

System of Education

707. Pandit J. P. Jyotishi: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to take some concrete steps to change the system of education so as to eradicate communal feelings, linguism and casteism amongst the young progeny; and

(b) if so, what are they and how they are implemented?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). Government of India have appointed a Committee to examine the role of education in promoting emotional integration in national life, and to suggest suitable programmes in this regard. The Committee is yet to submit its report which will be examined in consultation with state governments.

Madurai University

708. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the steps taken to carry out the decisions of the University Grants Commission for starting of Madurai University?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): The University Grants Commission has not taken any decision for starting of the Madurai University. Establishment of new Universities is the concern of the State Governments themselves and the University Grants Commission only advises Governments concerned if such advice is asked for. The Government of Madras had referred the proposal for the setting up of a University at Madurai to the University Grants Commission and the latter had accepted it in principle in October, 1960. The matter is now pending with the Government of Madras for a final decision.

Heads of Public Schools

709. Shri Hem Barua: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Heads of Government recognised Public schools in Delhi have been visiting foreign countries at the expenses of foreign Governments; and

(b) if so, the purpose of these visits?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Government is not aware of any such visits by the Principals of Public Schools in Delhi during the recent years.

(b) Does not arise.

12 hrs.

MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT

(i) FIRING BY THE PORTUGUESE ON INDIAN FISHING BOATS

Mr. Speaker: There are two groups of adjournment motions. First, I will take this group—the adjournment motion by Shri Goray and a number of other hon. Members relating to this. I will read only Shri Goray's motion:

"Failure on the part of the Government to protect life and property on the western coast of Indian from the aggressive acts of the Portuguese forces stationed in Aje Div island, such as the recent firing during the last few days; firing on a coastal steamship hitting its engine room and secondly, on a country craft resulting in the death of one of the crew, and Indian citizen, Shri Kocharekar."

There are other adjournment motions also. This matter came up here on a prior occasion and the hon. Prime Minister said that they would look into this matter and find out what exactly the position was. (Interruptions). This is a subsequent event. I am only referring to what happened earlier. I am asking them to say what exactly the position is.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, when the first incident was referred to here, I said that I shall enquire into it further and I gave the information that I then had. As the hon. Members have said, this is the second incident from the same place. The Portuguese Government apparently has issued some kind of a statement which, we learnt from the BBC broadcasts yesterday, is to the effect that some Indian fishing boats went to attach this island. It is rather an extraordinary statement to make. However, I entirely agree with them that this is a serious matter. So far as I know, this island is almost uninhabited; except for some small Portuguese forces, nobody lives there and for them to go on firing in Indian waters is highly objectionable. We are not only enquiring but taking some steps too. I do not think that it will be proper for me to indicate before final decisions are taken as to what steps we should take.

Shri Goray (Poona): Sir, this island is just near the Karwar harbour and has become a sort of a resort to smugglers. This is in Portuguese possession and from there they are trying to obstruct our steamers and our countrycraft. In the Press we read the report today that the Karwar fishermen have now stopped their operations in these particular areas because they think that the Indian Government is not giving them sufficient protection. It is becoming more and more serious and I would like to get an assurance from the Government that these things will not be allowed to go on.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): I should also like to know from the hon. Prime Minister as to where exactly the incident took place. Did that incident take place within our home waters or on the high seas? It appears from the newspaper accounts that it had taken place within two miles from Karwar. If that is so, it is a serious matter and the Portuguese ship has actually entered our home waters.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no Portuguese ship anywhere there. Hon. Members perhaps get confused; there is no ship at all. Small forces of Portuguese are stationed on that island . . . (*Interruptions.*)

An Hon. Member: They have their garrisons there.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They fire from the island some odd soldier or individual . . . (*Interruptions.*) As far as the territorial waters are concerned, if one presumes—we do not—that the island is Portuguese then the respective territorial waters overlap.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): From the reports we find that the Portuguese authorities say that the passenger ship *Sabarmati* was passing through the territorial waters with a view to making preparations for attacking. We would like to know whether the Government have to say anything about an ordinary passenger ship going from Bombay to Mangalore being specified as a ship meant for attacking the Portuguese.

Mr. Speaker: When their statement is wrong, the hon. Members want the hon. Prime Minister to say that it is wrong . . . (*Interruptions.*)

Shri Goray: That shows the attitude of the Portuguese Government. What are you going to do about it?

Shri Indrajit Gupta (Calcutta—South West): Sir, the Portuguese statement claims that the Indian merchant ships which have been passing through these waters, when asked to identify themselves, failed to do so. If it is not clear whether it is our territorial waters or theirs or if they overlap, it is another matter. Have the Portuguese any right to ask merchant vessels to identify themselves? Have any such instances taken place before? If they had not taken place, could the Portuguese take action like this?

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): It has been said that the Anjudev island is an uninhabited island and it has become a source of constant trouble to us. The Portuguese have stationed their garrisons there which have become a nuisance to our fishing boats plying there. That is an uninhabited island, and we have got doubts whether it belongs to the Portuguese or not, and therefore, may I know why it is that we cannot drive out the Portuguese troops from that small island so that the waters might be safe? (*Interruption*).

An Hon. Member: Drive them from this country.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is a suggestion for action which Government will take into consideration. But I do not know whether any message was sent to the Indian ship and that they did not reply. I do not know that. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): Has it ever happened before? Formerly, what was the position when our ships were passing through that way? Did we have to give answers to their signals? That is the point.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have not heard of this before. It is a question which has not arisen before us; and we do not see why we should, except that in the case of security one has to find out. But it is an absurd proposition that the Government of India should send a countrycraft or a small passenger ship to go and attack that island. It is quite absurd. If we want to attack, we will take better measures to do it.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): Can the House be assured that no such incidents shall be allowed to happen there again?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: How can I give that assurance?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: We do not want to know the steps to be taken because that is a matter of security.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Might I suggest that we should take effective steps so that in future all this kind of thing may not take place? But I cannot give the assurance that tomorrow or the day after something or somebody else may or may not start firing! How can we give an assurance to that effect?

Shri Hem Barua: Let us have a force and expel the Portuguese from that Island and from Goa. (*Interruptions*).

Shri Braj Raj Singh: There were country-crafts.

Shri Goray: While the Prime Minister has said that the use of force is not ruled out, the Portuguese have started shooting already. Let us do the same thing.

Shri Hem Barua: Let us not wait.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We are considering what step; will have to be taken to prevent the recurrence of this kind of thing. We cannot possibly discuss them in detail here.

Shri Vajpayee: (Balrampur): The Prime Minister has given an assurance that steps are being taken. The second incident has taken place, and the same assurances are being given. Are we to understand that steps will be taken before the third incident occurs?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. You are not going to understand that. I cannot guarantee the Portuguese misbehaviour.

Shri Vajpayee: You can guarantee retaliation on the part of the Government of India.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May be; but if "retaliate" is the word used, we take action at the proper time. I cannot indicate what action we take. We

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.]

shall think about it—how best to take it, because in all these things, perhaps the hon. Member does not appreciate there are certain consequences, not specific local ones, but other wider consequences. I am not suggesting that we should not take steps. But I cannot indicate here in Parliament what steps are to be taken. It is not the way how the Government functions: that we tell them what we are going to do tomorrow!

Shri Goray: Why is it that everything is made to look so serious? It is a small thing; they have shot at us. We should shoot back. What is wrong there?

Shri Hem Barua: It would not be as extensive as the Prime Minister has pointed out. He said on a previous occasion also that he is afraid of the SEATO, the NATO and all that. I say that if we eject the Portuguese out of Goa, the SEATO or the NATO would not move. It is not as extensive as all that.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Hon. Members have had their say and have said all that they have got in their possession. So far as the facts are concerned, the hon. Prime Minister has assured the House that an enquiry is being made and as early as possible all steps will be taken. Of course, the time cannot be limited, and it must be left to the Government to decide what action is to be taken. I am sure every possible effort will be made to see that such incidents do not recur. The Prime Minister does not admit that the Portuguese have got a right to do it. He denies it. At the same time, what exactly has to be done is being thought of, and effective steps would be taken. I do not think it is necessary to discuss this matter any further. My consent to the Adjournment Motion is not given.

(ii) LATE RUNNING OF TRAINS

Mr. Speaker: There is another Adjournment Motion. It is about the late running of trains. This matter comes up frequently. The hon.

Minister says that there is wagon shortage; another Minister says there is difficulty in the movement of coal. The Adjournment Motion reads as follows:

"When 500 local students, who go to Ghaziabad for their studies, demonstrated at Delhi Main station to protest against the late running of trains, the General Manager, Northern Railway, disclosed that the trains had been running late for the last few days, because of difficult coal position in the area, and that the coal available was sub-standard."

There seems to be a general difficulty with regard to this matter.

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): I have ascertained the facts. For the last ten to 12 days, there has been some difficulty regarding the coal position. The locos that run between Ghaziabad and Delhi are operated from the loco shed at Ghaziabad. The loco coals are produced in West Bengal and Bihar coalfields. The Puja festival is a very important festival in Bengal and Bihar and naturally a large number of workers have absented themselves on the Puja holidays and the production and loading during the Puja holidays in Bengal and Bihar Coalfields were affected. As a matter of fact all the industries in that area are affected during the Puja holidays. The indents with the collieries were not fully met, and though the wagons were supplied and indents were made by the collieries, some of the indents were cancelled by them, and also the quality of coal was not up to the standard for the loco consumption. Therefore, the speed of the local trains between Ghaziabad and Delhi has been affected for the last one week. But steps have already been taken, and I think that the position is improving.

श्री मोहन स्वल्प (पीलीभीत) : मैं देख रहा हूँ कि करीब दो हफ्तों से तमाम लाइनों पर ट्रेनें लेट चल रही हैं। दिल्ली रेलवे स्टेशन का यह हाल है कि २, २ घंटे