

**SHRI P. M. MEHTA:** I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact or not that the employees had not resorted to the go-slow but they had implemented the rules meant for them in regard to their assignments. Also I would like to know whether the Government consider this as an act of offence or not under any rule. If so, what is the reaction of the Government to the method adopted by the employees' to work according to the rules?

**SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA:** I totally deny that the workers were working according to the rules. As a matter of fact, the policy of the Government is that the workload stipulated is the minimum, which does not debar a Government servant from putting in his very best.

**PILOT PROJECT FOR ORGANISATION AND UTILISATION OF SERVICES OF YOUTH IN DROUGHT AFFECTED AREAS**

\*1029. **SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a pilot project for the organisation and utilization of the services of youths in the country for programmes in drought-affected/famine-stricken areas;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) the outlay available for the same for Maharashtra?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA):** (a) A development-oriented educational programme called 'Youth Against Famine' has been sanctioned by the Government.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(c) A sum of Rs. 14,70,195 has been sanctioned to the universities in Maharashtra for work camps involving 8250 students and 2720 non-students.

**STATEMENT**

The salient features are stated below:

The scheme of Youth Against Famine is being organised by the Ministry of Education & Social Welfare in cooperation with the State Governments and voluntary organisations. The implementing agency will be the National Service Units of the universities.

**Objectives**

The objectives of the scheme are as follows:

Supplement the academic education of the university students by bringing them face to face with the realities of the rural situation.

To provide opportunities to youth to participate in nation building activities.

To provide opportunities to students and teachers to use their skill and learning for the service of the community around.

**Work Projects**

Work projects that would be taken for completion by the students and teachers should be such that it could be completed within the stipulated time. The nature of the project should be within the competence, capability and resources of the participants. Such projects when completed should become a community asset.

Such Work Projects should be undertaken with an assurance from the Government that it will look after the maintenance of the projects after their completion.

The scheme will involve one lakh youth during the summer of 1975. 75000 of them will be drawn from universities and colleges and the rest from the non-student youth. One thousand camps will be organised and each camp will have a population of 100 youth. The camps will be organised during the period April to July. Each camp will last for a period of 26 days. In case a big works project is undertaken in any place, then a series of camps may be organised at the same site.

The first two days and the last two days of each camp will be set apart for briefing and orientation and for evaluation and dispersal respectively. The remaining days will be treated as actual working days when the members will work on the construction projects during the day time. In the spare time, the students and teachers, in consultation with the village community, will take up work where they can use their skill and learning. Illustrative list of such programmes are informal education, village sanitation work, study of land reforms, the effect of bank nationalisation on rural economy and problems relating to distribution and sale of grains following nationalisation of the grain trade etc.

**Finance**

The scheme is being financed by the Central Government. The funds will be released directly to the universities and they, in turn, will release the funds to the colleges.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** My question related to the youth of the country in general, not merely students. In view of the fact that youth is a major power resource of our country, with a view to provide the largest employment to these young men, will Government have a programme of mass youth utilisation in completing big projects which are hanging

fire for a long time like the Rajasthan Canal where youth from all over the country can be utilised? Will Government consider such a scheme rather than dissipating the resources as mentioned in this statement where it is said, they are going to have one lakh youth in a dozen camps, at the rate of hundred youth in each camp and for only 25 days? We know our past experience with Bharat Sewak Samaj camps. Will you have concentrated work on such big projects?

**SHRI MOHAN DHARIA:** We are considering the question how the youth could be involved in such projects. But as the question related to the programme taken up by the Education Ministry and as even the outlay for Maharashtra was asked, I mentioned these figures.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** My question reads:

'Whether Government have formulated a pilot project for the organisation and utilisation of the services of youths in the country for programmes in drought-affected/famine-stricken areas'.

There are certain perpetually drought-affected and famine-stricken areas in Rajasthan and other parts. The question was about youth mobilisation in the entire country; Maharashtra was only incidentally mentioned. I have even written letters to the Planning Minister suggesting that we should take up the work of completing the Rajasthan Canal on a national basis where lakhs of youth could be mobilised. How long are you going to wait for such projects?

**THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI D. P. DHAR):** I would submit that we have to separate the question into two parts. As far as the second part of the question which has been so elaborately raised by the hon. member is concerned, namely, we must seek a programmatic participation of the youth in some of the developmental activities of the country, we are one with him in fulfilling this laudable objective. At the moment, the Planning Commission is engaged in consultation with the Education Ministry in drawing up such a programme. I acknowledge with gratitude the letter which he has written to me on this subject and we have taken note of his valuable suggestion. As a matter of fact, I intend at his convenience to have a more detailed discussion on this subject with him.

Regarding the other part of the question, the question as it was formulated led us to believe that it related to programmes which have been taken up by the Ministry of Education under the label "Youth against Famine".

The reply therefore has been directed to answer that part of the question. But, as I said, the larger question of the utilisation, involvement of the youth in constructive and developmental activities of the country, is one of big importance and is receiving the best attention at the hands of the Planning Commission.

**SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR:** Shri Sathe: asked a question about the youth in general, and not particularly about the students, but the Minister has chosen to reply mainly with reference to the students. Is the Government not aware of the fact that in universities and colleges there exist the National Cadet Corps and NSS i.e. National Service Scheme? Why is it that the Government has not given additional help to this NSS instead of creating a new organisation? Secondly, with regard to the non-student youths, there are a number of youth organisations. What steps are the Government taking to see that voluntary agencies dealing with scarcity problems in drought-affected areas are given additional assistance immediately so that they can meet this problem of famine-stricken areas effectively and in time?

**SHRI MOHAN DHARIA:** The hon. member will be happy to know that all these schemes are being implemented through the NSS and the money is made available to the Universities and the schemes are operated by the universities through the NSS.

Coming to youth organisations, there are several youth organisations in the country and it is difficult to identify this or that. The universities are perhaps the best possible agents and we are trying to utilise the best possible agency in the country.

**SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD:** Is it possible for the Government to differentiate between schemes which are more picnic-oriented and demonstrative, where nothing is found after the team has left, and schemes where something concrete can be shown even after the scheme has been made over to the community? At present the schemes that are taken are not found the moment the teams leave the place. Do Government propose to have some schemes where the youth can be mobilised and can be seen after the work is over at the site?

**SHRI MOHAN DHARIA:** The Education Ministry, while formulating this scheme, has taken into consideration the drawbacks existing in the past. Only such schemes are preferred where the State Governments have agreed to take care of maintenance. Co-ordination is maintained between the State Governments and these youth organisations which are coming forward.