

दूसरे उन्होंने जो धर्म के संबंध में प्रश्न पूछा था मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि अभी तक हमारी कोई अनौपचारिक बातचीत नहीं हुई है। कुछ हुई है आर्चबिशप से। मेरे पास कुछ आर्चबिशप आए थे। उन्होंने हम को समझाने का प्रयत्न किया। हमने उनको बताया कि हम किसी धर्म में हस्तक्षेप नहीं करना चाहते। लेकिन यह जो प्रश्न है यह एक राष्ट्रीय प्रश्न है, धर्म का प्रश्न नहीं है। इसलिए इसको राष्ट्रीय हित के दृष्टिकोण से देखना चाहिये। इस प्रकार की वार्तालाप हम उनके साथ करते रहे।

SHRI B. V. ABDULLA KOYA : Sir, while admitting that all parties and all shades of opinion have approved the national population policy, the All-India Muslim Personal Law Board and Jamiatulama-I-Hind have passed resolutions against compulsory sterilisation and compelling people for this thing. I understand that a few days back, the Delhi Administration adopted all kinds of coercive methods to get even children of 18 years or 19 years of age for compulsory sterilisation. Some of the rickshaw-wallas and others have been caught hold of and punished with sterilisation. Is the hon. Minister aware of it? If so, what would he like to do with such kind of malpractices? I understand that the Prime Minister is of the firm opinion that compulsory sterilisation is not our policy.

DR. KARAN SINGH : With regard to the question of resolutions, we have received some resolution from some Catholic and Muslim organisations.

SHRI B. V. ABDULLA KOYA : These are the All-India Muslim Personal Law Board and Jamiatulama-I-Hind.

DR. KARAN SINGH : I have a list of four Catholic organisations, one or two individuals and somebody from Jamiat-e-Ulama. I suppose it is open to anybody to pass a resolution. The second point is with regard to coercion and compulsion. I would like to make Government's policy clear with regard to sterilisation. We have said that there would be no Central

law. We have also said that if a State Government considers that time is ripe and public opinion is ready and wishes to pass a law, we will not stand in its way. But in that event the limitation should be brought in after three children and it should be applicable to all citizens living in that State. No law for compulsory sterilisation has yet been passed. Three or four States are considering the matter, but no law has been passed. Therefore, the question of compulsory sterilisation, as of today, does not arise. As and when a law is passed by the due process of law, it will be applicable in the area where the jurisdiction of that law extends.

With regard to coercion and harassment, we have made it very clear time and again that we are definitely opposed to any type of coercion and harassment. As I said in the other House, when you move from a *laissez faire* policy to an activist policy, there is always a certain amount of tension. May be a certain degree of gentle and civilised pressure or persuasion is required. But we are definitely against harassment and coercion. If it is taking place anywhere, it is unfortunate. It is not within our knowledge. Many things were said in this hon. House. When we checked them with the Delhi Administration, they flatly denied that this had happened.

Reservation of Posts for Physically Handicapped Persons

*332. **SHRIMATI RATHNABAI SREENIVASA RAO :**
SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR : †
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 108 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th May, 1976 and state :

(a) since when has the question relating to reservation of posts in Government departments and public undertakings for

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Sushila Shankar Adivarekar.

physically handicapped persons been under Government's consideration;

(b) whether it is a fact that a decision in principle has already been taken in this regard; and

(c) by when legislation on the subject is likely to be brought before Parliament ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV) : (a), (b) and (c) The matter has been under examination for almost five years in consultation with appropriate authorities. In view of the complex nature of the problem, extensive consultations are necessary which are in progress. Further action will be taken as soon as proposals are finalized.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR : Sir, this matter has taken a very long time and I feel that the Ministry should move fast in this matter because the physically handicapped require all the attention. Sir, with all the sympathies that we have for the physically handicapped, the Central Government has not yet come out with any such resolution. They are still considering the matter. But are there any other States which have introduced this measure ? Can we have information whether any State has introduced this measure or is considering to introduce because I understand that the State of Gujarat has recently introduced a measure to have reservation for the physically handicapped ? If we have the details of that legislation, which has been introduced in Gujarat, it will enable the Government and the Ministry to make up their mind fast.

श्री डी० पी० यादव : सभापति जी, गुजरात सरकार ने इस बारे में क्या लेजिस्लेशन बनाया है, मेरे पास इसकी सूचना नहीं है। मैं इसकी जांच करवा के माननीय सदस्या को प्रसारित कर दूंगा। मैं केवल इतना ही कहना चाहूंगा कि लेजिस्लेशन से हमारा काम चल जाएगा, ऐसी बात नहीं है। यह एक राष्ट्रीय समस्या है, इसलिए इस पर सभी का

सहयोग जरूरी है और भारत सरकार इस पर बहुत सहानुभूतिपूर्वक विचार कर रही है।

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR : Sir, I fully agree that a mere legislation is not going to help. But legislation is definitely going to help us to make some progress towards helping these people. There is one more thing on which I would like to have information. Under the 20-point programme, there is an item that apprenticeship training will be given to people. The Central Apprenticeship Council has also recommended that these physically handicapped people should also be given that training. Is that matter also under the consideration of the Central Government ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Sir, so far as my information goes, my information is more definite with regard to graduate engineers and diploma-holders. I am also aware of the trained technicians who are also eligible. The Apprenticeship Act is dealt with by my colleague, the Labour Minister. So far as my information goes, no person who has asked for or applied for training as an apprentice, it does not matter to which category he belongs, has so far been refused placement. Places have been found for all those who want to undergo apprenticeship training.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Sir, some time in 1971, our Prime Minister had given an assurance that some type of social legislation for the reservation of seats for the physically handicapped would be brought forward soon. Now, the Minister himself has given a statement that for five years it is under the Government's consideration and that there are a lot of complications in this matter. Sir, since we had some occasion to work with these people, I am not able to follow exactly what the complications are in this matter. So, I would like to request the Government to state what the difficulties and hurdles are which the Government forces to introduce such a legislation. Unless some legislation comes up saying that the Government departments, private sector and others will have to reserve certain seats for the physically handicapped, it is very difficult to get

the things done. So, I would request the Government to tell us how much more time they would require for this type of legislation and how long these physically handicapped people will have to wait. They have already been waiting for the last five years. When the Prime Minister gave the assurance they got hope that something would be done early. But, so far, nothing has been done. Would the Minister kindly state what the main difficulties and hurdles are today ?

श्री डी० पी० यादव : अध्यक्ष जी, इस देश में फिजिकली हैंडिकैप्ड जिनको हम कहते हैं, उनकी संख्या करीब-करीब 1 करोड़ 70 लाख है। इतनी बड़ी संख्या को हम किसी कानून के द्वारा इम्प्लायमेंट में डाल देंगे, ऐसा करना संभव नहीं है। प्रधान मंत्री जी की चिन्ता इस पर बराबर रहती आई है और अभी भी उनका चिन्तन इस ओर है। 20-सूत्री कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत हम समझते हैं कि जब नेल्फ इम्प्लायमेंट जैनरेट होगा तो उसमें काफी संख्या में लोग चले आएंगे।

SHRI B. N. BANERJEE: Sir, I am aware that the Government have issued instructions to various employment exchanges, Ministries and Departments of the Government to give some preferential treatment to these unfortunate physically handicapped persons. I would like the hon. Minister to let me know if there are also instructions given to these bodies asking them to supply information periodically so that the Government knows whether these instructions for preferential treatment have actually been complied with. Sir, I would also like to ask another question. Can the hon. Minister tell us how many physically handicapped persons were given employment during the last three years under the Government ? This information may be given year-wise.

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE : Sir, he has put a long question. Previously he used to advise you to stop us at the second question.

SHRI B. N. BANERJEE : Sir my question is not in more than 150 words.

श्री डी० पी० यादव : अध्यक्ष जी, अभी हमारे यहाँ 16 स्पेशल इम्प्लायमेंट एक्सचेंजेज काम कर रहे हैं हैंडिकैप्ड के लिए। इनमें करीब-करीब 15,000 लोगों को हम प्लेसमेंट करा सके हैं और हमारी इच्छा है, और प्रयास है, कि उसमें अधिक से अधिक संख्या की वृद्धि हो।

SHRI B. N. BANERJEE : Sir, he has not answered my question at all. Either he has not followed it or he has not got the answer. I have said that the Government have given instructions to the Ministries and Departments to give preferential treatment to the physically handicapped persons and asked whether you have got any system in your Ministry to call for information from these bodies if these instructions are being complied with ? I have also asked how many physically handicapped persons have got employment during the last three years, year-wise ? He has not answered any of these points.

SHRI D. P. YADAV : Sir, so far as the placement number is concerned, it is about 15,000. I cannot give the figures year-wise. For this purpose we have got 16 special employment exchanges. We are also pursuing this policy through the different departments which are under our control and asking them to give preference to the physically handicapped persons.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the number employed during the last three years ?

SHRI D. P. YADAV : That figure is not available, Sir.

SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON : The fact remains that when there is large unemployment it is psychologically impossible, even with all directives given, to take physically handicapped people. Therefore, Sir, in spite of the statement made by the hon. Minister that there is no bar to anybody going in for training, they do not go in for such apprenticeship training because it is no cure for their physical handicappedness and since the stress is now more on self-employment programme, would the Government consider the

question of giving emphasis to special training-cum-self-employment programmes so that they can be trained and settled on their own ?

SHRI D. P. YADAV : We are attempting to do this.

DR. RAJAT KUMAR CHAKRA-BARTI : Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether persons who suffer from a curable type of leprosy fall under this category of physically handicapped persons or not ? To cite an example I know of a teacher in the Belghorja Polytechnic run by the Rama Krishna Mission. He had this disease but he has been cured. But for the last one year he has not been allowed to join on the ground that he is suffering from the disease of leprosy. Under what category do these people, who are suffering from leprosy which is curable, fall ? How are they to be rehabilitated ? Has the Government framed any policy in respect of these people ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Health Minister may reply.

DR. KARAN SINGH : Sir, the position with regard to leprosy is that if in the course of the disease, it has resulted in certain physical disability including amputation, then obviously it will qualify and should qualify for physical rehabilitation. But, if as happens now, the leprosy is detected early and it can be cured without any deformation whatsoever, then he cannot qualify for physical rehabilitation.

DR. RAJAT KUMAR CHAKRA-BARTI : My question was, a person who was working in the institute had this type of leprosy and he took leave. He has been cured now but he is not allowed to join.

DR. KARAN SINGH : If he has been deformed or amputated as a result of this, then he is eligible; if not, then he is not eligible.

DR. RAJAT KUMAR CHAKRA-BARTI : He is not being allowed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister has given the grounds.

سری سید نظام الدین : جناب میں

آپ کی وساطت سے منسٹر صاحب سے

یہ جاننا چاہا ہوں کہ جسمانی طور پر معذور لوگوں کی جو سٹکھیا ، کروڑ سے زیادہ بتائی گئی ہے اس میں جو تعلیم یافتہ لوگ بھی ہیں اگر اس میں فیزیکیلی ہینڈیکپ ہیں اور ایجوکیٹڈ بھی ہیں جنہیں بہت دیر تک نوکری نہیں ملی ہے ان کے بارے میں اس تجویز پر غور کیا جائے گا کہ کم سے کم انہیں کچھ وظیفہ ملے تاکہ وہ اپنا پیٹ پال سکیں۔ کیا آپ اس بارے میں غور کریں گے یا نہیں ؟

†[**श्री सैयद निजामुद्दीन :** जनाब—मैं आपकी वसाहत से मिनिस्टर साहब से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिस्मानी तौर पर माजूर लोगों की जो तादाद एक करोड़ से ज्यादा बताई गई है। क्या इसमें तालीम-याफना लोग भी हैं। अगर इसमें फिजिकली हैंडिकैप्ड एजुकेटिड है। इनमें जो एजुकेटिड भी हैं जिन्हें बहुत देर तक नौकरी नहीं मिली है उनके बारे में इस तजवीज पर गौर किया जायेगा कि कम-से-कम इन्हें तब तक कुछ बजीफा मिले ताकि वे अपना पेट पाल सकें। क्या आप इस बारे में गौर करेंगे या नहीं ?]

श्री डी० पी० यादव : शिक्षित और अशिक्षित दोनों फिजिकली हैंडिकैप्ड लोगों की संख्या मैंने बतला दी है। जहां तक बजीफा देने का सवाल है, अभी मैं इस बारे में सरकारी तौर पर बचन नहीं दे सकता हूँ।

Incidence of Chickenpox in Country

*333. **SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

†[] Hindi transliteration.