

upto their houses themselves. I would like to know whether it is due to such mistakes in interpretation. Secondly, I would like to know whether it is due to the fact that unlevelled land is allotted to these societies, although their promise was that levelled land would be allocated to them. Thirdly, I would also like to know whether it is due to the fact that certain societies—for example, the staff members' society of Company Law Department of the Government of India—were given plots some 9 to 10 kilometres away from their offices, that is far away from their place of business or service. So is it because of this? For example, the middle class journalists were also given plots far away where they cannot go. I would like to know whether because of all these factors, these societies are getting discouraged and they die a natural death.

**SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT:** Sir, this is a bit too general. The DDA levels and dresses up the land that is allotted to the group housing societies. That is the job of the DDA. If in relation to any particular society, there is some such difficulty, I will definitely get the things looked into.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Question No. 634.

श्री प्रकाश मेहरोत्रा : श्रीमन्, मेरा एक दूसरा प्रश्न भी है इसी तरह का, प्रश्न संख्या 643 । मैं चाहता हूँ दोनों प्रश्न एक साथ ले लिए जाएं, प्रश्न 634 और प्रश्न 643 ।

**SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI:** I have no objection to take up Q. No. 643 also.

#### Streamlining of the working of the NBTI

\*634. **SHRI BHIM RAJ:**

**SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:**

**SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA:†**

**SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:**

**SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABI-BULLAH:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps recently to streamline the working of the National Book Trust of India; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI):** (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Administrative Staff College, Hyderabad were asked to make a study of National Book Trust with a view to streamline its working. Their report has been received recently and is under examination.

#### Storing of unsold volumes by N.B.T.I.

\*643. **SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA:†**

**SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:**

**SHRI BHIM RAJ:**

**SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:**

**SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABI-BULLAH:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Book Trust of India is finding it difficult to store indefinitely lakhs of unsold volumes; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,**

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Prakash Mehrotra.

**SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI):** (a) and (b) Since its inception in 1957, the National Book Trust had published upto 31st March, 1977 approximately 66 lakhs of copies of 1538 titles and as on that date the number of copies remaining to be sold and in store was 24.37 lakhs. It is understood from the NBT that they are not having difficulty in storing them and that sales have been improving in recent years.

**श्री प्रकाश मेहरोत्रा :** मान्यवर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जैसा बताया है कि अभी भी 24 लाख प्रतियां पड़ी हुई हैं, इस से लगता है कि इतने वर्ष में जब इनकी प्रतियां अभी भी नहीं बिक पायी हैं तो किताबों का जो सेलेक्शन हुआ है वह सेलेक्शन ऐसा नहीं रहा है कि जिसे जनता ने ग्रहण किया हो। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इन किताबों के सेलेक्शन का आधार क्या रहा है? क्या गाइड लाइन्स रही हैं और क्या इसके लिये कोई सेलेक्शन कमेटी रही है इन किताबों के सेलेक्शन के लिये और इन किताबों को पब्लिश करने के पहले क्या कोई मार्केट सर्वे किया गया था कि किस तरीके की पुस्तकें जनता में प्रिय होंगी?

**SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI:** Sir, the titles are selected after very careful consideration by some Selection Committee set up for this particular purpose. And sometimes we suggest to the Ministry and they suggest some title on the occasion of some anniversary or celebration.

**श्री प्रकाश मेहरोत्रा :** मान्यवर, पहले प्रश्न का उत्तर पूरे तौर से नहीं दिया गया कि सेलेक्शन कमेटी में कौन कौन लोग थे। बहरहाल, मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि बजाय इसके कि इतनी किताबें पड़ी रहें और उन को दीमक खाट जाय, कोई और व्यवस्था उन को बचाने की करनी चाहिए और इस संदर्भ में कुछ वर्ष पहले यह तय हुआ था कि राजा राम मोहन

राय लाइब्रेरी ट्रस्ट बनाया जाय, वह बनाया गया था और उस को यह काम सौंपा गया था उसको आधा अनुदान गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया देती थी और आधा अनुदान हर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट देती थी और फैसला हुआ था कि उस ट्रस्ट के माध्यम से यह किताबें बेची जायंगी और जो किताबें तीन साल से ज्यादा की हो गयी हैं और अगर उन की प्राइस नहीं मिलती है तो मुफ्त में लाइब्रेरीज को और स्कूल्स को यह दी जायें। तो इस संबंध में सरकार क्या कर रही है? पिछले तीन वर्षों में सरकार ने कितना पैसा दिया है इस ट्रस्ट को और क्या काम उसमें किया गया है?

**DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER:** The Raja Ram Mohan Roy Foundation was set up to encourage the library system. It is true that the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Foundation purchased some of the books published by the National Book Trust. But there are other publishers and in States there are selection committees for the purchase of books of general type which may not be sold in the market ordinarily. Therefore, it is not correct to say that that Foundation was set up to buy the books furnished by the N.B.T.I. This is the position. The real difficulty is that the books are published in various languages and we find that some of the books published in some languages have been sold up to 74 per cent. whereas in other languages the percentage of sale has been very low. If we have to proceed on the basis of sale only, then we are not encouraging the development of these languages. This is the problem.

**SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:** Sir, the House has shown serious concern upon the working of the National Book Trust of India in practically every session. But no concrete action has been taken by the Ministry to streamline the working of this institution. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister what are the definite steps which the Ministry has

taken to streamline the working of this Trust. Keeping in view that heaps of books are unused, they are useless and are unwanted, what action is the Government of India going to take and what are the salient points of recommendations of that Committee which has given its report?

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: The hon'ble Minister of State mentioned that the Committee's suggestion is being looked into. I cannot at this moment say what steps have been taken. But I can say what steps are being taken. Sir, this Trust had been without any head for some time. But we have appointed Mr. A. L. Dias, Governor of West Bengal. He has very kindly accepted this office. He was to work for two hours only voluntarily but he spends generally more than 4-5 hours for the purpose of development. A bookshop has been opened and as a result more books are being sold and if we look into the figures you will find that the sale is gradually increasing. In fact, in 1973-74 books worth only Rs. 13 lakhs had been sold. But in 1976-77 the sale increased to Rs. 23.55 lakhs. And last year it was Rs. 25.56 lakhs. So it is not right to say that it has not improved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Habibullah ... Not there. Shri Lakshmanan.

SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN: Sir, there is a feeling that books written in different national languages are not given due consideration in the matter of selection. Therefore, would the Minister be pleased to state whether there are selection committees for each national language at the State level or whether there is only one committee and whether that is the reason why books from the different languages in India are not being given importance?

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: Sir, the fact is that there are certain series in which books are published in different languages. For

instance, there are series (1) India—The Land and the People (2) National Biography (3) Popular Science (4) Outstanding Books of the World. In this way there are different series. Similarly, there are Adan-Pradan series and Nehru Bal Pustakalaya series. Some of the books in different languages are published in these series. Now, in some languages, because of readership, we have sales in larger numbers whereas in other languages it is not so. But it is not correct to say that because of lack of proper selection the books are not sold.

SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN: I wanted to know why not have a selection committee at the State level. That is what I wanted to know.

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: That would be rather too costly because these series are centralised, and keeping in view the entire interests of the people in general, this is done. But we are trying to open sales counters in the different States.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: As many as 24 lakh copies of books are still lying in the godowns and, secondly, he has also mentioned that all the language books are not sold equally. There are two difficulties here. When the language books are published, I find that in most of the cases the translation work has been given to some persons who are not able to do justice to the translation. That is one of the reasons why many of the books are not finding any demand. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether it would be more proper to either distribute free or sell at half the price, the 24 lakh copies rather than keep them in the godowns because a big amount is involved in this storage.

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: Sir, I have already stated that there is gradual improvement in the matter of sales because from Rs. 13 lakhs in 1973-74, the sales have jumped to Rs. 25.61 lakhs—almost doubled. So, why should we distribute these books free?

**SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the terms of reference given to the Dias Committee to go into the working of the National Book Trust and also on what basis the selection of authors is being done—whether they are being suggested by the different State Governments or whether a committee approves of the selection of the authors.

**DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER:** Sir, as the hon. Minister of State has explained, there are certain series and, then, on special occasions like centenaries of some national leaders, books are published. Therefore, it is not proper to say that for every series there should be separate selection committees. Now, Mr. Dias having taken over charge, he is reviewing the entire position and he is spending more time than is required of him, and we notice that after this sales counter has been opened, sales are also going up and it will be of great interest to the hon. Members that next year we will be in a position to report greater improvement.

**SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:** I wanted to know the terms of reference given to the Dias Committee.

(No reply)

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Next question.

**Memorandum received from the Drawing Teachers (Arts and Crafts Teacher Club, Delhi)**

\*635. **SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government received any memorandum in 1977 from the Drawing Teachers (Arts and Crafts Teachers Club, Delhi) working under the Directorate of Education, Delhi;

(b) if so, what were their demands;

(c) what action Government have taken thereon;

(d) whether Government are aware that the delay in taking a decision in the matter has resulted in financial loss to these teachers as the seniority list has yet to be revised; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI):** (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. A memorandum from Art Teachers Club, Delhi was received in November, 1977.

(b) Their main demand is that the Arts and Craft Teachers Certificate of the Government School of Art, Simla, should be treated as equivalent to the Drawing Masters Certificate of the Mayo School, Lahore, and the Drawing Teachers Certificate of the Government School of Art and Craft, Lucknow, with effect from the same date as the latter mentioned certificates have been recognised for purpose of qualifications prescribed for Drawing Teachers eligible to teach upto Class XI." At present Art and Craft Teachers Certificate stands recognised w.e.f. July, 1964, the date from which the orders granting such recognition were issued.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

(d) and (e). The Government are aware that a favourable decision may result in higher seniority to the holders of certificate from Simla *vis-a-vis* their other colleagues and consequently possibility of their getting into selection grade earlier than otherwise would be the case, as also possible notional fixation of pay in the present grade at higher stages. Since inter-departmental consultations are