

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

STRIKE NOTICE BY JOINT COUNCIL OF
DELHI TEACHERS' ORGANISATIONS

+

S.N.Q.5. SHRI D. C. SHARMA :
SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :
SHRI PRAKASHVIR SHASTRI :
SHRI SRINIBAS MISRA :
SHRI M. L. SONDHI :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Joint Council of Delhi Teachers' Organisations has given a notice of strike from the 1st of December, 1967;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Delhi teachers are demanding a revision of their grades in accordance with the memorandum that was submitted to the Prime Minister on the 5th May, 1966 on which no action has been taken so far; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not taking any action on the memorandum so far and when Government propose to take action thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(DR. TRIGUNA SEN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government is aware of the demand of the teachers for revision of their pay scales. The proposal in this regard was received from the Delhi Administration in February, 1967. Since then it has been under consideration of the Government. But no final decision could be reached yet because of financial stringency and other consideration.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA : May I know why some of these peaceful teachers, doing their peaceful work in a very peaceful manner, because they belong to a very peaceful profession, are being arrested ? Is it not a fact that they are being arrested under some Bombay Police Act which applies equally to those persons who interfere with law and who are called *goondas* ? Why is it that this is happening ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : Sir, you will agree that I cannot answer this question why they are being arrested.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Sir, on a point of order.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : The Minister should reply.

MR. SPEAKER : I will give opportunities to all of them to ask supplementaries.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The teachers are going on a general strike and when some teachers are coming here they are being arrested under the Goonda Act. Should we not expect a reply from the Minister when a question is asked about it ?

MR. SPEAKER : He can put a separate question or ask a supplementary when he gets his chance. Now, Shri D. C. Sharma.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA : The memorandum by the teachers of Delhi.....

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE : Sir, the Home Minister is leaving the House. You should ask him to remain here in the House until this question is over.

MR. SPEAKER : The Prime Minister is here.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : Sir, you should arrest the Home Minister..... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Will you all kindly sit down ? I will give you opportunities to put supplementaries. There will be no restriction.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : जो सवाल पूछा था उसका जवाब तो दिया नहीं है ।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : उप-प्रश्न पूछने का सवाल नहीं है । शर्मा जी ने एक उप-प्रश्न पूछा था जिसका शिक्षा मंत्री जवाब देने को तैयार नहीं हैं । गृह मंत्री जी सदन से उठ कर चले गये हैं । प्रधान मंत्री अपना मुंह खोलती नहीं है । यह क्या तरीका है ?

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : पहले प्रश्न का जवाब तो आ जाए । शुक्ल जी बैठे हैं । वह ही पहले प्रश्न का जवाब दें ।

SHRI D. C. SHARMA : The memorandum was presented to the hon. Prime Minister on the 5th May, 1966. May I know by what laws of transportation or communication or of inter-State relationship this memorandum reached the Delhi Administration so late and they gave their recommendations on this memorandum in the month of May 1967? If this memorandum took one year to reach from the residence of the Prime Minister to the Delhi Administration and back to the Ministry of Education, how long will it take for the memorandum to be accepted and given effect to by the Education Ministry? Will the same law of one year apply to the Education Ministry also?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : The demand for revision of pay scales of teachers was examined by Delhi Administration, rightly as Professor Sharma says, and sent to the Ministry of Education on the 6th February, 1967. The case of the teachers is that they have not had revision for the last 20 years whereas in other States revision has taken place. It came to us on the 6th February..

.....

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The Government has been of the Congress for these 20 years.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : and since then it is under the active consideration of the Government. The members and the Joint Secretary of the Joint Council of Delhi Teachers' Association saw me on the 23rd September, 1967. We had a long discussion and I did write to them after the discussion—I quote—

“In consonance with the discussions that you and your colleagues had with me this morning”.....

SHRI D. C. SHARMA : You wrote to me also.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I sent to you also a copy.

“I feel that it should be possible to arrive at a decision in principle on the question of revision of pay scales of Delhi teachers within a period of two months.”

Since then the Government are considering this. But the Council put forth several grievances, though in the body of the reply to the question only the question of revision of pay scales has been referred to as the main demand. I made it clear to the teachers concerned and to my friends also that I have always believed that the quality of education will not improve unless the status of the teachers and the conditions under which they serve improve.

SHRI S. KUNDU : Practise it now.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I told the teachers and I believe in it that any investment in the improvement of these conditions and the status of teachers to my mind is the most productive investment we can make in education.

SHRI NATH PAI : That is what all the three Five-Year Plans said also. What is needed is an ounce of action and not a ton of platitudes.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : We have to take into account a number of basic considerations: firstly, how do the present scales of pay of Delhi teachers compare with the scales of pay of teachers in other parts of the country; secondly, what would be the implication of a revision of the scales of pay of Delhi teachers on the pay structure of Government employees; and, thirdly, the resources positions. These three things we have to consider. We also discussed it yesterday; every day we are considering these. During these two months I have collected all the information about the pay structure of all the States, particularly of metropolitan cities. They are with me. Before I say anything, I must say that I totally disapprove of the agitational approach adopted by the Delhi teachers. I feel this is not the approach which the teaching community can justify in any circumstances, particularly when we are seized of the matter, looking into the whole situation with the utmost sympathy and care which is known to the teachers themselves. I am prepared to meet the delegation of teachers as well as the Members who have given notice of this Short Notice Question any day to discuss with them, to place facts before them and to be guided by them.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : श्रीमन्, इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं कि इससे बड़ी दुर्भाग्य की बात देश के लिये कोई और नहीं हो सकती कि राष्ट्र की नई पीढ़ी का निर्माण जिन हाथों में है, उनको हड़ताल और प्रदर्शन के लिए बाधित होना पड़े। लेकिन जैसी अभी चर्चा हुई 20 वर्षों से किसी प्रकार की उनके वेतन में वृद्धि न होने के कारण दिल्ली के शिक्षकों को हार कर इस प्रकार की हड़ताल और प्रदर्शन का सहारा लेना पड़ा। शिक्षा मंत्री जी ने अभी बतलाया कि दिल्ली प्रशासन से हमारे पास एक प्रतिवेदन आया था उसके आधार पर हम विचार कर रहे हैं और सहानुभूति भी उन्होंने प्रदर्शित की कि अध्यापकों को पूरा वेतन मिले या पूरा पेट खाने को मिले, इससे उनकी सहानुभूति है। अगर उनके शब्दों से निश्चित रूप से अध्यापकों का पेट भर जाता तो कोई हड़ताल करने की आवश्यकता उनको न होती। लेकिन प्रश्न तो यह है कि उनके बच्चे, उनके परिवार और उनके अपने निर्वाह का प्रश्न आज सामने है। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपको जो राय दिल्ली प्रशासन ने दी है वह क्या है? और आपका कहना है कि हमारे पास पैसा नहीं है इसलिए उनका वेतन नहीं बढ़ा सकते तो क्या आप सिद्धांत रूप में दिल्ली प्रशासन की रिपोर्ट को स्वीकार करते हैं? यदि स्वीकार करते हैं तो किस अनुपात में इन अध्यापकों का वेतन कम बढ़ाया जायगा इतना तो कम से कम आज आप बता दीजिए।

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : Taking the entire data into consideration throughout the country, the conclusion is inescapable that, by and large, the salary scales of Delhi teachers are about the best in the country.....(Interruption)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE Question.

R. TRIGUNA SEN :.....except in Punjab, Nagaland and Manipur.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : In Himachal Pradesh also.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : But even then, I agree, this best is not adequate in the present situation to attract suitable and qualified people to the profession if we sincerely desire to impart true education to the children. We are thinking seriously about emoluments and service conditions of teachers throughout the country. As I said, I am prepared to meet them and discuss with them and place the facts before them.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप ने मेरा प्रश्न सुना। मेरा प्रश्न बड़ा स्पष्ट था कि दिल्ली प्रशासन ने क्या रिपोर्ट अपनी दी है और उस रिपोर्ट से आप वहाँ तक सहमत हैं? उसके आधार पर कितना वेतन आप बढ़ायेंगे?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : As I said, it is not possible to accept the recommendations of the Delhi Administration.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : आप क्या स्वीकार कर रहे हैं? कुछ तो बताइए आज ताकि शिक्षक अपनी हड़ताल वापस लें या और कुछ उसके ऊपर प्रभाव पड़े? कुछ बताइए तो सही कि क्या आप स्वीकार करने जा रहे हैं?

AN HON. MEMBER : What are the recommendations?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : They have proposed different grades which are surely better than what there are now. But it is difficult to accept them *in toto*.....(Interruption).

AN HON. MEMBER : How much has he accepted?

MR. SPEAKER : He has answered it. Shri Srinibas Misra.

SHRI SRINIBAS MISRA : Dr. Triguna Sen, when he became the Education Minister, promised that if he does not remove their grievances within six months, he will

pack up to Varanasi. Is it not a fact that this assurance was given but it is not fulfilled? Is it not a fact that the difference in salaries of Delhi college teachers and Delhi school teachers who are of the same qualifications has gone on increasing during the last 20 years and that the scales of pay of school teachers have not been revised?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I request the hon. members who are very sympathetic with the teachers as I am, not to press for this information. As I said, I have collected the data from Madras, Bombay, Calcutta and all metropolitan cities. We must consider all of them together; we cannot just think of the teachers of Delhi as a unit. That is why I make this offer. I am agreeable to meet them, sit together and evolve a formula, any day..... (Interruptions).

AN HON. MEMBER : Tomorrow?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : Yes, tomorrow. I do not mind.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI : The unrest of the teachers in the capital city puts us to shame in the eyes of the world. I should like to know from the Minister whether his present attitude, as indicated in the remarks made just now, does not amount to a violation of the assurance given by the previous Education Minister when the previous Lok Sabha was discussing a measure on education in Delhi, when it was clearly stated that education in Delhi would be provided in such a way as to make it a model for the rest of the country. He can look into the debates and he will find this written there. Therefore, I would like to ask the Minister what specific steps the Minister has taken himself to improve the service conditions of teachers in Delhi on his own initiative since ultimately this matter is his own responsibility and he cannot pass it on to any one.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : If it is the policy of the Government to make Delhi a model, so far as teachers are concerned, I stay by the decision of the Government.

श्री प्रेम चंद वर्मा : मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि दिल्ली में हो नहीं बल्कि देश भर में अध्यापक अनुशासन-विरोधी कार्यवाहियाँ कर रहे हैं.....

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : गलत है।

श्री प्रेम चंद वर्मा : मेरी बात सुन लीजिए। उससे जो बच्चे हैं उनकी पढ़ाई पर बहुत बुरा असर पड़ रहा है। जब भी इम्तहान का समय आता है तो अध्यापक हड़ताल का नोटिस देते हैं। एक प्रदेश में नहीं बल्कि तमाम प्रदेशों में आज यह हालत है। बच्चे इम्तहान में बैठते हैं तो 50 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा फेल होते हैं तो क्या एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर अध्यापकों की कोई भी मांग मानने से पहले इस बात का विश्वास प्राप्त कर लेंगे या इस बात का कोई निश्चय उनसे ले लेंगे कि आइन्दा कभी वह हड़ताल नहीं करेंगे? .. (ब्यबधान) .. और उसके साथ-साथ जो अध्यापक आज राजनीतिक कार्यों में हिस्सा लेते हैं, सरकार ऐसी कोई भी उन की मांग पूरी करने के पहले उनके भूताल्लिक ऐसा एक कानून बनाए या ऐसा कोई रूल बनाए कि जिस से वह राजनीतिक कार्यों में हिस्सा न ले सकें।

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I do not believe that there should be any Act for this purpose. I totally disapprove of this agitational approach by the teaching community. I can only appeal to them that, if they have got any difficulty, they can meet me; I am prepared to meet them round the table, discuss with them and finalise it.

SHRI DATTATRAYA KUNTE : Is the Government prepared to accept any of the recommendations of the Delhi Administration and if so, which are those and how long will it take for the Government to come to a final decision on this? An early action is called for as the strike is to begin the day after tomorrow?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I have, through you, Sir, made an offer that I am prepared to meet them tomorrow, if they so desire—members of the teaching community or their delegations. Any member who has given notice of the Short Notice Question can also come; I have no objection.

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA : May I know whether it is a fact that the

examinations are to begin from 1st December ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : Yes.

SHRI S. KUNDU : The hon. Minister has said that he would give a hearing to the teachers. What I would like to urge on the Minister precisely is this. For the last 20 years, the pay scales of the Delhi teachers have not been revised whereas the pay scales and emoluments of other teachers, the teachers of colleges and University of Delhi have been revised. From 1962 till this day, the pay scales of the other teachers, particularly of the college and University teachers, have gone up from Rs. 100 to Rs.380.

It is well known to the hon'ble Minister that particularly the pay scale of a primary teacher in Delhi is less than the total emoluments earned by a Delhi chaprasi or a Delhi constable. This is really shocking and humiliating. In this case for what Dr. Sen as an educationist I have all respect, but as a Congressman I do not have. But I hope as an educationist he has the sympathy and kind-heartedness for the teachers and would specifically announce here what he is prepared to do in concrete terms so that the country may know it i.e. for the benefit of the country. Therefore I would request the hon'ble Minister through you, Sir, to announce here that while he will be discussing this matter, he is definitely going a step ahead to revise the pay scales.

MR. SPEAKER : You want an announcement here and now ?

SHRI S. KUNDU : I want him to accept the principle. That he said he would discuss. Let him also say.....

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I have accepted it, Sir. Surely it will be revised. Whether it is for their benefit or not, I cannot say.

SHRI NATH PAI : Is it going to be downward ?

श्री कंवरलाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, दिल्ली में 35 हजार अध्यापक हैं और 20 साल से उन के पे-स्केल, जैसा मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है, नहीं बढ़े हैं। इनके इलावा यूनिवर्सिटी टीचर्स के पिछले साल में दो बार स्केल बढ़

चुके हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या एडुकेशन मिनिस्ट्री ने फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री को यह कहा है कि इनकी मांगें जायज़ हैं और वे पे-स्केल रिवाइज़ होने चाहियें, लेकिन फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री इसको नहीं मानती ? दूसरे फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री को मनाने के लिए आप क्या कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं ? क्या मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि 20 साल पहले पंजाब और दिल्ली के टीचर्स के पे-स्केल में जो डिफरेंस था, वह आज कम रह गया है, इसलिये उनकी बात जस्टीफ़ियेबल है—तो आप फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री को किस तरह मनायेंगे ?

तीसरे, क्या मंत्री महोदय फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री, दिल्ली के पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर और टीचर्स के नुमाइन्दों को बुला कर जस्टी कल ही कोई इस तरह का रास्ता निकालेंगे कि जिससे हड़ताल न हो ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I have said that, Sir. I mentioned 'Government'. It means the Education Ministry, Finance Ministry and everybody concerned. We are discussing this matter. He knows it. But he is trying to draw me to a particular point. We are discussing this matter—how we can solve it. And I appeal to the teachers to withdraw the strike notice, not to go on strike, and as I said I am prepared to meet them even tomorrow, day after or any time.

AN HON. MEMBER : Even today ?

श्री कंवरलाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने एक पार्टीकुलर सवाल पूछा था। क्या आपकी मिनिस्ट्री ने फाइनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री को लिखा है कि पे-स्केल रिवाइज़ होने चाहियें।

MR. SPEAKER : I think Mr. Gupta will take the initiative. He said he is prepared to meet. Some of you may take the initiative.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : We will take the initiative, Sir, but my pointed question was : whether the Education Mini-

stry has written a letter to the Finance Ministry recommending their case. That is the particular question.

MR. SPEAKER : No, No. (*Interruptions*).

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : Naturally, we are discussing it, Sir.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK : The hon'ble Minister just now said that he is very sympathetic to the demands of the teachers, but there is the question of financial stringency. May I know, Sir, whether the total revenue the Central Government gets from Delhi is about Rs. 80 crores and the total disbursement by the Central Government to Delhi Administration is Rs. 35 crores ? In fact, in view of that, may I know why the Central Government, when it gets so much income from Delhi, should not give some more money to the Delhi Administration for giving better emoluments to the teachers ?

Secondly, may I know whether it is a fact that the Delhi Administration has suggested that, if they are given the freedom to make use of the economy that they make which they will do in their own way, they will do it and they can partially meet the demands of the teachers, but this suggestion has not been accepted ? They are told, "Whatever economy you make, that economy will come to us; you cannot be allowed to use that economy in your own way". If that is so, is it not a policy of dog in the manger and is it not wise that that policy is given up ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I did not say that we are withholding it only on account of resources position. Sir, I cannot answer this question, but, as a layman I feel that the resources of one place are not meant to be utilised only for that place. We consider India as a whole. So, his approach, I am sorry, as a layman, I cannot approve of (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK : What about the second part of my question, that if the Delhi Administration makes economy, will you allow them to use that economy for improving the emoluments of teachers ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I think it is for the Finance Minister to answer. I cannot say.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या दिल्ली के अध्यापकों को गुण्डा-एक्ट के आरोप लगा कर गिरफ्तार किया जा रहा है ? मेरे पास चिट्ठी आई है कि जेल के अन्दर उनको जो श्रेणी—ए० या बी०—दी जानी चाहिये, वह न देकर, कई तरह की उनको यातनायें दी जा रही हैं ? इसका क्या कारण है ? क्या गृह मंत्री महोदय ने पता लगाया है कि उनको किस आरोप में गिरफ्तार किया है, कौनसी श्रेणी दी गई है, उनको क्या-क्या सुविधायें मिलनी चाहियें और वे उनको क्यों नहीं मिल रही हैं ?

MR. SPEAKER : Will Shri Onkar Lal Berwa sit down ? When I am on my legs, he should sit down.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : अध्यक्ष महोदय ये जेलों में जायें और पता लगायें कि उनको कौन-सी श्रेणी मिल रही है । क्या कारण है कि उनको यातनायें दी जा रही हैं, क्या वे चोरी करके गये हैं, अध्यक्ष महोदय, इसका जवाब दिलाया जाय ।

MR. SPEAKER : When the question is addressed to a particular Minister, I cannot compel the other Ministers, because they are in the House to answer. I have no right to compel them.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इनको वहाँ जाकर मालूम करना चाहिये

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member may kindly sit down. It is very unfortunate that he does not understand what I am saying. It is true that the other Ministers are there. But let the hon. Member show me under what rule I can compel another Minister to answer it. The question is put to the Education Minister, and I can ask him to answer the question.

Today, at 4 p.m. the Rules Committee is meeting, and I would request the leaders to come and discuss. If the House gives me the power I can ask anybody to get up and answer and any question could be put; I do not know whether if anybody puts up any question any Minister will be able to answer. If it is possible, I do not mind; but I do not think that any Minister anywhere in the world will be able to get up and answer any question at any time.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपकी बात से सहमत हूँ कि आप किसी मंत्री को उत्तर देने के लिये विवश नहीं कर सकते । लेकिन जब प्रश्न शिक्षा मंत्री से पूछा गया है और यदि शिक्षा मंत्री उत्तर देने में समय नहीं हैं, तो क्या यह गृह मंत्री का काम नहीं है कि शिक्षा मंत्री की मदद के लिये आयें । इस सदन को जानकारी चाहिये, दिल्ली में कोई असेम्बली नहीं है, अध्यापक 1 दिसम्बर से हड़ताल करने जा रहे हैं—यदि आज उत्तर दिया जाना सम्भव नहीं है तो गृह मंत्री के नाम पर हमारा दूसरा अल्पकालिक प्रश्न कल के लिये स्वीकार करें ।

MR. SPEAKER : Anyway, he has given whatever answer he could. I cannot compel any other Minister now.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : कम्पलेशन का सवाल नहीं है, मंत्रियों को भी कुछ लिहाज सदन का है या नहीं है ।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): If you ask me to reply I shall definitely give the reply that is with me. I would like to give the information to the House but only if you call upon me to do so.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall be very happy if he can give the information and throw some light on the matter. The strike is beginning the day after tomorrow, and everybody is naturally concerned, including the Members on the Congress Benches and I

think, everyone of the Ministers also; naturally, the Education Minister is also concerned at this and he is prepared to talk to them tomorrow. Therefore, if he can give some information, the whole House will be very happy, and I would also be very happy.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : As far as the arrest of the teachers is concerned, action has been taken by the Delhi Administration without any consultation with the Central Government or the Home Ministry. We are not aware of the section, the rule or law under which they have arrested them. As regards complaint about maltreatment of teachers in the Bihar Jail, I have no information at present but I shall definitely make the enquiries.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA : The Delhi Administration is Jan Sangh administration.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Apart from giving the strike notice, as was known to the Education Minister, a batch of teachers, four in number, was on hunger-strike for 24 hours from 23rd November, 1967 and this will continue up to the 30th and it will culminate with a general strike on the 1st December, 1967. I am happy that the Education Minister is prepared to meet them. It is quite clear from what the Home Minister has said that this action has been taken by the Delhi Administration and the Home Ministry is not concerned with it. Before negotiations start with the teachers, may I get an assurance from the Prime Minister that all these cases against the 12 teachers who have been arrested under the Goonda Act—they are the builders of the nation but we find that they have been arrested under the Goonda Act—will be withdrawn ? Will the hon. Prime Minister intervene in the matter and see that the cases are withdrawn before the Education Minister has a talk with them ? I would like to have a sympathetic assurance from the Prime Minister in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : The Home Minister has stated that he will look into it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : It is about withdrawal of cases. Let a reply come from her.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : Kindly allow a half hour discussion on this.

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot promise now. Let notice be given.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : She is prepared to reply.

MR. SPEAKER : No, she is not.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Can the Minister of Education reply then ?

MR. SPEAKER : He put a question about the arrested persons being released and he wants the Education Minister to reply ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : To create favourable conditions for negotiations.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : He has asked me a question. I was told that the teachers were arrested by the Delhi Administration. I do not know. For his information, I can tell him that when I read the news about 4 teachers having gone on hunger strike in the papers on the 25th morning, I myself went to meet them and discuss with them. I did not find anybody there. I searched the whole compound and came back. Then I was told that the Delhi Administration had arrested them. So I could not talk to them.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I am talking about withdrawal of cases.

श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : मंत्री जी ने कहा कि अध्यापकों को समाज में एक आघात देने के लिये उनकी तन्खवाह बढ़ना और उनको इज्जत मिलनी आवश्यक है। साथ ही उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि उसका सरकार के दूसरे महकमों पर क्या असर पड़ेगा, इसे भी सरकार सोच रही है। क्या मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि मौजूदा आर्थिक तन्त्र में जो स्थान अध्यापकों का है, उसे उससे बाहर निकाल कर वह उनको कुछ ऊंचा स्थान देना चाहते हैं या नहीं ? अगर नहीं, तो फिर आप सीधी-सीधी बात कहिये कि आप उनकी मांग नहीं मान सकते।

दूसरी बात यह कि अध्यापकों ने कभी हड़ताल नहीं की, उन्हें हड़ताल की आदत नहीं, वह चाहते भी नहीं। एक दिन की हड़ताल उन्होंने की थी, बाद में उसके प्रायश्चित्त में उन्होंने इतवार को भी पढ़ाया। क्या मंत्री महोदय के दिमाग में यह बात है कि जब तक वह पक्के हड़ताली नहीं बन जाते तब तक उनकी बात न मानी जाये ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I have never said, 'let them withdraw the strike; then I will do it'. I rather appeal to them to help by ending the strike. I am prepared to discuss with them whether they withdraw it or not.

श्री शिव कुमार शास्त्री : सरकार की प्रायः मनोवृत्ति यह हो गई है कि जब कोई झगड़ा बहुत बढ़ जाता है और सर से पानी गुजरने लगता है, तब फिर वह उसका खयाल करने का प्रयत्न करती है। यह बात सत्य है कि परसों से हड़ताल होने जा रही है और आवश्यक है कि अभी से उसके उपाय सोचे जायें। क्या प्रधान मंत्री जी इस प्रकार का यत्न करेंगी कि वह सम्भावित हड़ताल न होने पाये ?

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Nath Pai.

SHRI NATH PAI : My question is very simple. It seems there is a paucity and shortage of resources, but it seems, at the same time, that there is an abundance of sympathy. I do not think that the tears that the Education Minister shed were crocodile tears. I suspect that he was really very sincere (*Interruptions*). I did not say 'I doubt.' The Professor should know that there is a difference between 'suspect' and 'doubt'. I suspect he is really sincere.

In view of the widespread sympathy that is flowing in such abundance in the House from all the Ministers, may I know whether as an earnest of their sincerity and to create necessary conditions, they will take the first simple step, which does not require any resources, of releasing the arrested men ? (*Interruptions*). If the reply does not come, I shall quote the Constitution. If

shelter will be taken that this is the action of the Delhi Administration, it will not be a fair enough reply because law and order comes under the Union Home Ministry. Let the Prime Minister or somebody else say 'that since we want to end this unhappy episode, we are going to release them so that the necessary background is created.'

आपको उनको छोड़ देना चाहिए । कुछ तो बोलिए क्या आज आपका मौन का दिन है ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I have already said we would look into the matter. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI NATH PAI : What an amazing reply !

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज : शिक्षकों की जो मांगें हैं उनमें एक मांग यह भी है कि आज जो दिल्ली प्रशासन की, दिल्ली नगर निगम की और सहायता प्राप्त, तीन किस्म की शालायें चलती हैं, उन तीनों को दिल्ली प्रशासन के अख्यार में लिया जाये । इसमें कोई पैसे का प्रश्न नहीं आता है । मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस मांग के बारे में क्या उन्होंने अपनी कोई राय बनाई है । शिक्षकों की जो दूसरी मांग है अगर उस को पूरे तौर पर दिया जाये तो कितना पैसा लगेगा, अथवा जो आप ने पंजाब, नागालैण्ड और मणिपुर का जिक्र किया, अगर उस स्तर पर तन्ख्वाह दी जाये दिल्ली के शिक्षकों को तो कितना पैसा लगेगा ? पैसे के बारे में मैं इतना ही बतलाऊँ कि पिछले तीन महीनों में प्रधान मंत्री से ले कर बाकी मंत्रियों तक ने जो दुनिया का भ्रमण किया है और उस पर जो पैसा खर्च हुआ, उससे ज्यादा पैसा इस काम में नहीं लगेगा । क्या मंत्रियों को भ्रमण के पैसे का कोई ख्याल नहीं आता है ?

MR. SPEAKER : That is not part of the supplementary.

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इन प्रश्नों का जवाब आना चाहिये । क्या

इसका विचार किया गया है पिछले महीनों में ?

MR. SPEAKER : If you do not have the correct figures, you say that.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I am told that if we adopt the pay scales as recommended by the Delhi Administration, it will cost about Rs. 95 lakhs.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE : Only.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : As I explained, it is not only the resources position, but its effect on the teachers of the other parts has also to be considered.

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज : एक बात का जवाब नहीं आया । शिक्षकों की जो मांग है कि तीनों प्रकार के स्कूलों को दिल्ली प्रशासन के नीचे लाया जाये, उस के बारे में आप ने क्या सोचा है ? इसमें पैसे का कोई प्रश्न नहीं है ।—क्या इसका जवाब नहीं है ?

श्री मधु सिमये : मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है ।—क्या हमेशा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठाने पर ही उत्तर दिये जायेंगे ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : As I said, there are also these administrative questions. (*Interruptions*).

We are more interested in settling the pay scales and not the other points. So, we are pursuing the salary scales.

SHRI TRIDIB KUMAR CHAUDHURY : The hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs just now informed us that he does not know under what section and under what charges these teachers were arrested, and the Education Minister informed us that on the day of the hunger strike he went to meet them, but before he could go and have any talks with them, these people were whisked away by the police. Will the Home Minister look into it and see whether there was any conspiracy on the part of some persons in authority so as not to allow them to have any negotiations with the Education Minister ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I have said we would look into it.

SHRI A. E. T. BARROW : When the Central Government raises the dearness allowance of the Central Government servants, it does not take into account its effect on the State Government servants. Why is the Education Minister so concerned now about raising the salaries of Delhi teachers because it is going to affect the teachers in the States ? The principle must be the same.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : Yes; the principle is the same; so far as the Education Ministry is concerned, we are concerned with the pay-scales of the school teachers all over India. I made it clear already.

श्री एल० एम० जोशी : मंत्री महोदय ने बताया है कि वह गिरफ्तार शिक्षकों के बारे में विचार करने जा रहे हैं। क्या वह बता सकते हैं कि अगर शिक्षकों के ऊपर हिंसा का कोई आरोप नहीं है तो वह उन्हें छोड़ देंगे ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I have said so; that we shall consider all the aspects.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE : The hon. Minister has stated that it would not be possible for the Government to accept the demands *in toto*. Does he mean to say that he is prepared to meet the teachers half-way ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : Whether it is half-way or one-fourth way, I cannot say.

MR. SPEAKER : He is prepared to meet them and discuss it.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : Yes; I said that.

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOEL : The Education Minister has realised that the trade union methods will not be good for the teachers. He also realises that this will mean dislocation of studies in the schools when the examinations are so near. May I know, when he received the strike notice what steps has he taken to prevent the im-

pending strike ? Why does he stand on false prestige and leave the initiative to the other persons rather than extending an invitation to the teachers' representatives themselves and try to solve, the problem ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : I have no notions of false prestige or benefit. As I explained to Mr. Banerjee, I myself went to meet them and discuss it. I do not stand on any false prestige.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. SPEAKER : We have spent 45 minutes on this one question, because it is a burning question. Tomorrow or the day after, the teachers want to go on strike. I am glad that the Minister has said that he is prepared to meet them tomorrow.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE : They are behind bars.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us see. The hon. Home Minister says he will also consider it. On the floor of the House, I do not expect the hon. Ministers to simply say something. The hon. Members could go and talk to them and I hope some solution will be found by tomorrow so that the day after tomorrow there would not be any trouble.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

एजल में स्कूल की इमारत में आग

- * 334. श्री रामजी राम :
श्री रामावतार शर्मा :
श्री शिवकुमार शास्त्री :
डा० सूर्य प्रकाश पुरी :
श्री भोगेन्द्र झा :

क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि छात्रों ने अभी हाल में एजल में एक कालेज की इमारत पर आग लगा दी थी;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि मिर्जो जिला परिषद् के मुख्य कार्यकारी सदस्य ने इसका कारण अपर्याप्त सुरक्षा व्यवस्था बतलाया है;