

Agriculture-biased Education

*58. Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he is in favour of agriculture-biased education;

(b) if so, the extent to which it can be implemented; and

(c) the measures proposed to implement this policy?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education (Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad): (a) to (c). There is a considerable body of opinion favouring the idea of agriculture-biased education. But the effective introduction of such a bias is not an easy matter. The country has enough experience of agriculture as a subject at the primary and the secondary levels and of running agricultural courses in Agricultural Schools of one kind or another and multi-purpose schools. But none of these courses or programmes have gone far in either imparting adequate vocational competencies or in training young persons who would wish to go back to the land as practising farmers. The whole subject has been carefully reviewed by the 1966 Education Commission. The Commission has recommended "that some orientation of agriculture should form an integral part of general education, but not only at the secondary stage but also at the university stage and in all teacher education". The measures suggested by the Commission in this behalf include among other things:

(i) agricultural orientation of programmes in all primary schools including those situated in the urban areas;

(ii) inclusion of agriculture as an important part of work experience at the school stage; and

(iii) study of agricultural and rural problems as a part of Science and Social Studies syllabus at the lower and the higher secondary stages.

2. The recommendations of the Education Commission are at present under examination.

Laxmiratan Cotton Mills, Kanpur

*59. Shri Umanath:
Shri K. Ramani:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the investigations into the allegations of criminal breach of trust against Messrs. Laxmiratan Cotton Mills, Kanpur;

(b) when the investigations are likely to be completed; and

(c) whether Government propose to set any time-limit for the completion of the investigations?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) to (c). As a result of the searches made of the premises of M's. Laxmiratan Cotton Mills, Kanpur and its allied concerns voluminous records have been seized. These are under scrutiny and it is too early to say when the investigations are likely to be completed. Every effort is being made to complete the investigations as early as possible.

Indiscipline among Students

*60. Shri S. Supakar:
Shri N. E. Laskar:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether he was asked by the University Grants Commission some time ago to report on the causes and remedy of the students' indiscipline;

(b) whether the reaction of the Ministers of Education of the various States as to how to implement the

recommendations have been obtained; and

(c) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of Education (Dr. Triguna Sen): (a) and (b). The University Grants Commission had appointed in March, 1965 a Committee under my Chairmanship on Students Welfare and Allied Matters. The Committee submitted its report in October, 1966. The report was forwarded to the State Governments and Universities suggesting that the recommendations contained in the report could be useful in the formulation of programmes for the promotion of students' welfare.

(c) As no specific request was made to ascertain their reactions as to how to implement the report, the question does not arise.

Theft of Idols from Temples

95. Shri Baburao Patel: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of idols, of stone and metal, and other antique pieces stolen from different temples of India so far with their value and the names of the temples from where they were stolen;

(b) the steps taken to recover these stolen pieces and the number of those recovered so far and their value;

(c) the particulars of the culprits who stole them, their *modus operandi* and the punishment given to them; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent such thefts in future?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

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Export of Antique Pieces

96. Shri Baburao Patel: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the regulations governing the export or shipment overseas of antique pieces and other works of art;

(b) whether the person who exported the two-thousand-year-old Budha head found in the Swiss Museum in 1963 was prosecuted and punished;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the rare pieces at Sanganer Temple near Jaipur have been classified and listed and if so, their value?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education (Shri Sher Singh):

(a) The Antiquities (Export Control) Act, 1947, and The Antiquities (Export Control) Rules, 1947 prohibit export of antiquities except under a licence from Central Government, and prescribe the procedure for applying for licences.

(b) and (c). Government have no information about any Budha head found in a Swiss Museum. The State Police were however investigating into the theft of such a head from the State Museum at Mathura in 1961 which was later found with a Swiss art dealer. The piece was repatriated to India in 1966. It is not known whether the Uttar Pradesh Government have been able to catch the culprit and punish him and a reference to that Government for information has been made.

(d) The temple is not a centrally protected Monument and the pieces have not been classified or listed and their evaluation made.