

**Agitation by Kendriya Vidyalayas
Sangathan Employees**

*242. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY:†

SHRI ANAND PRAKASH
GAUTAM:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that some employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan have resorted to a Fast unto Death in Delhi to press for the settlement of their long-outstanding claims of salary and promotions etc.;

(b) whether the fast is still continuing; and

(c) the details in this regard along with the reasons for the delay in the disposal of the claims?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Shri H. L. Sonar, Post Graduate Teacher in History in Kendriya Vidyalaya, INA Colony, New Delhi had in letters addressed to the Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, threatened to go on a fast unto death, but has not done so.

(c) Shri Sonar was removed from service in 1985 but reinstated in 1987 on the orders of the Delhi High Court. The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has filed a Leave Petition Application against the Judgement of the High Court, which has been admitted. Hence his demands for fixation of pay in the senior scale, counting the period of suspension and removal from service have not been accepted by the Sangathan, nor his demands for arrears for that period. He has not been selected for promotion as Vice-Principal as demanded by him.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Bijoya Chakravarty.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Sir, it is not a question relating to a particular person, whether he is Sonar or anybody else. The question is that there are many teachers who have got many grievances against this Sangathan which has degenerated into a teacher-baiting institution. Let me also mention a few other names, M. L. Kajodia of K. V., Nepanagar, then R. K., Ranjan, Govind Singh, B. K. Sharma and there are many others who are all K. V. teachers. So many teachers have got grievances that...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is about fast unto death. Have they also resorted to fast unto death?

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: The question is regarding teachers resorting to fast unto death.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question is very clear and it says: "whether it is a fact that some employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan have resorted to a fast unto death in Delhi". That is your question, and he has answered about the case of fast unto death in Delhi. You have mentioned other names. Are they also on 'fast unto death' in Delhi?

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Yes. They will resort to...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have said 'have resorted to'. The English is very clear. You have not said 'will resort to'.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: It is a simple mistake (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister will answer the question as you have put it. He is not a mind-reader.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Sir the hon. Minister has been very co-operative. I met him many times, with the teachers. He has given us his valuable time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You send it to him and he will give you the information.

SHRIMATI BHOYA CHAKRAVARTY: The teachers have a number of grievances. In the North-Eastern Region also, many of them are appointed as *ad hoc* teachers. They are going to resort to strike.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She says that it is possible that others will also resort to 'fast unto death'. Will you take precautionary measures so that this does not happen?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say very humbly, but categorically, that I will not cooperate in anybody going on 'fast unto death'. Secondly, I have the highest respect and regard for the teachers. Therefore, their problems and their aspirations must be fulfilled to the extent possible. Since the question related to someone who had already resorted to it, I have given this information. Otherwise, I would not have given even this information.

So far as the general question of the grievances of the teachers is concerned, I would like to inform the House that a number of issues which the Sangathan has been raising for a number of years have, in the last six months, been resolved, including the one of giving them representation on the Board of Governors and, I think, through that agency, we can take care of the other issues also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Poddar. You are a Professor. You should restrict yourself to the main question. You should confine yourself to the main question. You are a Professor of Science, at that. You should be specific.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, your compliment has become a constraint.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But I am allowing you to speak from a different seat.

DR. R. K. PODDAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the State has become all-pervasive. The State has become unfeeling and unsympathetic and, therefore, individuals find it difficult to get redressal of their grievances.

In this particular case, namely, that of Shri Sonar, he was first suspended and then discharged from service. He went through the departmental procedure. Everywhere, he won the case. Ultimately, he went to the court. The court also gave a verdict in his favour and he was reinstated. But the authorities are not paying his arrears due to him, on the old scale. The Minister says that he is asking for a better scale. I am not talking about that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister has said in his answer that the Sangathan has filed a leave petition application against the judgement of the High Court.

DR. R. K. PODDAR: That is what I am saying.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want that only one side can have the right to go to court, but not the other.

DR. R. K. PODDAR: Sir, individuals do not have enough resources to fight in the court. He is being harassed for years together. Now, a leave petition application has been filed. It will take five to ten years. But his demand is that arrears due to him in the old scale should be paid to him. We have a considerate and humane Minister for Human Resource Development. He should look into this personally and see that justice is done to him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want him to be humane. But justice, the court will decide.

DR. R. K. PODDAR: I want that he should not be harassed. He is being harassed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want that he should not be harassed and that his case should be decided on humanitarian grounds.

DR. R. K. PODDAR: Not humanitarian.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sympathetically.

DR. R. K. PODDAR: The court has given a verdict in his favour. He has been reinstated. The question whether he should be promoted or not is a separate one. But Sir, the Supreme Court has held, in another case, that when an individual is reinstated, he should be paid the arrears of pay due to him during his period of suspension. He is being denied that much.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: As I have stated, he was reinstated in 1987 on some ground which I need not now elaborate here. After that the Vidyalaya Sangathan went into the special appeal which has been admitted. I am sure, the High Court would not have admitted the leave petition unless there were some valid grounds to do so.

So far as the question of harassment is concerned, I can assure the hon. Member that there is no desire nor shall we permit anybody to be harassed against the rules and provisions that exist in law. I can give you that assurance and I will look into the factor whether the pendency of the leave petition in the High Court is precluding him from getting arrears. If that is the position, we will pay him the arrears.

*243. [The questioner (Shri Ashwani Kumar) was absent. For answer vide col. 42-43 infra].

इस्पात क्षेत्र में पूर्ववर्ती सोवियत संघ से सहायता

*244. डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन :
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पूर्ववर्ती सोवियत संघ देश में विभिन्न इस्पात संयंत्रों

† सभा में यह प्रश्न डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन द्वारा पूछा गया ।

के आधुनिकीकरण के संबंध में सहयोग दे रहा था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन परियोजनाओं के नाम क्या हैं जिनके आधुनिकीकरण के लिए पूर्ववर्ती सोवियत संघ से सहायता प्राप्त करने के संबंध में अंतिम निर्णय ले लिया गया था तथा उस सहायता का स्वरूप क्या था ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि हाल में सोवियत संघ के विघटन के पश्चात् ये सभी परियोजनाएँ इस समय लम्बित हैं ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इन परियोजनाओं के संबंध में सरकार द्वारा क्या निर्णय लिये गये हैं तथा इन परियोजनाओं के कार्य को पूरा करने के लिये क्या-क्या योजनाएँ बनाई गई हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL OF THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Assistance from Erstwhile USSR in Steel Sector

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Companies belonging to the erstwhile USSR are currently engaged in the following projects/modernisation schemes:

(i) Modernisation of Bokaro Steel Plant;

(ii) Modernisation of the Rail and Structural Mill at Bhilai Steel Plant;

(iii) Supply of Turbo-Compressor for Bhilai Steel Plant;

(iv) Slag Granulation Unit for Blast Furnace-5 at Bokaro Steel Plant;

(v) Four global packages for Durgapur Steel Plant modernisation;

(vi) Visakhapatnam Steel Project.