

production programme. We have taken up the matter with the Steel Ministry. In fact the hon. Member and myself were supposed to meet the Steel Minister today. Steel Ministry were helpful and I think substantially this programme will go through. Of course, there is steel shortage. The Steel Ministry is very sympathetic. This is a government programme and therefore top priority will be given for allotment of steel.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : What was the requirement of the State Government ? Do not talk of sympathy. Everybody is sympathetic. The whole world is sympathetic. But how many kilograms have been allotted so far ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : Some quantities have been allotted, especially bar steel, to Maharashtra Government. But additional requirements are there.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : How many kilograms ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : I shall discuss the matter with the Steel Minister either today or tomorrow.

SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA : Sir, yesterday there was a news item that we are going to import wheat from the USA or from some other country. How many tonnes of wheat are we going to import ? Have we to beg from other countries like this ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : Sir, there is no question of begging from anybody. Even if the Government of India wants to import, they would be commercial imports and whether they are from one country or the other, we would be purchasing them on commercial terms only from that country.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question, please. Mr. Monoranjan Roy.

*183. [The questioner (Shri Monoranjan Roy) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 30 infra]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

CRITERIA FOR GIVING ASSISTANCE TO CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

*184. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : †
DR BHAI MAHAVIR :
SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY :
SHRI HABIB TANVIR :

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Sangeet Natak Akademi gives grants to registered and selected institutions in the field of Music, Dance and Drama on an assessment of the performance of the institutions and of the type of the activities which are desired to be fostered and assisted ;

(b) whether there are any expert bodies entrusted with the work of making assessment of the performance of the institutions ; and if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) what are the criteria for determining the amount of grants in each case ; and

(d) whether during the last three years the Akademi rejected any applications for grants ; and if so, the names of the applicants, and the reasons therefor ?

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 (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House. [See Appendix LXXXII, Annexure No. 23]

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Sir, I want to know the criteria adopted in such cases. Also, Sir, I want to know who the judges are who are given the charge of assessing the desirability of giving grants to those institutions. Who are the judges who are normally entrusted with this job ?

SHRI D. P. YADAV : Sir, the honourable Member has gone in deep detail while he was a Member on the Khosla Committee and perhaps I need not go further than what he has already assessed. About the grants there are the Grants Committee, Sir, and the Executive Board. Till 71-72, we have had a Grants Committee of five Members and if the honourable Member wants

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Lokanath Misra.

to know the names of the Members I would like to give them now :

- (1) Shri K. P. S. Menon,
- (2) Shri V. K. Narayana Menon,
- (3) Shri S. N. Mozumdar,
- (4) Shri P. D. Deshpande, and
- (5) Shri S. Srinivasa Rao.

They were the Members and over and above this, they take the help of the officials of the Akademi who compile all details of applications and scrutinise and scan the concerned papers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Dr. Bhai Mahavir.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Sir, is it a fact that in its review, the Khosla Committee has observed that some of the grants had been made on personal considerations and in certain cases the generosity was misapplied ? In other words, Sir, is it a fact that in the view of the Committee the grants were not all straight and honest and that there was something fishy about them and, if so, after these observations are known, has any comprehensive inquiry been undertaken or is any inquiry going to be undertaken to satisfy the people and the Government on this score and to sift the grain from the chaff ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Sir, the Report of the Khosla Committee has already been placed on the Table of the House and therefore there is no point in my telling the Member what is in the Report and what is not in the Report.

Sir, so far as the second part is concerned, the Report has been sent to the Akademi whose comments have been asked for and as soon as these comments are available, the Government will take a position and then come before the House so that the House may know as to what steps the Government proposes to take in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think you have already said this in the House.

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Last time I said this, Sir.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Sir, on a point of order. I asked the honourable Minister whether they have observed that the grants were made on personal considerations and there was misapplied generosity. Now, Sir, the honourable Minister says that he need not tell me as to what is there in the Report and what is not there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Sir, I put it to you. Is it the proper answer ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has already answered your question.

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : If the honourable Member quotes from a Report, then what other answer does he expect, Sir ?

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Please say then whether I am correct or not.

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : I have already said, Sir, that I have asked for the comments of the Akademi. As soon as the comments are available to the Government, they can take a position.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Sir, I beg to submit that the Government taking a position after receiving the comments is perfectly all right. But, Sir, my question was whether the Committee has made these observations and in view of that, whether the Government proposes to make a comprehensive inquiry.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think the Minister has already answered your question.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Let him at least confirm what I have said.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Mahavir, if there is any document which is available to the Members, no question can be put about that document and no question can be asked as to whether such and such a thing is there or not. If it is contained therein, then you know it.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Sir, it is very interesting . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . It is very peculiar. That means hon. Members can't ask any question . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are putting words into my mouth. I have not said this. What I have said was that you cannot put a question whether a certain thing is contained in a document. Other questions you have put and the answers have come.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA . The hon. Member has a right to be ignorant. Therefore, he wants to know whether this is contained there so that he can study the report . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has answered the question. The matter is before that body. They have asked for explanations . . .

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR . Questions have been asked. This is the first time you are telling us that we can't ask such questions . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have not said this. You are again putting things into my mouth.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : I would like to be corrected if I am wrong.

MR CHAIRMAN : You are wrong.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why are you standing, Mr. Kulkarni ? I did not need your help . . .

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI . Sir, . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN . Why are you standing ? I did not call you. There must be some order in the House. Mr. Choudhury.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY . May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Akademi gives adequate publicity of its programmes and grants distribution to such institutions ? If so, in what manner ? Also, has the Akademi over these past years prepared a comprehensive inventory of the cultural institutions in the country, giving essential information to each one of them ? How does the Akademi ensure that for equal opportunity to all, all institutions are given grants ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN . From the statement which my colleague has placed before the House in reply to this question, it

would be seen that a large number of cultural institutions in different parts of the country had applied, but were not given grants. Now, considering this, I would be quite surprised if cultural institutions are not aware of this particular scheme of the Akademi.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY : My question was a pointed one whether the Akademi gives adequate publicity to all such institutions in the country, and if so, in what manner. That was a pointed question.

SHRI D. P. YADAV : The reply to the first part of the question is emphatic 'yes'. As to the second part, if the hon. Member goes through the list in the Appendix which we have supplied, it will be evident that due publicity through institutional correspondence and also newspapers is given.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : Is it a fact that the Akademi has over all these 15 or 18 years done nothing to enlighten people about music, dance and drama in rural areas where the people are ignorant about the existence of a government organization like the Sangeet Natak Akademi ? If so, is the Government prepared to enquire into the activities of the Akademi, so far as the financial aspect is concerned ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN . May I repeat what I said last week, that it was in view of the complaints that had been received by Government that the Government appointed this very high-powered review committee to go into the entire functioning of the Akademi and to suggest what measures should be taken to improve the functioning of the Akademi ? Now, Sir, the question of appointing yet another body to enquire into it, I think, does not arise.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Mohita. Last question.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : May I ask the hon. Minister, in view of the Khosla Committee's observation that the Akademi does not seem to have properly qualified persons in its Councils, what are the qualifications of the members on the Grants Committee ? Are the Government satisfied that there are properly qualified persons to discharge their duties to the satisfaction of all concerned ? Have the

Government laid down any guidelines about the appointment of persons on the Committee?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Sir, the Government would be certainly influenced in its thinking by the observation of the Review Committee. And I assure the House that there is no question of by passing the recommendations of the Review Committee. Sir, it is naturally a matter of ordinary justice that before the Government start taking action they must give an opportunity to the Akademi to express its views and once those views have been received, they would be considered along with the recommendations of the Committee and appropriate action will certainly be taken.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : The question I had asked was : what are the qualifications of the Members of the Akademi? What is their background and what is their experience? What are the qualifications of the Members who are at present serving on that Committee?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Sir, on the Executive Board of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, there is Dr. V. K. Narain Menon who is supposed to be a great expert in both North Indian and South Indian music. He has also a sound knowledge of Western music. Dr. V. Raghavan, in addition to being a very great Sanskritist, is also a great expert in music. Shrimati Mrinalini Sarabhai is well-known in the country as an exponent of dance and Sambhu Mitra is again a well-known dramatist. I am mentioning these people who are well-known experts. But, quite obviously, Sir, the recommendation of the Review Committee has to be taken into account.

WORKING CONDITIONS IN THE SILVER JUBILEE T. B. HOSPITAL DELHI

*185. **SHRI O. P. TYAGI :** †
DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN :
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the *Hindustan Times* of 22nd September, 1972, regarding the inefficient working of the Silver

Jubilee T. B. Hospital, Kingsway Camp, Delhi, and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to remove inefficiency in the working of the said hospital?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI UMASHANKAR DIKSHIT) : (a) and (b) Government is aware of the news item appearing in the *Hindustan Times* of 22nd September, 1972. On seeing it, Government sought a report from the Delhi Municipal Corporation under whom the Silver Jubilee T. B. Hospital is functioning. The Corporation has stated that it is satisfied with the functioning of the hospital.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : श्रीमन्, मेरा एक क्वेश्चन है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सिर्फ यही एक टी० बी० अस्पताल में अक्षमता का रिकार्ड नहीं है, बल्कि देश के जितने भी अस्पताल हैं वहाँ डाक्टरों की और दवाओं की कमी सभी के लिए है। तो यह सरकार की जानकारी में है या नहीं?

श्री उमाशंकर दीक्षित : सारे देश के हास्पिटल्स का यहाँ सवाल नहीं है, यहाँ एक म्युनिसिपैलिटी के हास्पिटल का सवाल है, हम सारे हिन्दुस्तान के लिये जवाब कैसे दे सकते हैं, आप दूसरा प्रश्न पूछिये हम बतायेंगे। रिपोर्ट यह दी गई थी कि :

"The patients were not getting drugs and medicines although they were in stock." This is one of the allegations. They have said that they have gone into it and found that the working is satisfactory. But we will pursue that matter.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : आपने परस्यू कर के क्या किया ?

श्री उमाशंकर दीक्षित : लेकिन सारे हिन्दुस्तान के बारे में अभी नहीं बता सकते, आप दूसरा प्रश्न पूछिये। श्रीमन्, उनको दूसरा प्रश्न पूछना चाहिए। हम सारे हिन्दुस्तान के टी० बी० अस्पतालों के बारे में बतायेंगे।

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri O. P. Tyagi.