

are always being looked after. One issue which the hon. Member has raised, this is also under negotiation and I hope that some decision will be taken very soon.

As regards maintenance, we are trying to see that all these circles get enough materials. However, it is true that there are some shortages but effective steps are being taken to remove this difficulty.

Mehrotra Committee Recommendations†

*25. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE:†

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

(a) whether the Mehrotra Committee, set up by the University Grants Commission to go into the question of the pay scales of college teachers, has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, what are the main recommendations made by the Committee and the steps, if any, taken to elicit Delhi College teachers' opinion on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Copies of the Mehrotra Committee Report were placed in the Parliament Library in December, 1986 for reference and perusal of Members of Parliament. Views of teachers' organisations on the Report are already with Government. Government therefore have no proposal to seek further opinion of teachers.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, the Mehrotra Committee took more than three years to submit its report. Now, the Government is sitting tight on that report for the last six months. Today, teachers of colleges and universities all over the country are on strike. They are organizing a march. They are coming to Parliament House to knock at the doors of Parliament House to register their protest against the unjustified delay in revising the pay-scales. Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister why Government decision on the new pay-scales is not being announced.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, there is no delay, much less unjustifiable delay. Sir, we had to go into all the details. When the report was sent to us by the U.G.C., we appointed an Empowered Committee. The Empowered Committee went into all the details. They held discussions with the Finance Ministry. In a few days' time, we are going to the Cabinet for final decision. So, there is no need for any teacher friend to be worried about it. It is a different matter that when decisions are pending, the desire to go on strike also gets a little enhanced. That is a different matter. But I would like to assure the House that within some days, the Cabinet will take decision.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, the Mehrotra Committee has made a number of recommendations regarding the service conditions of teachers of colleges and universities. One of the recommendations is that the promotion scheme should be abolished. The promotion scheme as introduced after a long and bitter struggle by teachers in Delhi and now the Committee has come forward with a suggestion that it should be abolished. There are other recommendations also pertaining to recruitment, confirmation, promotion, training, etc. I would like to seek an assurance from the honourable Minister that no unilateral decision will be taken by the Government changing the service conditions and that all decisions will be taken by mutual agreement between teachers and Government.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:

Just a few months back we had accepted the national policy, the new Education Policy. The NDC has accepted it. Parliament has accepted it. We have gone into action. We have prepared a programme of action. So, any recommendation which is against the Policy will not be accepted. Any objection against any decision already taken which again flies in the face of the new Policy, also cannot be accepted. I would request you to have a full discussion on the recommendations of the Committee. The report is the property of the House already, in this House and in the other House. I would like to explain everything because I have all the answers which I could give to whatever points are raised here. We have no time during the Question Hour. I would beg of you to have a full discussion on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you ask for a half-an-hour discussion?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I will ask for a one-hour discussion; why half-an-hour?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I am prepared for a four-hour discussion.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Let there be a comprehensive discussion. It is an explosive issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may write a letter and I will consider it on merits.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: The Minister has been very kind to say that in a few days' time he will go before the Cabinet and then he will come for a discussion. The report was submitted in the month of June 1986 and subsequently I raised this issue on the floor of the House on 5th December. On 29th December the Minister wrote a letter to me saying that "almost everything was all right and because States are involved I am having a discussion. Secondly, a decision is yet to be taken on the Fourth Pay Commission's recommendations for Category A. As soon as that is done, we will consider it." This reply came to

me in the month of December. Now even, A Category was decided in the month of January. Even now the Minister says that he will take it to the Cabinet in a few days' time and you can have a full discussion. Some of the recommendations of the Mehrotra Committee are such that they have even prescribed a qualification for confirmation, for promotion, etc.—a degree or a certificate course which does not exist even. Similarly, these have been several other points on which the Mehrotra Committee has perhaps over-stepped its jurisdiction. My question is whether the Minister will consider also the possibility of taking into consideration the representations made by several teachers' organisations all over the country including the Delhi Teachers' Union in accepting the recommendations. And then,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; the time is up. The Minister will reply now.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: All these supplementaries have been subsumed in my assurance that we will have a comprehensive discussion in this House.

SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: The agitating teachers are demanding amendments to the recommendations of the Mehrotra Committee Report. May I know from the honourable Minister whether this demand is under consideration? Secondly, there are three categories of teachers. The first category consists of teachers in the universities, the second of those in Government colleges and the third in private colleges. The scales of pay of these three categories differ. The teachers in private colleges get much less pay. Is this aspect under consideration?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: In reply to the first part of the question I have to say regretfully I have no way of amending the report nor the recommendations. I may accept them, I may not accept them or I may accept them in a modified form. That is precisely the exercise which we are doing and the Government has taken some time to go into it and we have

come to certain conclusions and decisions will be taken and announced within a short time.

About the categories of teachers, that is, teachers of universities, colleges, constituent colleges, affiliated colleges, etc., all these things are contained in the Report and they will naturally be covered in these decisions also.

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल : सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी सदन में बहस के लिए भी तैयार हैं, मंत्री महोदय इसे मंत्रि-परिषद् में ले जाने के लिए भी तैयार हैं और मांगों पर उदारतापूर्वक विचार करने को तैयार हैं। मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि मंत्रि-परिषद् में जाने से पहले क्या इस सदन में इस विषय पर बहस करायेंगे ताकि लोगों के सुझाव सामने आ जाएँ? दूसरा यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनकी मुख्य मांगें क्या हैं जिनको मानने में उन्हें कठिनाई है?

श्री पी. वी. नरसिंह राव : मैं तो यह कह रहा हूँ कि इस में और देर नहीं लगनी चाहिये। बेचैनी उभर बढ़ रही है, हमारी भी बेचैनी बढ़ेगी इसलिए इस में और देर नहीं लगनी चाहिये। हम तो फैसला करना चाहते हैं, कौन्सिल में ले जाना चाहते हैं। हम अगले कुछ दिनों में एलान करना चाहते हैं। इसके बाद जहाँ तक चर्चा करने का संबंध है, चर्चा तो हमेशा चलती रहती है। चर्चा एक दिन में खत्म होने वाली बात नहीं है। और कोई बात होगी तो करेंगे और इस सदन में भी चर्चा होगी।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Poddar.

DR. R. K. PODDAR: Sir, the Mehrotra Committee has actually not revised the pay scales, but it has added a few more. Moreover, it has also added some obnoxious conditions to those scales. So, I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether he is agreeable to delink the conditions from the pay scales and whether he will actually revise the scales and not add some new scales. The Fourth Pay Commission has reduced the pay scales from 153 to 44, I think. Now,

if you increase the teachers' scales from three to six, it will be going into the 21st century in the reverse gear. So, I would like to request the Minister to look into this.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I said that I am going into details. About there being something obnoxious, what is considered obnoxious is the rule or the recommendation that they should be promoted or they should be given the next higher pay only after assessment. That is considered to be obnoxious, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Saikia.

SHRI NAGEN SAIKIA: Sir, when the salary of a fourth grade employee of the Central Government is Rs. 900/- p.m., the salary of a college or a university teacher is still put on a pay of Rs. 700/- p.m. What is the reason behind this discrimination? Will the Minister place the recommendations of the Mehrotra Committee just in this session itself?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I think the recommendations are already there. In the last session they were placed in the Library because we had no time to place them on the Table of the House. They are the property of the House and the property of the nation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Virendra Verma.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने सदन में जो एश्योरेस दिया है क्या मंत्री जी को यह भी जानकारी है कि दिल्ली में बोट क्लब पर पिछले 7 दिनों से सड़करी स्कूल टीचर्स भी भूख हड़ताल पर बैठे हैं और उनकी हालत अच्छी नहीं है? मंत्री जी ने जो आश्वासन दिया है इसके संदेश में मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस सारी पालिसी पर प्राइमरी स्कूल टीचर्स के संबंध में भी विचार करेंगे?

श्री पी. वी. नरसिंह राव : जी हाँ, वह एश्योरेस भी उनको दिया गया है। अब

मशकिल यह होती है हम एश्योरेंस देते हैं वे स्ट्राइक करते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Nirmal Chatterjee.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Sir, is it the Government's view that the Chairman of the UGC should be monetarily compensated at a lower level than the Cabinet Secretary and is it the view of the Government that the Vice-Chancellors should be rated lower compared to the Secretaries to the Government of India?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, I would be in a position to explain all these things when we have the discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Balaram.

SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Sir, the honourable Minister has already said that they are going to consider the whole Report. Sir, the Report contains two aspects. One is about the scales and the other is about the policy. Are they going to discuss the whole thing and finalise it or they will take up only one at a time? I am asking this question because the second part has many objections from the professors, etc.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: We will have to take decisions on all counts. Whatever the House would be particularly interested in we will certainly discuss. But, Sir, there cannot be any piecemeal decision. It will have to be a comprehensive decision.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Next Question. Question No. 26. Mr. Ashok Nath Verma.

SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Yes, Sir. Question No. 26.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Irregularities in Construction Projects Undertaken by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

26. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, in its report for the year 1984-85, has detected a number of irregularities in various construction projects undertaken by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) if so, what are the details of those irregularities and the amount of losses incurred due to those irregularities; and

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take against the erring officers responsible for those losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI):

(a) and (b) The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India in the report for the year 1984-85, which has already been laid on the Table of the Sabha, has pointed out instances of delays leading to escalation in cost and in some cases, infructuous expenditure.

(c) The systems and procedures pertaining to construction works are being streamlined in the light of observations made by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.