of the Chair, I would like to give some factual information to the House which will show that fullest consideration has been given by Government to the question

[Dr. Triguna Sen.]

of pay scales that should be prescribed for Delhi teachers. The revised pay scales for Delhi teachers were decided with particular attention being paid to the pay scales and dearness allowances obtaining in the other metropolitan cities of India, namely : Madras, Calcutta and Bombay as also the recommendations made by the Education Commission. The emoluments (Salary plus D.A.) that will now be earned by the Delhi teachers compare very favourably with those received by the teachers in other metropolitan towns. For example, the Primary Teachers in Delhi will now receive minimum emoluments of Rs. 217 p.m. in the case of Higher Secondary trained teachers and Rs. 209 p.m. in the case of Matric-trained teachers, as against the minimum emoluments of Rs. 160 in Madras, Rs. 185 in Calcutta and Rs. 190 in Bombay, and Rs. 150 as recommended by the Education Commission. The maximum emoluments of the Primary teachers in Delhi will be Rs. 407/- p.m. whereas for the other metropolitan towns, the figures are: Madras Rs. 215/-, Calcutta Rs. 295/-, Bombay Rs. 440/- and Rs. 250 as recommended by the Education Commission. Similarly, for Trained Graduate Teachers, the minimum emoluments of the teachers in Delhi will be Rs. 289/- p.m. as against Rs. 210/- in Madras, Rs. 250 in Calcutta and in Bombay. The minimum recommended by the Education Commission is only Rs. 220/-. The maximum emoluments of these teachers in Delhi will amount to Rs. 487/- as against Rs. 365/- in Madras, Rs. 405/- in Calcutta and Rs. 460/- in Bombay; the figure recommended by the Education Commission being Rs. 400/-. The post-Graduate teachers in Delhi will also be placed in a position of advantage vis-a-vis the teachers in other metropolitan towns. The minimum emoluments of these teachers in Delhi will be As. 412/- p.m. as against Rs. 315 in Calcutta and Rs. 280/- in Bombay. Madras does not have separate scales for such teachers and they are entitled to the same scale as the trained graduate tea-

chers, which are even lower. In this case, the Education Commission has recommended a figure of Rs. 300/- p.m. by way of minimum emoluments for the teachers. The maximum emoluments of these teachers in Delhi will be Rs. 670/- as against only Rs. 555/- in Calcutta and Rs. 520/- in Bombay, and the Education Commission's recommendation is Rs. 600/-.

My sympathy with the teachers in the matter of improvement of their economic conditions is well-known. But, this is a matter that has to be tackled on a national basis having regard to various factors and particularly the availability of financial resources in the prevailing economic crisis through which the country is passing at present. Nor can the question of revision of salary scales of the teachers in Delhi be considered in isolation from the general pattern of salary scales for teachers in the country as a whole. Even so, the Government has done its best to meet the demands of the teachers in Delhi as far as they are practicable. In fact, as already stated, under the revised salary scales, all categories of the teachers in Delhi will be better off than before and also as compared to teachers in almost all the other parts of the country.

The other demands of the teachers in Delhi relate to unified control of education in Delhi and parity in service conditions. These demands are primarily of administrative nature and have first to be examined in all their implications by the respective administrative authorities namely, the Delhi Administration and other local bodies.

None of these demands can justify the agitational methods adopted by the teachers in Delhi. I am sure the teachers will realize the adverse effect of their action on the progress and conduct of their students. The country looks to teachers to create a climate conducive to discipline which is so essential for national development. I would, therefore, appeal to them to

call off the strike apply all their energy and time to looking after the pupils entrusted to their care. I would also appeal to the Hon'ble Members of the House and to the parents and guardians to use their good eyes in

presuading the teachers to realize that they owe it to their pupils not to indulge in activities which could only harm the interests of their students and do not good to them either.

ANNEXURE

Sl. No.	Category of Teachers.	Existing scale Rs.	Revised scales Rs.
1	2	3	4
1.	Teacher Grade IV (Primary classes).	118-4-170-EB-5-200-EB-5-225.	118-4-150-5-160-8-200-EB-8-240-10-270. (For Matriculates). 126-4-150-5-160-6-200-EB-8-240-10-270 (For Higher Secondary Passed)
2.	Music Teachers (Grade II).	118-4-170-EB-5-200-5-225.	126-4-150-5-160-8-200-EB-8-240-10-270.
3.	Headmasters/Headmistresses (Primary Schools)	150-5-160-8-240	160-8-240-EB-10-270-EB-15-300.
4.	Trained Graduate teachers Grade III and all other teachers in this scale.	160-8-256-EB-8-280-10-300.	175-8-215-EB-10-275-EB-15-350.
5.	Trained Graduate teachers Grade II and all other teachers in this scale.	170-10-290-EB-15-380.	190-10-290-EB-15-425.
6.	Headmasters/Headmistresses (Middle Schools).	210-10-290-15-380	220-10-290-EB-15-425-EB-15-470.
7.	Teachers Grade I (Post Graduate Teachers)	250-10-290-15-380-EB-15-470.	275-10-295-15-370-EB-15-490-EB-20-550.
8.	Vice-Principals.	325-15-475-EB-20-575.	350-15-470-EB-20-650.
9.	Principals (Higher Secondary Schools).	425-25-500-30-680	425-25-500-30-590-EB-30-800-EB-30-830-35-900.
10.	Drawing teachers (Grade III) and other teachers in this scale.	130-5-160-8-200-EB-8-256-EB-8-280-10-300.	140-5-160-8-200-EB-EB-8-240-EB-10-300-15-330.
11.	Laboratory Assistants.	(i) 40-2-60-5-2-75-3-90. (ii) 75-1-85-2-95.	110-3-131-4-155-EB-4-175-5-180. (For Matriculates with Science).

NOTE : In addition to the basic pay in the revised scales indicated above, the teachers will get the dearness allowance as per Central Government rates.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) having a discussion?
rose.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. He may sit down.

MR. SPEAKER: He may sit down. I have already stated. Does he want me to repeat it?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Are they

Mr. Madhu Limaye.