

RAJYA SABHA

*Tuesday, the 29th May, 1990/the
8th Jyaishta, 1912 (Saka)*

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

MEMBER SWORN

MR. CHAIRMAN : Oath or Affirmation.

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Shri Jagmohan.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : Sir, I would like to submit that this nomination is against the norms of value-based politics which the Janata Dal professes and against the spirit of democracy and the Constitution. This nomination is to appease the Bharatiya Janata Party and lowers the dignity of this House. Therefore, we walk out. (Interruptions)....

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

Shri Jagmohan (Nominated)

श्री अटन बिहारी वाजपेयी (मध्य प्रदेश) : सभापति महोदय, अभी सदन में जो कुछ हुआ, मैं उसकी निंदा करना चाहता हूँ। अनावश्यक रूप से मेरी पार्टी का नाम घसीटा गया है। केवल इतना ही नहीं किसी सदस्य के मनोनयन पर आपत्ति करने का यह तरीका ठीक नहीं है। पिछली सरकार ने भी ऐसे सदस्य मनोनीत किये थे जिनके बारे में हमारे प्रश्न थे लेकिन हमने कभी अभद्रता नहीं की। जो कुछ विरोधी दल के नेता ने कहा है अगर आप कार्यवाही में रहने देंगे तो यह गलत परम्परा पड़ेगी। (व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (Assam) : Sir, I support

what Mr. Vajpayee has said. It is very unfortunate that such a thing should happen regarding the nomination of a Member.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*381. [The Questioners (Shri V. Gopalsamy and Shri Tindivanam Venkatraman were absent. For answer, vide cols. 32-33 infra.]

Upgradation of Kendriya Vidyalayas

*382. DR. BAPU KALDATE

SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN : †

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Kendriya Vidyalayas which are being upgraded to Ninth standard in the current academic session ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Grade II Principals working therein at present are likely to be rendered surplus because of the upgradation ;

(c) if so, what are the provisions governing postings of such surplus Grade II Principals ;

(d) whether All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Association has made any suggestions in this regard ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Sangathan thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Mohd. Khaleelur Rahman.

(SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA) :
(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Seventy three (73) Kendriya Vidyalayas are being upgraded to class IXth standard during the academic session 1990-91. Consequent upon upgradation of these Vidyalayas, Principals grade-I are provided and Principals grade-II working there will, therefore, be rendered surplus. The surplus grade-II Principals are transferred in public interest to the Kendriya Vidyalayas where vacancies of grade-II Principals/Vice-Principals exist. Such Vice-Principals are given priority in transfers, while shifting them and their requests, for choice stations, if any, are also taken into consideration.

The All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Association (AIK VTA) in their letter dated 25-04-1990 have made some suggestions in this regard. Their main suggestion is that such grade-II Principals/Vice-Principals should be given priority consideration while shifting them and they should be posted to places of their choice, keeping in view their personal problems. These points are already being taken into consideration by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan while effecting such transfers.

SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Sir, in the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, Post-graduate Teachers are departmentally promoted as Vice-Principals. Some of them are given independent charge of a Kendriya Vidyalaya having classes up to VIII designated as Principals Grade II. When, after one, two or three years class IX is added to these Vidyalayas, Principal Grade I (full-fledged) is posted there and principal Grade II is rendered surplus and is transferred. As indi-

cated by the honourable Minister, about 75 principals grade II are to be rendered surplus this session and obviously they will be transferred. Similarly, about 300 Trained Graduate teachers (TGTs) also are being rendered surplus and will be transferred due to this upgradation. But what is painful and alarming is the fact that the transfer of these surplus ones is done arbitrarily in the absence of any norms or guidelines, and good postings can be purchased or procured through connections with high-ups, which amounts to corruption. I want to know from the honourable Minister what is the hitch in accepting the All-India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers' Association's demand that there should be well-defined norms or guidelines to regulate these transfers on being surplus. These should be formulated immediately and should be applied to such transfers from the current session only.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Sir, most of the surplus Principals, Vice-Principals have been accommodated at the place of their convenience and desire. They are two-thirds, 46 out of 73.

There are guidelines. The hon. Member is asking whether guidelines are in operation for several years. According to the guidelines, the choice is being asked from the surplus Principal, Vice-Principal, and he is being adjusted at that place. Therefore, 46 have been adjusted at the places which they have demanded, and the rest at the nearby areas, within the State or within the region. Therefore, it is not correct that guidelines do not exist and that other kinds of considerations come in transfer or posting of surplus Vice-Principals.

SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: My second supplementary, Sir. Post-graduate teachers are promoted as Vice-Principals. Some of these are posted in big Vidyalayas

as Vice-Principals, subordinate to the Principal. Others are given independent charges of the Vidyalayas having classes upto 8th. What are the criteria on the basis of which this bifurcation is done. If there is none, why it is not being developed?

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: The question, I understand, is how post-graduate teachers are made Vice-Principals. There are posts of Principals and Vice-Principals. The Vice-principals' posts are all promotion posts. So, from post-graduation they straightway go to the Vice-Principal's post whenever the vacancy occurs. That is the position. For the Principal's post there is a different kind of recruitment system. One-third is taken through promotion, and two-thirds are taken by direct recruitment. This is the position as far as the second category and the first category are concerned.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Sir, the question speaks about upgradation of the Kendriya Vidyalayas and improvement of the teachers' lot. But I know that in many States these Kendriya Vidyalayas are no better than pig-sties. I know of the Kendriya Vidyalaya in my State. It is situated about 50 miles away from Shillong in a god-forsaken place. There is no all-weather road. During the rains you cannot reach there. They do not have permanent structures. They do not have hostels for boys and girls. They are being herded together like pigs. They do not have toilets. They have to go in open places.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your question?

SHRI G. G. SWELL : I am putting the question, Sir. They do not have good drinking water. So, the Kendriya Vidyalaya spends more of its time in rushing the students either to Guwahati or Shillong for treatment.

I have drawn the attention of the Government to this. It has been the subject of my correspondence with the then Minister of Human Resource Development. He has written back to me that they were looking into the whole question. I would like to know whether this question has been looked into. What has been the progress? If he has not done it, will you please do it now?

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Sir, the upgradation when it is being discussed in this question, is not the upgradation of the overall quality as such. It is from standard 8th to 9th and from 9th to 10th it is considered and then from 11th to 12th it is considered.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Well I said Kendriya Vidyalayas are like pig-sties. Will he look into the specific case that I have drawn his attention to?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is drawing your attention to a specific case where basic facilities are not available.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: He talked about upgradation and I explained about it. It is only related to....

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is talking about the physical facilities.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: The question about buildings and other facilities like drinking water, toilets, hostels, etc., I definitely agree with some of the observations that the Member has made because we do not have buildings for 300 schools out of 744 schools. They are either rented premises or immediately taken-up premises and, therefore, all these things will have to be taken into consideration. Let me tell the hon. Member that we will certainly go into this question. Regarding other things, we will

draw the attention of the concerned authorities. So we will do our best in this regard.

KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA : Sir, the All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Association has submitted a charter of demands. I refer to the third demand of the said charter, namely, the representation for teachers bodies in the Sangathan and Board of Governors and a very curt response has been given by the Sangathan saying that the rules of the Sangathan do not provide for such representation. The National Front Government professes to be an open Government and it has also come up with a Bill providing for labour participation, for workers' participation in the management of industries. Now, there is a talk of people's participation in the political process. Why not teachers' participation in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan ?

Secondly demand No. 9 requires regularisation of services of yoga teachers. Only 24 yoga teachers have been confirmed. The majority of them continue to be on *ad hoc* basis. Will the Government consider their demands for regularisation sympathetically ?

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Sir, this supplementary is not related to the main demand for transfer of surplus principals.

KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA : That relates to the Kendriya Vidyalaya....

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : It is for the hon. Chairman to decide but I am prepared to volunteer. Certainly it is not related to the main question. One question is about transfers and another question is about representation of the teachers in the Sangathan. That

means management bodies at the highest level. Now, this matter was discussed with the teachers, for the first time when they met me a fortnight back. I told them that we are prepared to discuss this question and we will not be negative to respond to this question. But that was the only Association which met us. We believe that participation of the teachers would also help at a certain level of management.

KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA : What about the yoga teachers ? They are on *ad hoc* basis. I would like to get the response from the Government regarding yoga teachers. They are not confirmed yet.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It does not arise from the question. The other one I could stretch it as a supplementary but not this one.

श्री छोटूभाई पटेल : सभापति जी, क्या ग्रेड II के आचार्यों का चयन या पदोन्नति के विषय में उनके अनुभवों की प्राथमिकता दी जाती है ? यदि नहीं, तो क्यों ?

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : The trained graduate teachers, the post-graduate teachers and vice-principals are considered as grade I and grade II teachers. The principal is called the principal. So, there is a question of experience also in the selection of Vice-Principals, because it is an administrative post. Well, we have experienced post-graduate teachers who are having three years' experience within the Kendriya Vidyalaya. He is not from within the Kendriya Vidyalaya. He is taken from outside. So, experience and other academic qualifications like Master's degree, a particular percentage of pass marks and the subjects in which he is supposed to teach are also taken into consideration.

PROF. SOURENDRA BHAT-TACHARJEE : In reply to a portion of the question of the lady Member, the Minister volunteered to say that in the matter of management teachers should have participation up to a certain level. Now, actually what is this 'certain level' ? That perhaps needs to be clarified. In the academic field participation of teachers and educational workers in the management is a well-defined principle propounded by all the teachers' organisations.

Part (2) of my question is : what is the difference in the qualifications between the Principal Grade I and Grade II. Does the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan have any well-defined rules at all or it is run by the whims and caprices of those who are at the helm of affairs at a given point of time ?

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : The first question needs a very elaborate answer. The question is, at what level ? Today it is at the lower management committee level. Now, what I have offered to them is not that. In my discussions, I have told them that I am prepared to discuss that offer up to the level of the Sangathan i.e. the central body. We can certainly discuss the matter. That is what I told them during my discussion. But that was the only one body. Till this day it was only considered that the teachers can be a part of the management. Now, this Government is having a different approach to this problem. We are prepared to discuss it and, if possible, we are also trying to find out from other States how the schools are being managed and how the colleges are being managed. We have also taken note of the fact that in the university academic councils teachers' representatives are there. So, taking into consideration all these aspects we are going to look into all these issues.

PROF. SOURENDRA BHAT-TACHARJEE : What about the other part of my question ? It is regarding difference in qualifications between Principal Grade II and Grade I ? On the other part I understand we would not get a reply.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Grade II principal is supposed to teach from 1st to 8th standard. He is equipped only for that purpose. Grade I Principal is equipped for different kinds of students and different categories of students i.e. from 9th to 12th standard.

“Movement against construction of Narmada Dam”

*383. **SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR :** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a movement against the construction of Narmada Dam by environmentalists and social workers ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) what is Government's reaction to their demands ;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Narmada Dam is likely to pose a threat to environment and to the ecological balance ; and

(e) if so, in what manner Government propose to meet this situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A review of the Narmada Sagar Project has been demanded because of apprehensions about the environmental effects.