

apprenticeship training to the satisfaction of the concerned Regional Board, shall be granted a certificate of proficiency by that Board."

Now, Sir, the important aspects and the objects for which this Bill has been brought forward, are very clearly brought out by the hon. Labour Minister. If the object is that we have to provide meaningful education leading to suitable employment opportunities at the appropriate level, and the levels are at the higher secondary levels when our students will opt for two years' vocational course 10 plus 2. If that be the object, then in that case we have to see how to those who take 10+2 the opportunities are being provided reservation. And if the reservation is for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the community, physically handicapped, women and minorities, I would like to seek a clarification from the hon. Minister; unless these classes are given that kind of opportunity at the 10+2 stage, how are they likely to get these facilities after that? I ask this because *ab initio* it is not there. If there is no reservation for these classes at 10+2 stage, if they want to take admission for this training, is it feasible? If not, what steps are being taken to ensure that this reservation starts right at the 10+2 level so that the people who really deserve particularly the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the minorities, women, physically handicapped and such other people, get the opportunity at that stage and from there they should be able to get what is reserved for them in the new scheme available.

Secondly, in regard to the training what has been stated is the working experience. Actually all this vocational training should be meaningful. In the true sense, if we really enable the trainees to take that kind of practical training which will enable them to learn the art, to learn the job,

to give them some theoretical background but much more practical experience of working conditions, than only will be able to learn their job and it will be useful to the areas where we expect them ultimately to be absorbed and get settled in life. If it is not enough, the certificate at the end of the period which normally has been proposed will be a proficiency certificate from the Board and (*Interruptions*).

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO PRIME MINISTER

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): On our behalf I congratulate the Prime Minister and convey our happiest greetings to him on his birthday.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA): I am happy to join the Members in wishing many, many happy returns of the day to the Prime Minister. I wish him many, many long years of useful service to the country.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: Thank you.

THE APPRENTICES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1986—contd.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: I was mentioning about the quality of training which is likely to be imparted for vocational courses to be given to these trainees who take these courses after their 10 plus 2 educational qualifications. This amendment provides for such opportunities and work experience for the trainees who will not have the opportunity to go in for higher educational qualifications. On the basis of this practical training, they will be absorbed either in industry or in agriculture or in agro-based industries or elsewhere. (*Time*