

**Exhibition of Film 'Night in London'**

5476. SHRI JUGAL MONDAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Film named "Night in London" displays Cabaret Dances and Can Can dances which are prohibited in foreign countries for minors;

(b) if so, the reasons for allowing it for universal display; and

(c) whether Government have asked the Film Censor Board to recensor the above film?

THE MINISTER INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) The film entitled 'Night in London' has some Cabaret dance sequences. Regulations for entry to Cabaret vary from country to country. In some countries youth below the age of 18 are not allowed to go to Cabaret halls where alcoholic drinks are served; there is no such restriction where alcoholic drinks are not served;

(b) The film 'Night in London' has been certified after omitting scenes which were found objectionable by the Central Board of Film Censors in the light of Directions on the subject.

(c) No, Sir.

**Export and Import of Nuclear Minerals**

5476-A. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India exports crude Uranium and Thorium to foreign countries and if so, what are their amounts in terms of weight and money value per year;

(b) whether India imports fissionable Uranium, Thorium and Plutonium from outside and if so, the quantity and value of such nuclear minerals per year;

(c) whether India has developed the process of purifying indigenous Uranium and Thorium and separating their lighter isotopes;

(d) if so, what processes are utilised for the purpose; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Thorium and plutonium have not been imported into the country.

About 80 tonnes of enriched uranium costing about Rs. 10.8 crores and about 28 tonnes of uranium dioxide valued at about Rs. 1.05 crores have been imported for Tarapur Atomic Power and Rajasthan Atomic Power Projects respectively since 1967.

(c) to (e). India has developed processes for purifying uranium and thorium; these are usual solvent extraction methods.

Processes for separating lighter isotopes of uranium and thorium have not been developed as India's future nuclear power programme is based on natural uranium and not enriched uranium.

12.06 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OR URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**DEMONSTRATION BY WEST BENGAL PRIMARY TEACHERS**

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (DIAMOND HARBOUR): I call the attention of the Minister of Education to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"The demonstration by about nine hundred West Bengal Primary teachers in Delhi on the 25th March, 1968."

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. TRIGUNA SEN): Sir, a deputation on behalf of the West Bengal

[Dr. Triguna Sen]

Primary School Teachers' Association met me on 23rd March, 1968 and discussed with me the various points raised in the Memorandum which the Association has now submitted to the President of India. Two Members of Parliament, Shri Bhupesh Gupta and Shri Niren Ghosh accompanied the deputation and were present during the discussion.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU:** You have conveniently forgotten my presence.

**MR. SPEAKER:** You forget an important man here. Shri Niren Ghosh will not create any trouble there but he is here to create trouble.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU:** An important hon. Minister would not have forgotten me.

**DR. TRIGUNA SEN:** Since he was also present, I do not feel he should have raised the Calling Attention notice.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU:** Is it very disadvantageous to you?

**MR. SPEAKER:** But for that, how could we have known he discussed with you?

**DR. TRIGUNA SEN:** I have studied the Memorandum. It raises some political issues and a number of issues about primary education. The first is not the concern of the Ministry of Education and hence my observations refer only to primary education.

It is true that there are several deficiencies in the provision of primary education in West Bengal and that facilities for free primary education are limited in most urban areas and specially in the city of Calcutta. This is due partly to a lower priority being accorded to primary education in the first three five year plans than should have been the case and partly to such factors as a large rate of population increase due to the influx of refugees.

**SHRI HEM BARUA (Mangaldai):** This is the criticism of the Government.

**DR. TRIGUNA SEN:** Including ULF Government. I must tell you the truth.

To rectify these deficiencies, a substantial increase in the recurring expenditure on primary education will be needed and this will be possible only through a carefully planned and phased programme spread over a few years.

In so far as the revision of salaries of primary teachers are concerned, the West Bengal Government has appointed a Pay Commission whose report will have to be awaited. The problem of increasing Dearness Allowance has large financial implications which are being examined. Orders regarding improved retirement benefits for primary teachers have now been issued. Steps to remedy other deficiencies are being included in the Fourth Five Year Plan which will begin in April, 1969 and preparations for which have now started.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU:** I have heard the hon. Minister's statement. His statement is evasive and there, I find lack of sympathy and consideration for primary education and for primary school teachers in West Bengal, although the hon. Education Minister is an educationist and had in Bengal for more than half of his life.

Before I put the question, let me give you an idea of what has actually happened because what he has said is misleading the House and is nowhere near the correct picture.

The implementation of article 45 of the Constitution is the responsibility of the Central Government, of which Dr. Triguna Sen, the Education Minister, is a member. Now what is the progress that has been made? In West

Bengal, instead of going ahead, education is going backwards. Today after 20 years of Independence, after 20 years of Congress rule, you find that there are 15,430 villages in West Bengal without any school whatsoever. Facilities for primary education in West Bengal are available only for the age-group 6 to 10 years, and that too, it is not free for boys in urban areas and is not compulsory either. In Madras and Andhra Pradesh, it is free upto Higher Secondary Standard. In other States also, the age group, 6 to 13 or 14 years get free education. In West Bengal only 70.57 per cent of the children go to schools, but in Kerala, it is near about 100 per cent. Calcutta which has a population of 7 million, has not started a single primary school since the Congress came to power; although the population went up by 250 per cent....

MR. SPEAKER: The Education Ministry's Demands for Grants are coming, when he may make his speech. Now he may put his question.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Although the population went up by 250 per cent, only 40 per cent of the children get a chance to go to schools in Calcutta. The Congress denied to take this responsibility.

West Bengal also failed to draw up a Primary Education Act for Calcutta; for Calcutta it is 1919 Act and for rural areas it is 1930 Act. After the ineffective 1963 Urban Education Act, only 13 out of 89 municipalities have undertaken to implement it.

Coming to teachers....

MR. SPEAKER: What is his question? He will put his question.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Coming to teachers, only 38 per cent of the teachers are trained. The annual intake is 4,500 and there is a backlog of 62,000 untrained teachers. The salary that the teacher gets is far less than that of the Police Constable; the dearness allowance for a school teacher is Rs. 28 only whereas a class

IV employee is getting Rs. 67 and the other Central Government employees are getting Rs. 90 to 110. Teachers have committed suicide because of pecuniary troubles. One of those teachers who came all the way from West Bengal to Delhi fainted and had to be taken to the Willingdon Hospital where he was suspected to be a heart patient and was later on found to be a T.B. patient.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is all very good information that he is giving. They want the hon. Member's speech to be laid on the Table of the House. That can be done or he can make his speech on the Education Ministry's Demands. Now he will put his question; otherwise, I will call somebody else.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Under the circumstances, may I know what are the achievements of the Central Government and the Congress Government of West Bengal during the last 20 years? Rather, what are the failures that they have achieved during these 20 years of Congress rule in West Bengal. How are they giving a fair deal to all those people who are giving the highest amount to the Central exchequer? I want a specific reply to these questions.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN: I am sorry he has accused me of lack of sympathy towards teachers and to the teachers' cause. We discussed for two hours and he knows it very well. He has accused me that I did not refer to all the points that were raised in the Memorandum. As I said in the beginning, most of them are political issues and I did not reply to them. (Interruptions) For instance, it was said, "The present Governor of West Bengal, by his unconstitutional act of the dismissal of the United Front Government which enjoyed the maximum popular support, has forfeited the confidence of the people and we demand his immediate recall...." etc., etc. I said that, as an Education Minister, I could not reply to all these, and so, I limited my reply only to primary

[Shri Triguna Sen]

education. As I have stated, the condition in West Bengal so far as primary education is concerned, has been repeated so many times and is well known. In my eagerness—though I do not represent Bengal, I am a Bengali—I had been to Calcutta several times to discuss with the Education Minister of the United Front Government and advised different ways and means to do it, to have it in the priority plan for implementation, because it is really, after so many years, so bad in Bengal. But, Sir, you will understand that Education is a State subject; we can only advise and assist them provided they want our assistance. Now we are preparing the Fourth Five-Year Plan with the Education Secretaries and we have given the priority for primary education and we will see that it is implemented as soon as possible.

**SHRI NAMBIAR** (Tiruchirapalli): In 20 years they could not do it. What could we do in nine months?

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA** (Contai): Teachers are said to be the makers of a nation. The primary teachers and primary education are said to be the cradle of our future generation. It is a pity that this teachers' community is the most neglected; particularly the primary teachers who are lakhs in number are the most neglected community in our country today. Their condition is worse than that of coolies, ordinary peons, chaprasis and class IV employees of the Government.

Our Education Minister has raised a question that there had been certain political demands. Today another primary teachers' organisation, representatives of Desakalong Primary Teachers' Organisation, are going to meet the Education Minister and the President. There are four primary school teachers' organisations in West Bengal, namely, Primary Teachers' Organisation, the All Bengal Primary Teachers' Association, West Bengal Desakalong Primary Teachers' Association and

West Bengal Prathmic Teachers' Association. I can assure you that the overwhelming majority of the primary teachers do not bother about the external or extraneous politics; their main concern is to improve their lot and the standard of education there.

I would congratulate the Education Minister if he can implement his own suggestions. The first suggestion that he recently made was that primary education should be made a concurrent subject, i.e., for both the Centre and the State. Secondly, as one of the members of the Education Commission, he has suggested the formation of a National Education Board to tackle the problems of primary education. I would congratulate him if he can work out these two suggestions, which he himself has sponsored.

**MR. SPEAKER:** He will ask his question.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** Now I am coming to the point. In view of the above observations, I want to know (a) whether the Government will exert pressure upon the State Government, and they themselves also take up the issue, to abolish the distinction of A, B and C Grades among primary teachers and introduce a uniform scale of basic pay of Rs. 150, only Rs. 150 for each primary teacher along with dearness allowance on a sliding scale as enjoyed by the class IV employees of the Government; (b) whether primary education would be made a concurrent subject, for the State and the Centre; (c) whether, according to the recommendations of the Kothari Commission on Education, a National Board of Education in line with the University Grants Commission would be set up to take up primary education; (d) whether the primary teachers' children would be given facilities for free education or at least subsidise education; and (e) whether the services of primary teachers would be utilised for adult education and also as Gram Sewaks, Palli

Sewaks, etc., in the scheme for extension of national service, particularly in the rural areas.

12.27 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

#### BUDGET ESTIMATES OF DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION FOR 1968-69

DR. TRIGUNA SEN: I was listening with interest to Shri Samar Guha, and I thought that he was just repeating what I had been saying elsewhere. I have been impressing on the respective State Governments to implement those very points which he had raised. I read in the papers that when the UFL Government came into power in Bengal, they were very progressive-minded. I myself had several times insisted on those very points and suggested ways and means to implement them.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Budget Estimates of the Damodar Valley Corporation for the year 1968-69 under sub-section (3) of section 44 of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-627-/68].

SHRI UMANATH (Pudukkottai): Did he reinforce it with money and grants? It was no use merely making suggestions.

12.22½ hrs.

#### MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

DR. TRIGUNA SEN: It is known to the veteran Member that the State Government first make the schemes and plans and assess the financial implications, and then we consider them. But they had no time.

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith Haryana Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1968, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th March, 1968, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of

About the implementation of free primary education, I know that it is a constitutional directive. But knowing that education is a State subject, we cannot order any State; we can only work in collaboration and in co-operation with the respective States. Most of the States have done it except the unfortunate State of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and some parts of Assam, and also Uttar Pradesh. It depends on the outlook of the State Government and the eagerness of the State Government to implement the recommendations. We from our side are trying our best to do so.