

RAJYA SABHA

*Friday the 21st March, 1997/30 Phalgun,
1918 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,
Mr. Chairman in the chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Demands of K.V. Teachers

*381. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have held any bilateral talks with the Rashtriya Kendriya Vidyalaya Adhyapak Sangh (RKVAS) (J) under whose auspices teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas have threatened to launch a phased agitation from 1st April, 1997, in case their demands were not accepted by the 15 March, 1997; and

(b) if so, the details there of and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI
S. R. BOMMAI): (a) and (b) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan held a meeting with the representatives of Rashtriya Kendriya Vidyalaya Adhyapak Sangh (J) on 12.03.1997 to discuss their demands. An appeal was made to the Association not to launch the proposed agitation since their demands are under consideration.

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Sir, as far as the reply of the hon. Minister goes, I feel it is a good gesture, because at least as recently as a week back, the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan held meetings with the representatives of these organisations. But, Sir, these problems have been pending for quite a long time, for almost three years. These talks were held at the official level. In spite of the good gesture shown at the official level talks, the issues

could not be clinched as officers are not competent to take policy decisions. In order to assuage the feelings of the large number of employees who are working in these institutions, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister would personally hold direct discussions or ask his assistants to hold discussions with the employees at the Ministry level so that their agitation could be stopped and an amicable settlement could be reached.

SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: Sir, I am glad to inform you that most of the demand have been considered by the representatives and a solution found to some of the pending issues. They were held in a very cordial atmosphere. Settlement on most of their demands, except one or two, will take place shortly. Regarding the remaining issues, they will be brought to me for a policy decision. I may assure the hon. Member that most of the problems have been sorted out at those meetings. There are seven organisations. On different days talks were held and practically all their problems will be sorted out. If necessary, at the Ministry level I am prepared to hold a meeting.

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Thank you, Sir, for the assurance given. Against this background, by second question assumes additional importance.

Up to 1994, these four or five organisations representing teachers were represented on the Board of Governors of the KVS. From 1994 onwards this representation was removed. It was in pursuance of a decision taken by the Janata Government earlier, probably the Human Resources Development Minister, Shri Arjun Singh, had announced in the House that the employees would be represented on the Board of Governors so that there is a better interaction and greater understanding between the employees and the authorities. He pursued it for three years and they were there, but, all of a sudden these members were removed. In a subsequent answer in this

House it was said that the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan had reported that the rules of the Sangathan do not provide for representation of the employees on the Board of Governors. Sir, this is an enabling provision. In Clause 19(8), it is an enabling provision. In spite of that the Government can nominate. The Government had actually nominated and they were there for a term of three years. Ultimately, this is also one of the causes for estrangement between the authorities and these organisations, not one organisation but representatives of the organisations. I would request the hon. Minister to concede this point while he is trying to arrive at an agreement. Can I get some positive indication from the hon. Minister?

SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I assure the hon. Member that I would consider his proposal of nominating. I would consider it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. R. K. Kumar.

SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: My name is also listed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, please, please. Your name is there. Shiv Charan Singhji.

श्री शिव चरण सिंह: माननीय सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी ने उत्तर दिया है कि उनकी मांगों पर विचार-विमर्श के लिए 12.3.1997 को बैठक की। मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी को कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह बैठक अधिकारी स्तर की थी। उनकी नीति-निर्णय लेने का कोई अधिकार नहीं है। नीति-निर्णय लेने का अधिकार मंत्री को है। फिर आपने क्या किया? आपने तो बैठक की ही नहीं। मान्यवर, मैं इस बारे में लगातार चार सालों से प्रश्न करता चला आ रहा हूँ। माननीय मंत्री जी और पूर्व मंत्री श्री अर्जुन सिंह जी के जमाने में से सारी प्रबलम अटक रही है। मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूँ कि मैंने प्रश्न संख्या 639 दिनांक 29 जुलाई, 1994 पूछा था। इस प्रश्न के उत्तर में माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह माना था कि:

"On the 1st April, 1994, the Minister of Human Resource Development discussed the matter with the two Members of Parliament. This was

followed up at the level of the Vice-Chairman, KVS, in detail with the Members of Parliament as well as with the Association on 2.4.94. As agreed in consultations, specific agreement of KVS for 16 demands has been conveyed."

मान ली उन्होंने, यह 1994 में मानी है। मेरे प्रश्न के उत्तर में कहा गया है कि हमने 16 डिमांड मान ली है। आज भी उन 16 डिमांडों के बारे में सारी बातें अटक रही हैं। मान्यवर यही नहीं, जुलाई, 1994 में तत्कालीन मानव संसाधन मंत्री ने मुझे पत्र लिखा। जिसमें कहा गया है कि:

"Former MP and the representative of the employees met the officials on 2.4.94. As a result of this, 16 demands of the employees have been accepted by the KVS."

ये सारी बातें एक्सेप्ट हो गई थी। तो अक्सेप्ट होने के बाद अब विचार करने का प्रश्न क्या है, अब बैठक करने का प्रश्न क्या है? इनका इम्प्लीमेंटेशन क्यों नहीं हुआ? मान्यवर, मंत्री जी ने जो अभी कहा कि उनकी जो डिमांड मानी है वे हैं:

"(1) Recent recruitment of PRTC, TGTS, etc., Their postings, declaration of the select panel regarding direct recruitment before issuing of posting orders.

यह नम्बर एक पर है। संगठन ने यह मांग नहीं की है। संगठन ने जो मांग की है वह दूसरी है। ये गलत बता रहे हैं। संगठन ने यह मांग की है कि:

"Review of wrongful practices indulged in the recent recruitment of the primary teachers, trained graduate teachers, PGT, Principals and Asst. Commissioners and also their posting."

उनकी मांग यह थी। मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस पूरे प्रकरण का वे अध्ययन करें। नौकरों के बताने पर आप न चले, आप उन पर डिपेंड न करें। प्रधानमंत्री जी ने कल ही कहा है कि कैबिनेट डिसीजन को भी मान्यता नहीं होती। मान्यवर, नीचे ऐसे कितने लोग हैं जो आपको मिसलीड कर रहे होंगे। यह मामला पिछले 6 साल का है। कृपा करके इसका अध्ययन करें। मैंने आपसे निवेदन किया मिलने का। मान्यवर, यह मेरे पहले नंबर का प्रश्न है। मेरा यह प्रश्न देखकर माननीय मंत्री जी ने मुझे कल

10.30.-10.45 बजे वह टाइम दिया। मैंने कहा कि मैं आपके खिदमत में हूँ। तो कृपया मुझे स्पेसिफिक उत्तर दिलवाइए मंत्री जी से कि इसके बारे में वे क्या कर रहे हैं। 16-प्लाइंट को जो मांग मान ली है उस पर इम्प्लीमेंटेशन क्या होगा।

SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, most of the demands have been agreed to between the unions and the KVS. They have also agreed not to go on strike. They are placing the matter before their executive. Everything is being settled. Only one policy matter is there on which I would take an early decision. Other demands have been conceded and there is no pendency. On one policy matter a final decision will have to be taken. It would be done shortly. When the unions are not complaining, when they have agreed not to go on strike, most of the demands would be finalised within a short period. I can assure the hon. Member that all those demands which have been agreed to would be implemented, as early as possible.

श्री शिव चरण सिंह: जिस तरह से डिमांड मानी गई थीं उनको बदल दिया गया, उसको आप एग्जामिन करइये (व्यवधान)

SHRI R. K. KUMAR: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact for applicants for the posts of teachers of different categories, knowledge of Hindi forms part of the essential or desirable qualifications; if so, whether it is not discriminatory against applicants from non-Hindi speaking areas. If the answer is 'yes', will that practice be stopped?

SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: Sir, knowledge of Hindi is essential. The Kendriya Vidyalaya schools are meant mainly for the children of transferable employees of the Government of India. There is every possibility of those employees being transferred to different areas in the country. Therefore, knowledge of Hindi is essential. They should have the knowledge of Hindi. Then only it will be easy for them to move one place to another.

श्री ईश दत्त यादव: माननीय सभापति जी, केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन में अध्यापकों की और इसमें काम करने वालों की 9 श्रेणियाँ हैं लेकिन केवल तीन श्रेणियों के लोग पोस्ट प्रेजुयेट टीचर, ट्रेड प्रेजुयेट टीचर और प्राइमरी टीचर, इनकी प्रमोशन के लिए व्यवस्था की गई है और बाकी जो 8 कैटेगरी के लोग बचते हैं, उनके लिए कोई प्रमोशन की व्यवस्था नहीं है। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूँगा कि क्या सरकार इस पर गंभीरता से विचार करेगी कि बाकी 8 श्रेणियों के जो लोग बचे हैं, उनके प्रमोशन करने के लिए अपने कानून में व्यवस्था करेगी क्योंकि इसके साथ अन्याय हो रहा है। तीन श्रेणियों के लोग तो कमिश्नर की पोस्ट तक जा सकते हैं जो हाइयेस्ट पोस्ट है और बाकी 8 श्रेणियों के जो अध्यापक हैं जिस पद पर उनकी नियुक्ति होती है उसी पद पर ही रह जाते हैं। इसलिए क्या आप इस पर विचार करेंगे और इन लोगों को प्रमोशन देंगे?

SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: Sir, it is a very good suggestion. I will consider it sympathetically and take action.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Sir, I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. Will he think of disciplining the organisation also so that they may not go out of the Government guidelines and directions? Particularly, I would like to draw his attention to today's news headlines which are to the effect that teachers are taking a decision, passing a resolution, against the reservation policy which is a national policy, which is the policy of the Government. Will the Minister make up his mind to first discipline this organisation which is drawing a huge amount of grants and ask them to fall in line with the national policy and the Government conditions?

SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: I do agree with the hon. Member that Government employees should be disciplined and they should not publicly go against the policies of the Government. And if there is any particular instance....

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: You may kindly see today's newspapers.

SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: I am replying to you. They should be disciplined. Action will be taken if they are

indisciplined. If there is any particular instance, I will take action.

श्री ईश्वर चन्द्र गुप्ता: क्या मंत्री महोदय की जानकारी में है कि अध्यापकों और छात्रों की संख्या केन्द्रीय विद्यालयों में कम हो रही है? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले दो वर्षों में अध्यापकों की और छात्रों की संख्या में कितनी कमी हुई है?

SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: The student population is not decreasing. It is increasing rather.

श्री ईश्वर चन्द्र गुप्ता: छात्रों की संख्या में कितनी कमी हुई है, अध्यापकों की संख्या में कितनी कमी हुई है?

SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: The total number of . . . (Interruptions).

श्री ईश्वर चन्द्र गुप्ता: अगर यह सूचना उनके पास नहीं है तो यह सूचना तो उनके पास होगी कि कितने विद्यालय बंद हो चुके हैं जो पहले चल रहे थे?

SHRI S. R. BOMMAI: I am telling you. The total number of schools—859; Defence sector—364; Civil sector—328; project sector—167. Then, total staff strength—46226. Total enrolment of students—7,21,598. There is no decrease of students.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister wants us to believe that he will take a final decision on the teachers' problems very soon. I have got a list of the demands that they have raised before the Minister. You may take a decision as you promised earlier in this House in respect of those two admissions by MPs that you would get they stay orders vacated early. You took that decision. I have got a copy of your decision. Sir, I would like to read out the same, with your permission. I quote:—

“ES and I discussed this file with HRM today. It was decided that as recommended by the Committee of MPs, the ceiling on special Dispensation admissions would be ten per cent.”

It was signed by R.B. Vaidyanath Ayyar on 13.9.96. It was signed by the HRM, S.R.Bomma. Mr. Minister, you identify

your signatures. Now, what affidavit have you filed in the High Court? In the affidavit filed in the High Court, they have said something else. This gentleman, who is known as Joint Commissioner, Academics, Mr. Puran Chand, has filed an affidavit against your decision, which as signed by you. What did he say? He said: “It is, therefore submitted that in view of the directives issued by the Cabinet Secretary, the admission on Special Dispensation in the schools under the KVS, stands abolished, and no admission shall be made under the said category.” No decision is there. It was signed by you. I have got a photostat copy of that. Mr. Minister, you identify your signatures. Your officer had filed another affidavit in the High Court where he said that the Special Dispensation admissions have been abolished. How do we believe your assurance in this House regarding the teachers' problems then?

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: Firstly, the question put by the hon. Member does not pertain to the question under reply. (Interruptions)

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Do you want us to believe the assurance given by you? You gave the assurance in this House that you would get the stay order vacated. You took a decision on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee of MPs. You decided it. You signed it. You had put your signatures on that note. (Interruptions)

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: That was a note prepared earlier. In the High Court, while making our submissions, the decision taken on the basis of the recommendation of the Committee of MPs has also been brought to the notice of the High Court. (Interruptions)

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: I have got a copy of the affidavit. I have got a copy of the minutes where a decision was taken and which was signed by you.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Satish ji, it is not good for your health. (Interruptions)

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: Agarwal ji, you are a senior Member. Please listen to me.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Okay, keep on giving assurances.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: We have submitted to the High Court that the discretionary quota would be used and we are going to frame rules to regulate the discretionary quota. Arguments are over and a judgment is to be delivered on 4th of next month.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: That is not the question.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: We have not said that the discretionary quota is going to be abolished. We have said: "Permitus to have a discretionary quota, but we will frame rules." The discretion will be exercised according to the rules. That is the stand which we have taken. (Interruptions)

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Sir, I will show you a part of the affidavit filed in the High Court. These are the minutes signed by the hon. Minister. He has put his signatures there. It was decided therein, "As recommended by the Committee of MPs, the Special Dispensation would be 10 per cent." This was signed by the Minister. But this fact has not been brought to the notice of the High Court. You have not brought this decision to the notice of the High Court. It does not form part of the affidavit that you have filed in the High Court. A copy of the affidavit is with me. The decision taken by you is here. But you have not filed it in the High Court. I am sorry to say that you are misleading the House.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Sir, about the matter that is pending in the court, why is the affidavit that was before the court, at variance with the decision that the Minister took in consultation with the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs? (Interruptions)

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: This was the point to which the Prime Minister

was referring yesterday, that the decisions of the Cabinet or the Ministers are overruled by the officers. (Interruptions)

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: The matter is pending before the court.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: There is no question of its pendency. The facts are altogether different. (Interruptions) Sir, I would request you to direct the Government that there should be a Half-an-Hour-Discussion on this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we go on to the next question. Q. No. 382

*Question No. 382 [The Questioner (Shri Dilip Singh Judev) was absent. For answer, vide col.... infra]

Distribution of free Anti-Pollution devices to prawn farmers in Andhra Pradesh

*383. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have devised plans to distribution of free anti-pollution devices to prawn farmers in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the funds earmarked for this purpose in 1996-97; and

(c) the funds released during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) According to information made available by the Agencies like ICAR, MPEDA and other there are no anti-pollution devices, as such, for prawn farming. However, comprehensive guidelines were issued in 1995 by this Ministry to Control the pollution.

(b) and (c) In view of the reply at (a) above the question does not arise.

SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for the last ten years aquaculture has provided employment and high value exports to the country. Naturally there are some ill-effects. The ICAR and other