

Teaching days lost in Central Universities

1604. DR. I. OKESH CHANDRA :
SHRI UMASHANKAR JOSHI :
SHRI KRISHNA KRIPLANI :
SHRI P. N. BISI :

Will (he *Mmstet* of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be please to state :

(a) the number of teaching days lost during 1974 in all the Central Universities ; and

(b) what were the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN) : (a) and (b) With the exception of the Visva Bharati and the Jawaharlal Nehru University, there was no loss of teaching days in any central University on account of agitation or trouble in the Universities. In the Science and Humanities Faculties of the Visva-Bharati, 7 and 5 days respectively were lost due to agitation for the removal of Professor of Chemistry from the Headship of the Department. In the Jawaharlal Nehru University, 8 teaching days were lost on account of token strike, by karamcharies or the students.

Expenditure on seminars

1605. SHRI KRISHNA KRIPLANI:
SHRI UMASHANKAR JOSHI:
SHRI P. N. BISI:

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

(a) the number of seminars organised during 1974 under the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare or by institutions financed or aided by the Ministry;

(b) what was the total expenditure incurred on these seminars;

(c) whether Government are aware that many of the themes discussed at these seminars were almost repetitions and some of delegates too were the same; and

(d) whether Government have made or propose to make an assessment to find out as to whether the expenditure incurred on these seminars was commensurate with the benefits derived therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROFESSOR S. NURUL HASAN): (a) to (d) Requisite information in regard to seminars organised by the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare "or by autonomous societies established by it or those for which specific assistance was provided, is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Aid to ailing/indigent writers, scholars and artists

1606. SHRI KRISHNA KRIPLANI: SHRI P. N. BISI: SHRI UMASHANKAR JOSHI:

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

(a) whether Government have earmarked any fund for giving aid to the ailing/indigent writers, scholars and artists;

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

(c) what is the machinery devised for selecting deserving recipients and for processing the disbursement of the grants or stipends;

(d) the details of amount disbursed during 1974, together with the number of the recipients and the minimum and maximum amounts granted to individuals;

(e) whether there is any provision for life pensions to writers, scholars and artists who

are no longer in a position to earn their livelihood; and

(f) whether Government propose to bring distinguished writers, scholars and artists who have devoted their talents and labour of a lifetime to enrich their country's literary and cultural heritage at par with freedom fighters for purposes of State assistance?

'THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV):

(A)

Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The scheme "of 'Financial assistance to persons distinguished in letters, arts and such other walks of life who may be in indigent circumstances', was originally formulated in 1952-53 and the Central Government was paying full share of expenditure. This scheme was revised from April, 1961. Under the revised scheme the expenditure was shared between the Central and State Governments in the ratio of 2:1. Due to paucity of funds, no fresh cases or requests for enhancement in the rates of existing grantees could be considered from April, 1969 onwards. On the recommendation of the Finance Commission, the scheme of 'Financial assistance to persons who have made contributions in art and letters but are now in indigent circumstances and to dependents of writers and artists who leave their families unprovided' has been transferred to the State Sector from 1974-75. Accordingly, during 1974-75, no grant was reimbursed to the State Governments by the Centre. About 1200 persons are being helped under this scheme and the amount of monthly allowance ranges from Rs. 50/- to Rs. 150/-. 'The scheme has, however, been reactivated from 1974-75 so as to consider fresh cases as well as requests for increase in the rate of monthly allowance of the existing beneficiaries. The expenditure on cases covered by the reactivated scheme will be shared between the Central and State Governments in the ratio of 2:1. A copy each of the old and new schemes is attached. [See Appendix XC1 Annexure No. 831.

(f) Under the scheme of financial assistance to persons distinguished in letters, arts, etc., who are in indigent circumstances the maximum assistance provided is Rs. 150/- per month whereas under the Ministry of Home Affairs' Freedom Fighters Pension Scheme the minimum amount of pension provided is Rs. 200/- per month. There is no proposal under consideration to raise the limit of assistance under the scheme of assistance writers, etc. from Rs. 150/- per month. However, a new scheme for the award of fellowships to outstanding artists in the fields of the performing, the literary and the plastic arts, has recently been sanctioned by the Department of Culture under which a limited number of fellowships of two types, one-carrying Rs. 1,000/- per month, and the other carrying Rs. 500/- per month each, will be awarded.

Complaints against F.P.S. in Delhi

1607. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SAN-YAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by Government against fair price shops in Delhi, during the last year;

(b) whether Government received complaints of malpractices indulged in at ARD No. 1332, Shora Kothi, Paharganj, Delhi regarding ghost ration cards, short weight, and black marketing in rationed food articles; and

(c) whether any action has been taken in this regard: if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) The Delhi Administration has reported that 1950 complaints were received by them against Fair Price Shops in Delhi last year.

(b) and (c) Delhi Administration has reported that two complaints of malpractices indulged in at ARD No. 1332 were received which were investigated into