

श्रीमती सुशिला रोहतगी : जहर अगर हिन्दी में होगा तो इस पर ध्यान दिया जाएगा ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Aladi Aruna.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Sir, the discussion is going on here as if there are only two languages, English and Hindi.

(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Really I am asking, Sir, whether there are only two languages, English and Hindi, because.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please. You have already been given a chance and the Member from your party is being given a chance now.

(Interruptions).

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: That is not the question, Sir. Really I am asking whether there are only two languages in the country, English and Hindi, because the discussion is going on like that, Hindi cannot be equated with English.

(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record hereafter. Please sit down. Your party member has already been given the chance. Yes, Mr. Aladi Aruna.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARU-NACHALAM: Sir, the Jawaharlal Nehru University has been established for the development of science and technology among the students. A language which is well developed is accepted as one of the effective media for teaching science and technology and that is why most of the Universities have adopted English as the medium of instruction. But no University is intended to do the work of propagation of Hindi. This is a blatant violation of the accepted policy. The work of propagation of Hindi may be the duty of the Hindi Prachar Sabhas and not that of any

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Correct.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARU-NACHALAM: So, will the Government come forward to prevent the Jawaharlal Nehru University, if it has changed itself to the course of propagation of Hindi, from doing so?

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Propagation of a particular language.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARU-NACHALAM: Will the Government take steps for the prevention of this?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I could not follow the question, the second part of the question. Sir. He asked whether the Government will take steps for what? I could not follow the question.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: To prevent giving importance to a particular language other than English.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: Sir, the regional languages and all the other languages which have been mentioned are being encouraged.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARU-NACHALAM: The Jawaharlal Nehru University is there for the propagation of science and technology and not for the propagation of Hindi. (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. Please sit down. Next Question. Question No. 204. Mr. K. K. Birla.

...Inaccuracies in Text books in Schools.

*204. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA †

SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI:

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

(The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Krishna Kumar Birla.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report appearing in the 'Times of India' of the 14th April, 1986 regarding highly inaccurate and irrelevant information being fed to the children in certain leading schools in Delhi through some of the text books prescribed for Class IV and V; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The press report in question has come to Government's notice and reports were sought from Delhi Administration, New Delhi Municipal Committee, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, all of whom have informed that the book referred to in the press report has not been prescribed in the schools run/aided by them.

(b) Whenever a sub-standard book is found being used in any school, the Government suggests to the prescribing/user institution that the book in that form should not be used or suggested for use.

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Sir, the reply of the honourable Minister is very satisfactory. However, I would like to mention that the news was published in "The Times of India" which is a very eminent newspaper of Delhi. They have given even the names of the authors whose books have been prescribed as text books. My question to the honourable Minister would be this: Are these books existing still or they have been withdrawn after the news was published in "The Times of India"? In case the honourable Minister does not have any definite reply now, I would request her to make an inquiry into the matter and then take action.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I would like to inform the hon. Member that substantially what appeared in the newspaper is correct. There is a book and there are inaccuracies in the book. We brought this to the notice of the schools. We wanted to find out how many schools

have prescribed it on their own. It so happened that many of them said that they have not; only three schools said that they have. Now they will take it out of circulation and they will not prescribe it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary.

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: No, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Lakshmanna.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Sir, if the Government comes to know of a particular book being sub-standard, I would like to know what procedures are available for ascertaining that a particular book is sub-standard or not.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: Sir, if any sub-standard book is found, it is withdrawn if the book is prescribed by the authorities mentioned here. If it is used as an extra book in un-aided institutions and the information therein is challenged it is brought to their notice and they are asked to see that they do not

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: My question has not been answered. I would like to know what are the procedures available for the Government for ascertaining whether a particular book is sub-standard or not.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: May I explain this a little, taking a couple of minutes. A sub-standard book as such is not a very clear description. It may be sub-standard in many ways. It may contain inaccuracies in which naturally it cannot be used, it should not be used. But if it is sub-standard in the sense that the subject has not been properly explained, it is for the authorities to find out which is the best book on the subject and they should be always on the look-out to find out the best book and then prescribe it.

Sir, I would also like to add in this connection that, educationally speaking, it

is not considered a sound policy to say that only one text book has to be prescribed. Now, this we know for the last thirty years. Educationists have been telling us that you have a syllabus and based on that syllabus any book could be used. But because everybody cannot make a thorough search of all the books available according to the syllabus, we prescribe or we recommend text books. Now, text books are so few. Text books which are produced by the NCERT are less than 2 per cent in this country; the rest of 98 per cent are done by private publishers. Therefore, sometimes inaccuracies creep in; sub-standard character also could creep in. Now, what we do is that periodically the NCERT takes up a survey of these books, sometimes from the point of view of national integration, sometimes from the point of the quality of the book. And when it is brought to our notice—and, of course, from other points of view from other quarters—when these things are brought to our notice then we tell them not to use the book in the present form; if it is sub-standard it should not be used. They should not be used in the present form in the sense that a sub-standard treatment of the subject is something bad for the boys. So it should be changed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Valampuri John.

SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Sir, to my painful surprise we find a startling revelation in the English prose prescribed or second standard in Madras schools by the NCERT. Jesus Christ was hanged to death. (Interruptions) Hanging to death or nailing to the Cross may not be of a great difference to a layman. But he was nailed to the Cross, he was crucified, is an article of faith. It is one of the basic postulates of christian credo. So, since it is a very serious thing and because there are a lot of implications wounding the very sentiments of the Christians, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would consider withdrawal of this book from circulation immediately.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Certainly, Sir. This is a very serious matter. Not only inaccuracy, but it is a howler. (Interruptions) I will certainly look into it.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR PODDAR: Sir, this kind of error or inaccuracy sometimes appears not only in Delhi, but in many other State capitals and States. So, I would like to know from the Minister whether the ruling party at the Centre would refrain from making political capital when such errors occur in opposition-ruled States.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I do not understand the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question No. 205.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Sir, I had written yesterday that my priority No. 1 Question has not been listed as Question No. 205 and that priority No. 1 question has been put as unstarred. Another question has come here. I do not know how this has happened. I had written and I thought that the correction would come today. Unfortunately, nothing of that sort has happened.

Anyway, I am going ahead and putting this question.

Import of diesel locomotives

*205. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to import some powerful electric and diesel locomotives from Japan and Sweden;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to manufacture these locomotives indigenously?