

vote of the House. The question is:

That in the resolution,—

add at the end—

"and particularly among Afro-Asian countries which should be clearly apprised of the role of colonialism in this regard." (3)

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri H. P. Chatterjee is not here. I shall put his amendment also to the vote of the House. The question is:

That in the resolution,—

add at the end—

"and before other international forums especially those of the Afro-Asian group of countries." (4)

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now I shall put the amendment of Shri Raghunath Singh as modified by the hon. Minister. The question is:

That in the resolution,—

for the words "in addition to removing all restrictions on the migration of people belonging to the minority communities from East Pakistan to the Indian Union, also take steps to raise the issue of the democratic and human rights of the minorities in the forum of the United Nations under appropriate articles of the U.N. Charter".

substitute—

"in addition to relaxing restrictions in migration of people belonging to the minority communities from East Pakistan to Indian Union also consider steps for enlisting the world opinion."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I hope Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri accepts the changes made by the hon. Minister in the body of the resolution.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Yes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put the resolution, as amended, to the vote of the House. The question is:

"This House is of the opinion that in view of the insecurity of the life, property and honour of the minority communities living in the Eastern Wing of Pakistan and general denial of all human rights to them in that part of Pakistan, the Government of India should in addition to relaxing restrictions in migration of people belonging to the minority communities from East Pakistan to Indian Union also consider steps for enlisting the world opinion."

The motion was adopted.

Some hon. Members: Unanimously.

Shri Raghunath Singh: The whole Communist Bloc is absent; it should be noted.

16.25 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE. EDUCATION OF THE HANDICAPPED

Shrimati Savitri Nigam (Banda): Sir, I beg to move:

"This House is of opinion that the Government should appoint a Committee of Members of Parliament and experts to suggest ways and means for making the education of the handicapped such as the blind, deaf and dumb, mentally retarded and physically crippled, compulsory by 1970."

Sir, some of the hon. Members may be quite inquisitive to know why I have selected such a subject for my resolution. First of all, I think that

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this subject is of very great national importance, not only on humanitarian grounds but also because of its economic and social significance and importance. Sometimes we wonder why in spite of such heavy investments during the three Five Year Plans the desired results could not be achieved. We point out our fingers in several directions, but we altogether forget and neglect the greatest drain on our economy caused by these millions of crippled people who have been totally neglected and who are totally dependent on others all through their life. They consume everything and they do not produce anything.

Mr. Harward Rusk, President of the International Society for Rehabilitation and Education of the Handicapped, who is considered to be a world authority on this particular problem, has said on the basis of his wide experience, that the word "handicapped" could be removed from the dictionary, provided we can give them a little care, a few tools as well as opportunities to work. An examination of the problem of the handicapped, the crippled and the disabled has revealed their importance in our international economy. As long as these millions of crippled people are not educated and rehabilitated, they will remain a dead-weight on our economy; all their life they will consume everything but will not produce anything.

Unfortunately, a census has not been taken to determine the accurate figures of these crippled and disabled people. I had written to the Education Ministry asking for some information. They have given me a point-blank refusal, saying that they have not got the accurate figure. It is unfortunate that no survey has been undertaken to determine at least their approximate number. From some selected documents I have come to this conclusion that their percentage in USA is 10.3 and in the United Kingdom it is 9.7. If we take the same

percentage, then our number will be more than two crores. I would also like to emphasise here that the medical facilities are much more. They have got much more facilities, many more organised institutions where the diseases which cause these handicaps are cured very easily. We are nowhere in that respect. It is a great pity that out of these two crores, only a couple of thousands have been rehabilitated in our country so far. It is a pity that the number of institutions in this country is only 250. This figure was given to me by the Ministry of Education. The progress which has been made in this direction is, I should say, that of a snail. I would like to emphasise this fact that I do not want to blame anybody—neither the Education Ministry nor any particular authority. I only say that the unfortunate brethren of ours have been neglected by everybody—by the society, by the social workers and by the nation itself.

It is shocking that during the last three Five Year Plans very little progress has been made in the direction of both education and rehabilitation of these people. It is not a question of only 2 crores of people; it is a question of 2 crores of families. Because, if a crippled child is born in a family, the whole family is thrown into the grip of misery. So, this question relates to a couple of crores of people. What I would like to emphasise here is, by rehabilitating these 2 crores of people, in fact we would be rehabilitating about 10 crores of people, because the families of all those who have got such children would be suffering from misery. Unfortunately, these millions of people have been neglected by us so far.

Even if we leave aside the humanitarian view, for a developing nation like ours, where we have to count every thread of our resources of manpower very carefully in order to keep the nation going and progressing at the speed at which it has been planned

for, this problem requires our urgent attention. It cries out for organised action. We can no longer be content with the small efforts on our behalf. The huge man-power which has been rotting away must be rescued from the limited and purposeless method of maudlin sympathy and religious and humanitarian hypocrisy. The obstacles have been severe. There is complete ignorance from top to bottom prevailing in our country as to how the enormous man-power could be fruitfully used, if proper care and attention be given to them. Here I would like to quote the example of a handicapped *sadhu*, who has been rotting for the last five years in the Cheshire home is now earning Rs. 75 per month after only four months of training.

श्री बागडी : (हिसार) कोरम नहीं है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may resume her seat. The bell is being rung . . . Now there is quorum. She may resume her speech.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: We cannot afford to waste these powers any longer. Profligacy is not only a sin, it is a national suicide. The physically handicapped have suffered not only of their inferior position in the society but also because of lack of any organised attempt to improve their position in our country. The development of a rational approach to the problem of physically handicapped began with an entirely new concept of their role in our economy and in our national life. The new concept is one which realises the tremendous productive potentialities in every individual regardless of his physical defect.

The magnitude of the problem is such that it requires the co-operation and advice of all the voluntary and social workers and voluntary agencies to take up a leading part in educating and rehabilitating the handicapped people. I would appeal to all the social workers and voluntary agencies to pay their attention to this prob-

lem. I would also appeal to the Education Ministry to give the fullest co-operation to the voluntary agencies and to voluntary workers because it is a technical work of a difficult nature. If only the Education Ministry will give encouragement to the voluntary workers and agencies, I am sure, many more voluntary workers and agencies would be coming forward to take up this humanitarian work and work of very great economic and social significance.

I may also mention that this work requires very heavy expenditure because we have not got the trained personnel in our country. We have to train the personnel and these poor, handicapped people also require extra care. The money could not be collected simply by donations. I would appeal to the Education Ministry not to let the work of the voluntary agencies be hampered by the lack of sufficient money. They should make it a point to contribute to and help the voluntary agencies which work in the field of social work and which take up this work.

I am sorry to mention that sometimes these voluntary agencies get step-motherly treatment. People in authority feel that they are obliging the voluntary agencies when they give grants to these voluntary agencies. In fact, they must be grateful to the voluntary agencies who in spite of many difficulties and drawbacks go ahead and get along with this difficult work and do the work which ought to have been done by the Education Ministry and the Government.

I would also like to mention that even when the grants are given by the various departments, they are not given in time. At the end of the year they are given. So, it becomes very difficult for the voluntary agencies to spend that money.

There is lack of co-operation. I would not blame anybody because there is lack of knowledge. There is

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very great ignorance prevailing and people do not understand that the work which they do or for which they give their support is of such a great importance. They do not know that the life of those people who are just a burden on society could be made useful and fruitful. That is why this sort of negligence and lack of co-operation is prevailing.

Therefore, first of all, I would appeal to the hon. Education Minister who is a great humanist. In fact, because of his coming to the Ministry, new hopes have been raised in our hearts and we know that now revolutionary progress will be made because of his interference and his intervention that sort of cold attitude which has always been there will be removed and the ice which has always been blocking the path of these handicapped people will melt. I would request the hon. Education Minister to start a sort of refresher course not only for the social and voluntary workers but also for those officers who are working in the Education Ministry so that they may know what the meaning of occupational therapy is.

It is a pity—I do not want to mention it because all those, wherever they are are my borthers; but because I would like justice to be done to these unfortunate, handicapped persons, I would mention it—that sometimes those persons have to disburse the grants who do not know the meaning of occupational therapy. They do not understand the problem. So, I would request the hon. Minister to appoint advisers who have been working in this line and who are experts. There is no dearth of such people who are experts in this line. They should be appointed as advisers. There should be an adviser for the blind, an adviser for the deaf—separate advisers. Then only the work will make progress.

There is no first-hand knowledge available. So, I would also request that more seminars and conferences

should be held so that first-hand knowledge may be available and a few delegations should be sent abroad to see how wonderful work has been done in other countries.

Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirapalli): So that more money could be spent.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: I would like to mention that I have seen it and because I have seen this work in other countries I have been more interested in it and have come to the conclusion that just as they have done in USA—whatever they are spending on the care and rehabilitation of these people they are realising from the incomes of these people in the form of income-tax, house and property tax—and have rehabilitated their handicapped fully and have solved their problem. why could we not solve our problem?

The time at my disposal is very short. I will quickly mention some of the points. There is the National Advisory Council. There has been an indiscriminate condemnation of various Councils. As far as this Council is concerned, I would like to say this Council has been doing good work. But the only point against this Council is that it meets once a year. I would request the Minister to say that this Council should meet more frequently and this Council should also be represented by, not only the officers, but various organisations which have been working in this line. Only then, this very important body which has done a useful work will serve its purpose.

I would also like to emphasise that the recommendations of this Council have not been implemented every time. Only 35 per cent of the recommendations have been accepted and implemented so far. I would request that all the recommendations made by this Council should be religiously implemented. I would like to tell you how the purpose of the various recommendations is defeated by quoting only one example. This Council recom-

mended that 70 per cent grant should be given for the construction of buildings which are meant for the education of the handicapped. The ceiling was fixed at Rs. 1 lakhs. Now the ceiling has been fixed at Rs. 30,000 only. In these hard days not even a two-roomed tenement can be built with Rs. 30,000. How could a big building be constructed with Rs. 30,000? In this way, the recommendations made by the Council are defeated. I would again request that the recommendations made by this Council should be religiously implemented and only then can any progress be made.

Now, about scholarships, they have been given but to my great disappointment I would like to mention that these scholarships have not gone to those who are getting education in the institutions which are meant for the handicapped. These scholarships are being given to the people who are already rehabilitated and are studying in M.A. or B.A. or Intermediate and who have got a little handicap. On the pretext of that little handicap which has not been any drawback for them, they are being given all the scholarships. No scholarship has been given to any handicapped who is studying in the institution meant for the handicapped. I may quote one example and an inquiry could be made into that. In the Occupational Therapy Institute of New Delhi, no scholarship has been given to any child. There are more than 25 per cent of children whose parents cannot pay for their food even. Those children have not been given scholarships. The reason is that in the Scholarships Committee which disburses these scholarships, there is no expert who is working in this line. There is no voluntary worker. Only a few officers sit and distribute the scholarships. I do not know what are the criteria or the basis on which the scholarships are granted. I think people who are working in this line should be considered.

I would also like to mention one thing more. I wanted some information in 1952 and I was told that there were 240 institutions. Now, the latest information which I got from the Education Ministry is that the number of institutions at present is 250. During the last all these more than 10 years, the number of institutions has increased by only 10. So, I would not like to repeat and emphasize the same factor that we are moving at a snail's pace.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should conclude now.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: I will take full half an hour. It is such an important subject. I have not yet given any suggestions which I want to give regarding the betterment of these unfortunate people. I will quickly give the suggestions.

I would request the hon. Education Minister to bring all the influence on the Home Ministry to include these unfortunate people in the next census report. We need not wait for ten years. If we want to bring in a planned development, planned rehabilitation work, we must have sample surveys made in the rural areas and in the urban areas to determine their actual number. Another point which I would like to emphasise is that educational, training and rehabilitation facilities should be provided at least in every State. One model institute should be started in every State. Free supply of orthopaedic appliances as also other equipment and books to the handicapped should be given in the institutions where the handicapped people are studying. Liberal facilities should also be given to the handicapped for travelling.

In every district headquarter, a free vocational guidance centre should be opened. I would like to point out that the life of the blind people is also very pathetic. In the First Five Year Plan it was decided that a model centre for the deaf, dumb and blind

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people would be established in Delhi. But it was brought over to the Second Five Year Plan, because the scheme could not be implemented in the First Five Year Plan. Now, it has been brought over to the Third Plan. Three years have already passed during the Third Plan period, and still, the model centre could not be established in Delhi. Now, I am sure it will be brought over to the Fourth Plan unless the hon. Minister puts his foot down on this delay. I would request him to see that at least one model centre is established in every State during the Third Plan, for the blind, deaf and dumb and for the orthopaedically handicapped. This should be kept as the minimum target. Only then, we shall be able to do not real justice but a little justice to these unfortunate brethren of ours.

I would also like to emphasise that the award of scholarships for the needy should be given in the technical institutions of the handicapped. Shelter and protection homes should be provided to those people who have got no guardians or who have lost their parents.

Compulsory and free facilities of testing of the mental and physical potentialities of the handicapped for suitability for industrial, office and household work should be made available in every district headquarter.

In the employment exchanges, we know that there is provision for the handicapped. But because there is no provision for providing them training no progress has been made so far. Even as scholarships are being given to the normal people by the employment exchanges, a similar type of scholarships should be given to these handicapped people also who seek employment there. If that is done, great progress can be made, and the purpose for which these employment exchanges have been opened would be really served.

The plight of the blind is almost the same as the plight of the deaf and the dumb. They are being given training in the Dehra Dun School, but they are not being rehabilitated. They wander here and there for the sake of employment. There is no guidance clinic for them even in this capital city of ours. I would request that such guidance clinics should be opened where these blind, deaf, dumb and orthopaedically handicapped people could at least get sufficient information. Unless these vocational guidance clinics are opened everywhere, at least at the State and district levels, the fate of the handicapped would not be changed.

Compulsory registration of these handicapped is also a 'must'. Legislation should be enacted, and according to that enactment it should be made obligatory on the part of every municipality to register every crippled child that is born in its area and every crippled person noticed in that town or city. Only then we shall be able to know the real number and also the nature of their handicap.

I know, Sir, that you are looking at the clock, but please give me the full half an hour which you had promised earlier.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should try to conclude. Otherwise, there would not be any time left for the hon. Minister to reply.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: The House will sit till 5.30 p.m. I am sure that there are other hon. Members who also would like to speak and they would also like to take some time. So, I suggest that we can sit a little longer, because this is a subject of such great importance.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should try to conclude in a minute or two.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: I shall take only two more minutes and then I shall conclude.

The most important problem which in my opinion could be solved by the Education Ministry is this. If by an enactment or by advice, we could make it compulsory on the part of all employers to reserve at least 4 or 5 per cent of the vacancies in their establishments for the handicapped, the employment problem will also be solved. If we can have workshops for these handicapped people, I am sure all the workshops in the country can be made self-supporting without any delay. So, if the hon. Education Minister decides to really solve this problem, the first thing to be done would be to establish such workshops, where these handicapped people can be trained as apprentices, so that they can be found suitable employment in industries.

Lastly, I would like to read two or three lines from this book, and that will be the end of my speech:

"It was Balzac who said that most of us are ordinary people seeking extraordinary destinies. The physically handicapped are extraordinary in that they seek but an ordinary destiny. This then is their challenge to us. Give us the opportunity to realise that destiny!"

Thank you very much.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"This House is of opinion that the Government should appoint a Committee of Members of Parliament and experts to suggest ways and means for making the education of the handicapped such as the blind, deaf and dumb, mentally retarded and physically crippled, compulsory by 1970."

Shri Sidheshwar Prasad (Nalanda): I beg to move:

That for the original resolution, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House is of opinion that the Government should appoint a Committee of Members of Parliament and educationists to suggest ways and means for making suitable education and training to the handicapped, such as the blind, deaf and dumb, or otherwise mentally or physically abnormal and weak, compulsory by 1990, so that they cease to be a burden to the society."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The resolution and the amendment are before the House.

One hour is the time allotted.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: One and a half hours.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: One hour.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: I would request that it may be made 1½ hours.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We have allotted only one hour. How much time does the hon. Minister want?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): Fifteen minutes. I shall try to be as brief as possible.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then, three or four Members may have a chance. Five minutes each.

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय श्रीमती सावित्री निगम ने जो महत्वपूर्ण प्रस्ताव सदन के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किया है और उस के सम्बन्ध में उन्होंने जो मुझाव दिये हैं उन्हें मैंने बहुत ध्यान से सुना। उन के प्रस्ताव के सम्बन्ध में मेरा जो संशोधन है वह भी सदन के सामने है। इस में कोई शक नहीं है कि हमारे देश में अंधे, बहरे,

[श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद]

गूंगे और शारीरिक तथा मानसिक रूप में रोगग्रस्त व्यक्तियों की संख्या काफी है। लेकिन मेरा खयाल है कि दुनिया के अन्य देशों में भी इस संख्या से कम नहीं है। प्रतिगत: उन का कम नहीं है। अगर हम एस. समझते हैं कि चूंकि हमारा देश गरीब है इसलिए इस प्रकार के व्यक्तियों की संख्या हमारे देश में काफी है, अमरीका जैसे अमीर देश में उन की संख्या कम है तो यह समझना गलती है। इसलिा में इस सम्बन्ध में इस प्रस्ताव के प्रस्तावक का ध्यान अमरीका के एक बहुत बड़े विख्यात नोबल पुरस्कार विजेता एलेक्सि कैरेल की किताब "मेरा दो अनन्तों" की और आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूं। उस किताब में उस प्रसिद्ध लेखक ने इस बात की ओर हमारा ध्यान आकर्षित किया है कि वस्तुतः अमरीका जैसे देश में शारीरिक और मानसिक दृष्टि से भी कमजोर व्यक्तियों की संख्या जिस प्रकार से बढ़ती जा रही है वह बड़ी चिन्ता की बात है।

इस के साथ ही साथ यह भी एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण मोर्चेन विचारने की बात है कि जब अमरीका, इंग्लैंड या दूसरे धनी देश इस समस्या का समाधान पूरी तरह से नहीं खोज पाये हैं तब हमारा यह गरीब देश कैसे ऐसी समस्या का समाधान इस निश्चित समय में, जैसा कि प्रस्तावक ने कहा है, १९७० तक कैसे हमारा देश इस का समाधान ढूँढ सकता है यह भी विचारने की बात है।

अभी हमारे संविधान में एक बात कही गई है। यह स्वीकार किया गया है कि ६ से ११ वर्ष के बच्चों को हम अनिवार्य शिक्षा देने की व्यवस्था करेंगे। जब इस संवैधानिक दायित्व की हम पूर्ति नहीं कर रहे हैं तब कैसे सम्भव है कि हमारे देश में जिसके लिए कि यह बतर्णाय गया है कि २ करोड़ से ऊपर

ऐसे अपाहिज लूले, लंगड़े लोगों की संख्या है तो उनकी व्यवस्था हम कैसे कर सकेंगे ? इसलिए मैंने यह सुझाव दिया है कि यह काम १९६० तक होना चाहिए। हालांकि मुझे इस में भी संदेह है कि इतने वर्षों के बाद भी ऐसा हो सकेगा। लेकिन इस में कोई संदेह नहीं है कि यह एक बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न है और हमारा ध्यान इस ओर जाना चाहिए। किनी भी परिवार में कोई इस तरह से ग्रंथा, लूला, लंगड़ा या बहरा, शारीरिक या मानसिक दृष्टि से कोई कमजोर बच्चा उत्पन्न होता है तो उन परिवार का बोझ बढ़ जाता है और उन परिवार की समस्या का समाधान करने में सरकार द्वारा जिननी भी मदद की जाय वह ठीक ही होगी। लेकिन इसी के साथ साथ मैं इस बात की तरफ भी इस मदद का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं कि इनके शिक्षण की व्यवस्था ऐसी होनी चाहिए, ग्रंथे, लूले, लंगड़े, शारीरिक या मानसिक दृष्टि से कमजोर व्यक्तियों के शिक्षण की हम ऐसी व्यवस्था करे जिन्से वह हमारे समाज के लिये बोझ न हों। ऐसी हमारी शिक्षा की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। अगर शिक्षित करने के बाद भी उनके लिए हम काफी रुपया पैना खर्च करते हैं, उसके बाद भी अगर सरकार या समाज को उनका बोझ उठाना पड़ना है तो यह उचित नहीं होगा। इसलिए उनकी शिक्षा इस प्रकार की होनी चाहिए जिसमें कि वह स्वावलम्बी हो सकें हालांकि यह कहना कठिन है कि जिनके प्रति प्रकृति ने खुद उदारता नहीं दिखल ई उन के प्रति अगर सरकार, और समाज की तरफ से उदारता दिखलाई भी जाती है तो उनमें हम कहां तक सफल हो सकते हैं ? इसलिए मैंने जो संशोधन पेश किया है मेरा अनुमान है कि गदत उसे स्वीकार करेगा और प्रस्तावक महेंदया भी मेरे संशोधन को स्वीकार कर लेंगी। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं धन्यवाद देकर अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूं।

श्री कछवाय (देवास) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, श्रीमती सावित्री निगम ने सदन के सामने यह जो प्रस्ताव पेश किया है उमका स्वागत व समर्थन करता हूँ। इसमें जो दो, चार बातें मूजे कहनी हैं वे बड़ी महत्व की हैं।

हमारे देश के अन्दर ऐसे लूले, लंगड़े अपाहिज, बहरे, अंधे और मानसिक दृष्टि से भी रोगग्रस्त व्यक्ति काफी संख्या में होवें यह हमारा बहुत बड़ा दुर्भाग्य है। इस तरह के अपाहिज और अंग लोको को शिक्षा देने की समुचित व्यवस्था होनी ही चाहिए। लेकिन यह बीमारियों आमतौर पर जिन क्षेत्रों में हुआ करती है उनके ऊपर हमें विचार करना चाहिए। यह बीमारी अधिकतर उन गरीब तबकों में होती है जोंकि अधिकतर पिछड़े और सब तरह से अविचारित होते हैं। यह ऐसे गरीब क्षेत्रों में हुआ करती है जहाँ कि गरीब माता, पिता बालकों के जन्म लेते समय उनका इलाज करना तो दूर रहा उनको ठीक से न तो खिला सकते हैं और न ही उनको कपड़ा आदि पहना सकते हैं। उनके वहाँ दरिद्रता का घोर सम्प्राप्य छाया रहता है और वह अपने बच्चों का पेट तक नहीं भर सकते हैं। इसलिए उनकी आर्थिक अवस्था को बेहतर करने के उपाय सोच जायें और उनको पेट भरने के साथ साथ उनको बिना शुल्क शिक्षा देने की भी समुचित व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिये। उनको अधिक से अधिक अधिकार देने चाहिए, सभी संभव सहूलियतें व प्रोत्साहन देने चाहिए ताकि वह भविष्य में अपना जीवन अच्छा बना सकें।

उनको अच्छी शिक्षा दिलाने के साथ साथ उनको बाद में सरकारी महकमों में नौकरियों देने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। चाहे वह अंधे होवें, अंग लोको, गूँगे होवें अथवा बहरे, उचित शिक्षण मिलने पर सब का उपयोग हमारे यहाँ हो सकता है। मैं पिछली बार अभी जब खालियर गया था तो मैंने

वहाँ नेत्रहीनों की एक शाला या विद्यालय चलता हुआ देखा। वह बड़ा अच्छा और उपयोगी काम कर रहा है लेकिन उसमें सन्धार द्वारा जितनी महायता देनी चाहिए, जितनी आर्थिक महायता देनी चाहिए वह उस विद्यालय को नहीं दी जा रही है। वहाँ से वे नेत्रहीन व्यक्ति अच्छी तथा उपयोगी शिक्षा पाकर निकलते हैं और वे अपनी तरह से समाज की सेवा करते हैं। इसी तरह से यहाँ दिल्ली में भी एक अंध विद्यालय है जहाँ कि उन लोगों को संगीत सिखाया जाता है। वे लोग बड़ा ही अच्छा और मधुर गाते हैं। लेकिन जितनी सहूलियत और जितना खर्चा उनको देना चाहिए उतना खर्च व सहूलियतें उन को नहीं मिलती हैं। इसलिए इस ओर विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए ताकि भविष्य में इस तरह के लोग अच्छी व उपयोगी शिक्षा ऐसी संस्थाओं व विद्यालयों द्वारा ग्रहण करके समाज के लिये उपयोगी सिद्ध हों सकें और देश व समाज के हित में वे अपने को अच्छा उपयोगी नागरिक सिद्ध कर सकें।

साथ ही साथ इस बात का भी ध्यान रखा जाय कि आखिर यह बीमारी होती क्यों है? इस तरह के रोगों में लोग ग्रस्त न हो सकें और वे सभी दृष्टियों से पूर्ण स्वस्थ बने रह सकें शासन को इस ओर भी गम्भीरतापूर्वक देखना चाहिए और उपाय करना चाहिए। अगर बालक के जन्मते ही अर्थात् बाल्यकाल में ही उसे सम्हाला जाय ताकि इस तरह की अनेकों बीमारियों जोकि हो जाया करती हैं वे न हो सकें तो यह चीज किसी क्रदर चैक की जा सकती है।

मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह बिल जो श्रीमती सावित्री निगम पेश कर रही हैं वे उसे वापिस न लें और जिस शान के साथ उन्होंने इसे रखा है उसी शान के साथ इस पर वे दृढ़ बनी रहें और इसे वापिस न लें। ऐसा न हो कि शिक्षा मंत्री जरा आंख दिखा दें या जरा मीठा बोल दें और चट से इसे वापिस ले लें।

[श्री कछवाव]

ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए और अगर वे इसे शपिस नहीं लेती हैं तभी मैं समझूंगा कि उनकी शान है अन्यथा नहीं ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य का समय समाप्त हो गया है ।

श्री कछवाव : मैं सिर्फ एक बात और कह कर अपना स्थान ग्रहण करूंगा । मैं समझता हूँ कि इस विषय में आपको ज्यादा ध्यान दे कर और बड़े गौर के साथ आगे बढ़ना चाहिये । ज्यादा से ज्यादा इस तरह के स्कूल और कालेज सभी प्रान्तों में खुलने चाहियें, शिक्षालय खुलने चाहियें ताकि ज्यादा से ज्यादा लाभ उठा सकें और निकट भविष्य में सारी समस्या हल हो सके ।

17:00 hrs.

श्री जिव नारायण (ब्रांसी) जो प्रस्ताव यहाँ रखा गया है, उनका मैं समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ । यह बहुत ही सुन्दर प्रस्ताव है । जिन लोगों की जवान न हो, कान न हो, आँख न रहे, उनको सरकार की तरफ से तथा सोसाइटी की तरफ से प्रत्येक सहायता मिलनी चाहिये । हर किसी की यह ड्यूटी है और हर किसी को ऐसे लोगों की मदद करनी चाहिये । मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि इस काम के लिए, इन अभाग्य लोगों की सहायता के लिए आपके पास पैसा कहाँ से आ सकता है । देश के अन्दर लाखों सैठ साहूकारों के पाम धर्मादा पैसा होता है । यह करोड़ों में है । इस पैसे को आप ले सकते हैं और इनकी भलाई पर खर्च कर सकते हैं । यह पैसा उन्होंने किसानों से, गरीबों से ले रखा है । इस तरह से करोड़ों रुपया आपको मिल सकता है । इस पैसे को खर्च करने के लिए और कौन सा इससे अधिक पवित्र काम हो सकता है और कौन सा सेवा का कार्य हो सकता है ।

सेवा की भावना आप देश में पैदा करें । फारेन कंट्रीज में इनके लिए स्कूल हैं और इन लोगों को वहाँ पर अच्छी ट्रेनिंग दी जाती है । इसका कारण क्या है ? जो साइकोलोजीजिस्ट हैं उनका यह कथन है कि अगर किसी का पैर नहीं है और वह अंगहीन हो गया है तो जो शक्ति है, वह उसके मस्तिष्क में आ जाती है । हाथ की थमी हुई तो उसके बजाय शक्ति अन्यत्र आ जाती है । (इंटरप्शन) एक अच्छी बात बता रहा हूँ और आपको चाहिये कि आप मुनें । मेरे भित जो यहाँ बैठे हैं वे बेहोशी में बैठे हैं । एक उत्तम बात कही जाये तो उसको भी वे मुने को तैयार नहीं हैं । यह जो काम है, इसको बड़ी जिम्मेदारी से करने की आवश्यकता है । मैंने गवर्नमेंट को प्वाइंट आउट किया है कि कैसे उसको उस काम के लिए पैसा मिल सकता है । जन संघ के एक भाई अभी बोल रहे थे । उन से भी मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि वे ध्यान से सुनें । वे बहुत कमठ व्यक्ति बनते हैं । बड़े बड़े पञ्जीपतियों के पाम जो पैसा है, उसकी और मैंने इशारा किया है । सेवा की भावना ले कर हमें और उनको आगे बढ़ना है । वे हमारे साथ आयें और हम दोनों आगे बढ़ें ।

Those who will join, we will join hands, but otherwise we will march

on. यह बड़ा पवित्र काम है । गवर्नमेंट भी इस में मदद दे, पैसा दे । बाहर के जो मिशन हैं, दुनिया के जो मिशन हैं, वे बड़ा अच्छा काम करते हैं, बड़ी ऐसे लोगों की सेवा करते हैं । बड़े बड़े अच्छे आर्टिस्ट्स इन हैंडीकैप्ड, इन अभाग्य लोगों में से निकलते हैं । जो लड़का कान से बहरा हो जाता है, वह बहुत बढ़िया तबला बजा सकता है, अच्छा गाना गा सकता है ।

श्री बी० चं० शर्मा (गुरदासपुर) :
बंगड़ा हो गया तो ?

श्री शिव नारायण : तो वह पार्लिमेंट का मेम्बर हो सकता है। उसकी जवान तेज हो सकती है और वह शर्मा जी को ठीक कर सकता है।

जो प्रेक्टीकल चीज है, वह मैं आपको बता रहा हूँ, जो आंखों देखी चीज है वह मैं आपको बता रहा हूँ। गवर्नमेंट से मैं कहूंगा कि यह बहुत पवित्र चीज है। शिक्षा संस्थायें हमारे यहाँ जो हैं, वे बड़ी पवित्र संस्थायें हैं। इस देश में अगर ईमानदारी और आनेस्टी है तो शिक्षा संस्थाओं में ही है, उन में वह आज भी बाकी है। बड़े बड़े प्रोफेसर्स और बड़े बड़े विद्वान लोग वहाँ पर हैं। ऐसी पवित्र संस्थाओं से हमें बड़ी बड़ी आशाएँ हैं। हमारे मंत्री जो एजुकेशन के हैं, वह भी बहुत योग्य हैं, बहुत जेंटल हैं। उन से मैं आशा करता हूँ कि वह इस काम में अपना बहुत ही सुन्दर सहयोग देंगे, बहुत ही अच्छा काम करेंगे। यदि उन्होंने ऐसा किया तो समाज का बहुत बड़ा कल्याण वह कर जायेंगे। उनका नाम रहेगा, समाज उनको हमेशा याद करेगा। साथ ही साथ देश का कल्याण होगा।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूँ।

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya (Serampore): Sir, I want to put only one question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya: I know of a case of a blind graduate in Birbhum. I have just now forgotten the name of that person,—but I can give it to the hon. Minister if he wants it. That graduate wrote to the West Bengal Government and also the Central Government, and he was trying to secure a job for the last two or three years. From the Centre he was sent to the local authority in the Birbhum district to provide him with a suitable job, but wherever he goes—whether it is a private employer or a school committee—he is refused employment. So,

my humble suggestion to the Education Minister is that those blind persons who have got a little education must be provided with suitable jobs, and an attempt must be made so that such deaf and dumb people also get jobs.

श्री चं० ला० चौधरी (महुआ) : यह जो प्रस्ताव माननीय सदस्या ने रखा है यह बहुत सुन्दर है और इस पर कई माननीय सदस्य बोलना चाहते हैं। मैं भी बोलना चाहता हूँ और मुझे आज तक बोलने का मौका नहीं मिला है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर।

Shri M. C. Chagla: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir . . .

श्री कछवाय : हिन्दी में बोलिये।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: His Hindi is as good as mine!

Shri M. C. Chagla: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, may I in the first place compliment the hon. Lady Member on the very noble cause she has espoused, and espoused with such eloquence. I had the occasion very recently to go to the institution which she is running, in which she is very much interested, and I found it was a splendid institution extremely well run.

There can be no doubt, as far as the policy of the Government is concerned, that it must fully support these physically handicapped people. There was a time in history when people thought that nothing could be done for those physically handicapped, blind, deaf and others, and that the people who are disabled should be left to themselves. All those ideas have changed and the view today is that there is no person, however physically handicapped, who cannot be trained and equipped to become a useful member of society. Therefore, these unfortunate people need not live the life of hopelessness and futility. Therefore, I agree that it is the duty

[Shri M. C. Chagla]

of the Government and the society to help these people as far as possible.

But as the hon. lady Member knows—I know it much too painfully—there are many desirable things which we cannot achieve. They are not practical, they are not realistic. The hon. lady Member wants all these children to be educated by the year 1970. Does she realise what that means?

Shri Nambiar: She only wants that a committee be appointed now to go into this.

Shri M. C. Chagla: I am only pointing out how difficult the achievement of this particular object is.

Shri Shinkre (Marmagao): The resolution does not mention only children; I think it speaks about everybody.

Shri M. C. Chagla: As you know, under article 45 of the Constitution, all children between 11 and 14 years have to get compulsory education, and our estimates show that the latest we can achieve that will be 1980 or 1981. That is with regard to normal children.

Look at the difficulties we have with regard to handicapped children. In the first place, we need a lot of equipment. It will be some time before we get equipment even for the existing institutions. Then we have got to train an adequate number of teachers. And, finally, as things are today, most of these institutions are either in towns or cities or near towns or cities and we cannot reach the villages. Therefore, a concerted attempt is necessary before we reach the villages to help them in this cause.

But, Sir, we have not been idle. I will tell you what has been done so far. We have at present about 109 schools and other establishments for the blind in the country with a total enrolment of about 5000. We have

68 schools for the deaf with a total enrolment of about 4000. We have 23 schools for orthopaedically handicapped children. We have about 12 schools for mentally deficient children. I sympathise with the hon. Member for her complaint that we have got no proper figures of these children. Last time the census was taken of these was in 1931. We have made a representation to the registrar of census that in the future census figures should be collected of these unfortunate disabled people. But roughly we have got these figures. They are 4,47,000 blind, 2,23,500 deaf and 4,47,000 orthopaedically handicapped. With regard to mentally deficient children, they must run to the figure of 15 lakhs or 18 lakhs.

I quite agree with the hon. lady Member that the economic and social significance of this large number of people not being useful to society is tremendous. My hon. friend over there talked about somebody who could not get a job, but we have a tremendous unemployment problem on our hands. It is not these people alone who are unemployed, but there are millions who are unemployed. Therefore, to say that we should get all these people not only rehabilitated but employed is a task which no government can face at the present moment.

Really, what should be done today is, as the hon. lady Member mentioned it, instead of talking of compulsion, we must give full support to voluntary organisations. There are many voluntary organisations which are doing this noble work, and I assure the hon. lady Member that the Ministry will give all possible assistance to voluntary organisations that it can. The hon. lady Member said that the Ministry of Education was showing a step-motherly treatment to this particular cause. I assure her that, as far as I am concerned, my treatment will be not step-motherly but the treatment of a natural mother.

She also complained about grants not being given in time. On the question of grants we are governed and regulated by the rules laid down by the Finance Department. Very often the grants are delayed because the utilisation of the previous grant has not been properly proved, the audited accounts are to be seen; utilisation certificates are to be sent before we can give another grant for the next year to the institution. I have known many a case where the institutions complain and ask: why have you not sanctioned the grant this year? But they forget that they have not satisfied the Ministry about what they have done with the previous grant. Really, that is the difficulty about grants.

Then the hon. lady Member said that proper advisers should be appointed to advise the Ministry. But she forgets that there is a National Advisory Council on which she herself is a member. We shall look forward to her to give us the best advice possible in this task.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: I meant the experts in the Ministry itself for day-to-day work.

Shri M. C. Chagla: I look upon the hon. lady Member as an expert herself. I have seen the fine work she is doing and I assure her that any advice given by her will be sympathetically listened to and, as far as possible, carried out.

I was benefited by what she said about the special advisory council meeting quite often. I will also look into the complaints that some of the recommendations have not been implemented.

Then she talked about scholarships. May I give you the figures about scholarships? We are giving scholarships to physically handicapped students for higher education or technical or supervisory training. During 1963-64 we have awarded 514 scholarships. During the current financial year we

propose to award 1,500 scholarships. But her suggestion that scholarships should be given to children who are in these institutions certainly deserves consideration. I will certainly see what can be done to either increase the number of scholarships or to divert some of the scholarships to the students who are really working in these institutions.

Now, may I also point out what we propose to do, what we are doing and what we have done in the past several years? We have already set up a comprehensive national centre for the blind at Dehra Dun and a training centre for the adult deaf at Hyderabad. We are proposing to set up two schools for mentally-deficient children, a training centre for adult blind in the South, a training centre for adult deaf in the north and a central rehabilitation centre for the orthopaedically handicapped in Delhi or Chandigarh during the next financial year. So, you will see that this is a case where there is no necessity for the appointment of a committee. We have an important national council. We make it as representative as possible and that council can advise us from time to time.

With regard to that part of the Resolution which wants this target to be achieved by 1970, it is absolutely not practicable. Therefore the most that Government can do is to give full support to this cause and to show every sympathy for that cause. I assure the hon. lady Member that any suggestions coming from her or from others who are interested in this cause will be sympathetically listened to.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shrimati Savitri Nigam.

Shri Shinkre: If she is withdrawing it, there is no need of a speech.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am extremely grateful to the hon. Education Minis-

[Shrimati Savitri Nigam]

ter for his noble assurance and I am quite sure that if he gives sympathetic consideration to this problem, there will be no difficulty in making a headway in this direction.

One hon. Member made a reference to one blind person who is unemployed. I can quote several examples of very highly qualified blind people who were already in service and who became blind during the tenure of service; even then they have not been given a job though it has been made clear by a Resolution in 1952 by the Home Ministry that people who are in the administrative job and have the ability to perform that job, if they become blind during the tenure of service, they will be given that job. I have got at least 200 cases of such people who became blind during service; still, they have not been given any job and they are unemployed. So, such are the difficulties of the blind.

I would also like to put forward one suggestion. If a special enquiry could be made or a special national welfare board for the handicapped could be formed on the pattern of the Social Welfare Board which could focus all its attention on and devote all its time to solving the problem of the blind, deaf, dumb and orthopaedically handicapped, the job of the hon. Minister and the Education Ministry would become much lighter and much easier and specific work in a planned way would be done.

I could not mention the training of the personnel. There are no training schools where these personnel could be trained. If it could be made obligatory on the part of the people who make the prospectus for the course in medical colleges that the rehabilitation and education of the handicapped should also be included, it would make a tremendous difference and improvement. Unfortunately, our doctors do not know anything about

physiotherapy; many of them do not know about occupational therapy. If these two things could be included at least in the syllabus of some medical colleges, things will be much improved.

Shri Chandrabhan Singh (Bilaspur): A medical student is told all those things.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: I am sure, occupational therapy is not being taught in medical colleges. This is a confirmed statement and I can challenge the hon. Member. Except for two or three schools, in ordinary medical colleges occupational therapy is not being taught.

Shri Chandrabhan Singh: I have been teaching for the last 25 years and I know what is taught in medical colleges.

Shri Nambiar: We have to believe a doctor-teacher.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: I would also like to say that keeping in view the assurance given by the hon. Minister and the difficulties described, I do not want to press my Resolution. But I would like to submit that enough time has not been given for this Resolution. Many hon. Members were very keen to speak on this Resolution. Specially when such subjects of national importance are involved, some more time should be given so that the attention of the entire nation is focussed on such problems which require the co-operation and the help of each and every individual who is capable enough to give his help.

With these words, I wish to withdraw the Resolution.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is Shri Sidheshwar Prasad also withdrawing his amendment?

Shri Sidheshwar Prasad: Yes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has the hon. Member, Shri Sidheshwar Prasad, the leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has the hon. Member, Shrimati Savitri Nigam, the leave of the House to withdraw her Resolution?

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

17.21 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE. PEOPLE'S PROCURATOR

Dr. L. M. Singhvi (Jodhpur): I beg to move the following Resolution:—

"This House is of opinion (a) that an Officer of Parliament to be known as the People's Procurator (Lok Ayukta), broadly analogous to the institution of Ombudsman in Sweden, Denmark and New Zealand, be appointed, under suitable legislation for the purpose of providing effective and impartial investigating machinery for public grievances, for eradicating corruption at all levels, for redressing administrative wrongs and excesses, for securing the liberties of citizens, and generally for strengthening the basic foundations of parliamentary democracy as a system of government;

(b) that the People's Procurator should be a person of known legal ability and outstanding integrity and should be appointed by the President of India on the recommendation of both Houses

of Parliament. The term of each Procurator shall be coterminous with that of each Parliament and a Procurator shall not be eligible for re-appointment as such and shall not accept any office of trust or profit at the disposal or in the dispensation of the Central Government or any State Government for at least ten years after his laying down the office of Procurator. The Procurator shall be removable only in accordance with the procedure laid down in article 124(4) of the Constitution.

(c) that broadly the People's Procurator or Lok Ayukta should have the following powers and functions:—'

(i) The Procurator shall have the power to investigate any decision or recommendation made or any act done or omitted, relating to a matter of administration affecting any person or body of persons in or by any of the Ministries and departments or by any Minister, Officer, employee or member thereof in the exercise of any power or function conferred on him by any Statutes, rules or directives. The Procurator shall make general and specific recommendations to the Government and shall suggest action against those, who in the execution of their official duties, have through partiality, favouritism or any other cause or consideration, committed any unlawful act or neglected to perform their duties properly;

(ii) The Procurator may make any such investigation either on a complaint made to him in accordance with requirements to be detailed in a suitable enactment or on his own motion;

(iii) Without limiting the foregoing provisions the Procurator shall also investigate any petition that may be referred to it