

purpose, as far as ceiling laws are concerned, there is nothing in the way. In fact, some of the States like Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and a few others have made broad enough provisions for this and we welcome such steps. If the other State Governments also want to implement it, if the Education Ministry and Prof. Nurul Hasan wants that, we would only help them.

*303. [The questioners (Shri Yogendra Sharma, Shri Lakshmana Mahapatra, Shri S. Kumaran and Shri Indradeep Sinha) were absent. For answer vide col infra]

High capitation fee from students by private medical colleges

*304. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING:†

SHRI GANESH LAL MALI:

SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the private medical colleges in the country are charging high capitation fee for admission; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India do not favour the system of charging capitation fee for admission to medical colleges. The States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have already enacted legislation regulating the setting up of private medical colleges and of charging capitation fees by them. Government of India also propose to amend the Medical Council of India Act providing for prior approval of

the Medical Council of India before any medical college is set up. This will prevent the setting up of sub-standard medical colleges, some of which resort to charging capitation fees.

SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the capitation fees levied by the private medical colleges are in the form of *salaami*? If so, what steps are being taken to prevent such malpractices?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: That is exactly what it is. The Government is very much against it and we are trying to discourage this as much as possible.

SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING: What is the percentage of annual intake of students from the weaker sections from 1970 up-to-date in such private colleges? Have the Ministry been able to persuade the private colleges to earmark quotas for these classes?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: We do not have the exact figures. But I will tell the hon. Member that at the moment, out of 106 colleges in the country, only 16 of them are private colleges. The others are State medical colleges. The admission is very much regulated by the rules obtaining in the country. Some percentages of those seats are always reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and some of the benefits regarding the criteria for admission, the minimum marks etc., are also given to them.

श्री गणेश लाल माली : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि देश के अंदर कितने ऐसे प्राइवेट मेडिकल कॉलेज हैं जो कि कैपिटेशन फीस के रूप में भारी रकम ले रहे हैं ? इसके अलावा जहाँ तक मुझे मालूम है कई कॉलेजों के अंदर चंदे के रूप में, सहायता के रूप में धनिक वर्ग के लोगों से पैसा लेकर उनके लड़कों को दाखिला दिया जाता है जब कि मैरिट लिस्ट के हिसाब से उनका दाखिला नहीं हो सकता

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Leonard Solomon Saring.

और दूसरी तरफ गरीब लोगों के बच्चे जिनके 70-75 परसेंट माकम होते हैं और मेरिट में भी ऊपर जाते हैं उनको लाना जाना क्योंकि वे कैपिटेशन फीस नहीं दे सकते। इसलिए मैं मंत्री सहोदय से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसे जो कॉलेज हैं उनके खिलाफ क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ? यदि नहीं तो क्या उनको अपने अधिकार में लेने की तैयारी चल रही है जिससे देश में जो डिस्क्रीमिनेशन चल रहा है वह मिट जाए और गरीबों के बच्चों को सही मायने में 20 पोइंट प्रोग्राम के अन्दर राहत मिल सके ?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE : Sir, the hon. Member has raised a very vital and important question. At the moment, there are only 11 colleges in the country which charge capitation fees. The other college which was in Maharashtra—G. M. Medical College—was also charging capitation fee, but the Government of Maharashtra have taken it over and it is no longer charging any capitation fee. Sir, these colleges have a history of charging capitation fees because the setting up of a medical college is a very costly venture. When we became independent, there were only 25 medical colleges in the country and the number was very much, I should say, inadequate. So what was needed was that some medical colleges should be set up. These private people came and they set up some medical colleges and after setting up these colleges they found that they could not meet the expenses. Therefore, they had to, somehow or the other, secure money and hence these capitation fees and other charges with which they are trying to make both ends meet. Now, the policy of the Government of India is somehow or other to discourage this practice and take over these colleges as early as possible. But the taking over of a medical college is also a costly affair. Rupees five crores or Rs. 6 crores or Rs. 7 crores will be needed to take over a medical college. Therefore, we are going to regulate this by amending the Indian Medical Council Act. That is number one. Secondly, the

State Governments are also being advised to somehow or other regulate the charging of capitation fees and discourage the charging of capitation fees as much as possible.

SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN: Sir, the story of capitation fees being charged in this country during the last few years is highly regrettable. The rate of capitation fee now being charged varies from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 75,000 per student in certain colleges. I know personally of a case in Karnataka where a boy was asked to pay Rs. 65,000 as capitation fee. Therefore, Sir, till this Act is amended or till directives are given to the States, instructions should be issued to all these colleges that if they charge capitation fees above a certain limit, say Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 5,000, they will be derecognised and their degrees will not be considered good for appointments.

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE : Sir, in Karnataka there is a very beautiful arrangement between all the parties concerned. Of the total number of seats available, 25 per cent are reserved for the State Government for making their nominations, 50 per cent are reserved for those who are willing to pay capitation fees and they are given to them and 25 per cent are reserved for the members of the Managing Committee of the College. I have already stated that the Government of India is very much worried about this matter and they are taking up the matter and doing as much as possible.

SHRI B. RACHAIAH: Sir, on account of the inability of the Governments concerned, the private colleges have sprung up and they have exploited the situation to the maximum extent possible and collected donations from students particularly from the highest strata of the capitalist class and there has been a lot of discrimination made between the common people and the rich class of people. Our aim to establish a socialistic society may not be achieved if these things were to continue. Therefore, Sir, will the Government take suitable action to take over all these colleges and

that too by paying only a nominal compensation because they have already made enough profit out of the collection? Will the Government consider this very seriously?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE : Sir, it is a matter of great concern, I have already stated. The Government is very much concerned about this matter. As a matter of fact the Central Council of Health is also very much concerned about this problem and as early as 1973 it was decided in a meeting to ask the States to adopt a Resolution in the Assemblies enabling the Central Government to legislate on the matter. As a result some of the States only have passed Resolutions and others have not. So, in that background what we are trying to do today is to amend the Indian Medical Council Act and otherwise too we are trying to regulate it. Therefore, it is not that the Government of India is sitting over it; they are very much concerned about it.

SHRI KRISHNARAO NARAYAN DHULAP : Sir, just now the hon. Minister has stated that the Central Government has asked the State Governments to see that this practice of charging capitation fees from students is discouraged. But, as a matter of fact, the State Governments are conniving at their charging more and more fees. For example, in the Belgaum college, named Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, more than Rs. 65,000 are charged per student as capitation fee and the Government of Karnataka is encouraging that. How far is the Government going to take any action against them?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE : Sir, I have already answered this question. The Government of India are very much concerned about charging this capitation fee and we want to do away with this nonsense as early as possible. We also cannot nationalise all the medical colleges just now. That involves money and we do not have that money now. The State Governments also are not in a position to take

over these medical colleges all at once. We are proceeding slowly but surely and we will take them over one by one.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Perhaps, the Minister knows that the High Court of Karnataka has decided and allowed the medical colleges to charge Rs. 35,000 as capitation fee and not Rs. 65,000. Therefore, they are entitled to take it. Is it correct?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE : As I was telling you, Sir, the Government of India are very much concerned about this. We are trying to do away with this as early as possible.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA : Sir, in reply to part (a) of the original question, the hon. Minister has agreed that charging of high capitation fee for admission, by the private medical colleges, is not proper and it is unjust. I understand that the Central Government and the State Governments are giving huge amounts by way of financial aid to these medical colleges. Also, there are some conditions laid down for their registration and these conditions are not being fulfilled. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, why should not the State Government and the Central Government stop giving this huge amount of financial aid and why not de-register these medical colleges? What is the difficulty?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE : I fully share the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member. But I am sure the hon. Member is not advising me to come in confrontation with the States.

SHRI V. B. RAJU : What is the level of standard in these colleges? I would also like to know if at any time the Indian Medical Council found these colleges giving a substandard education and, if so, why not derecognise them and what is the state of affairs of these medical colleges, apart from money?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: So far as that part is concerned, that is regulated by the universities themselves. The Indian Medical Council also has some say but the universities have the main say and they have a regulation that unless a student has obtained a minimum percentage of marks, he will not be entitled to admission to the medical colleges. So, for general category boys, the minimum percentage is 50 and for the Scheduled Castes etc., it is 45 per cent. Subject to that regulation, these private medical colleges are free to admit anybody they like.

SHRI V. B. RAJU: I am not putting a question about the admission standards. I asked, what is the actual educational standard, the standard of imparting medical education in these colleges?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: That is the business of the university.

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: I quite appreciate the concern expressed by the hon. Minister in this House, but, is it not a fact that this matter is known to the Health Ministry as well as to the Education Ministry for quite some time and that nothing positive has been done? May I know from the hon. Minister whether he knows the number of such colleges to whom aid and assistance is given by the Central Government or by the State Governments and why can't he use his good offices with the State Governments to get the aid stopped?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: The number of private colleges is now coming down. At the moment there are eleven colleges in the country which are charging capitation fee. Since the Members are so much concerned, I am just naming them:

1. Kakatiya Medical College, Warangal.

2. Rangaraya Medical College, Kadinada.
3. Kasturba Medical College, Manipal.
4. Medical College, Gulbarga.
5. J.L.N. Medical College, Belgaum.
6. J.J.M. Medical College, Davangere.
7. M.G.M. Medical College, Jamshedpur.
8. Nalanda Medical College, Patna.
9. Pataliputra Medical College, Patna.
10. Shri Krishna Medical College, Muzaffarpur.
11. Magadh Medical College, Gaya.

But there are five or six medical colleges which are private, but they do not charge any capitation fees. They are: The Christian Medical College, Vellore; The Christian Medical College, Ludhiana; St. John Medical College, Bangalore; M. G. Institute of Medical Sciences, Sevagram; Dayanand Medical College, Ludhiana and Guru Gobind Singh Medical College, Faridkot.

SHRI D. P. SINGH: Is the hon. Minister aware that in spite of the fact that many of these colleges, whose names have been mentioned, have been taken over by the State Governments, they continue to charge capitation fees till this day?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: I mentioned to you, Sir, that the medical college at Sholapur, which was previously a private medical college, has now been taken over by the State Government of Maharashtra. Since then, it has stopped charging capitation fees. If the hon. Member has any information, he can pass it on to me.

SHRI D. P. SINGH: I have the information in regard to the last-mentioned four colleges. All of them continue to charge capitation fees.

SHRI DEORAO PATIL: Even in the Sevagram college, capitation fee is charged.

SHRI H. S. NARASIAH: If these private medical colleges have no other financial backing, except to depend upon this capitation fees only, why should affiliation and recognition be granted to them, even for starting these colleges? Could that not be withheld by the authorities concerned?

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: Sir, I have repeatedly told the hon. Members that Government's attitude in regard to this matter is hardening every day.

*305. [The questioner (Shri Syed Ahmad Hashmi) was absent. For answer vide col. *infra*]

National book trust publications

*306. SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA:

SHRI HIMMAT SINH: †

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI

KUMARI CHUNDAWAT :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to refer the answer to Starred Question 331 given in the Rajya Sabha on 24th March, 1976 and state:

(a) whether Government have fixed responsibility for publication of books by the National Book Trust which are lying unsold; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) The books published by the Trust are very carefully selected not on commercial considerations but to serve a

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Himmat Singh.

social purpose. There is, therefore, no question of fixing responsibility for the unsold stocks.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI HIMMAT SINH: Sir, I am surprised to hear from the hon. Minister that there is no question of fixing any responsibility when it is known to all of us that large stocks of books are lying unsold. They have been lying piled up in stock. They are actually getting moth-eaten now. They involve a huge amount. In spite of this, if the hon. Minister says that there is no question of fixing any responsibility, I really do not know what question I should ask.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your supplementary?

SHRI HIMMAT SINH: I would like to know whether any responsibility has been fixed in regard to this matter.

SHRI D. P. YADAV: The total value of the books published by the National Book Trust is about Rs. 1,77,00,000. Out of this, we have sold 50 per cent and 50 per cent is in stock. Therefore, we cannot say that all of them are lying unsold. We have sold 50 per cent. During the last two years, the sale has been increasing rapidly.

SHRI HIMMAT SINH: The hon. Minister may be encouraged to feel content that they have sold 50 per cent of the stock. In regard to the balance, however I would like to know for how long they have been lying unsold and the amount involved.

SHRI D. P. YADAV: Sir, the Public Accounts Committee also considered this question and they have suggested something. In the Publications Division, we have a process called 'weeding out'. The books which are lying unsold for a period of 5 years are distributed to the different libraries through our agencies.

SHRI HIMMAT SINH: Sir, my question has not been answered.