

The last question that he asked was about the primary reasons for the bad functioning of public enterprises. The first reason that the hon'ble Member has given is lack of proper management. I would not say that this is the primary reason. Of course, that is one of the main reasons. There are many other reasons like the one the hon'ble Member mentioned such as the long gestation period of the public enterprises because the results come before us much later.

Then there are other factors. There are many industries in the public sector which would not give profit for many, many years to come. We know that. We know that profits will not come and still in the national interest they have to be taken up. There are difficulties, managerial difficulties and other difficulties. One of the main difficulties that we have seen is of management. We are trying to correct it by seeing that those people who have gone on deputation exercise their option; either they stay with the public sector industries or they come back to the Government, and that we recruit proper people for proper jobs. We are taking all these steps.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Chitta Basu.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Sir...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : We have already taken 22 minutes. Next question.

RAIDS ON EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN WEST BENGAL

*556. **SHRI CHITTA BASU :** †
SHRI SUHRID MULLICK
CHOUDHRY :
SHRI A.P. CHATTERJEE :

Will the Minister of **EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a certain section of young people have been conducting raids on educational institutions in West Bengal for the last few months and have been creating obstructions to the holding of examinations in the schools and colleges in that State ;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a reported statement of an official of the Education Department of the Government of West Bengal to the effect that the promotion to higher classes should be given on the basis of results of the half-yearly examinations ;

(c) whether the educational administration in West Bengal has not succeeded in taking effective steps to cope with the situation mentioned at part (a) above ; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to save the educational institutions against such raids and to ensure the smooth conduct of examinations in the schools and other educational institutions in that State ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (SHRI A.K. KISKU) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir

(c) and (d) Necessary steps have been taken by the State authorities. Examinations have been held in about 90 per cent of the institutions according to available information. The State Government have issued a circular to schools asking them to hold annual examinations and insisting that the students might not be promoted if they failed to appear in the annual examination.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : May I know, Sir, if it is not a fact that the overwhelming majority of students of the educational institutions there are opposed to that kind of vandalism and are also coming out to resist it ?

My second question is whether the Government are aware of the fact that the student community have got certain genuine legitimate grievances against the authorities of the institutions, against the Board of Secondary Education against the University authorities particularly in regard to a large number of lapses, acts of omissions and commissions, and particularly in regard to the examination system itself. The teaching community has got a grievance against non-availability of payment in regular time. If so, may I know, Sir, what steps the Government have so far taken to remove all these genuine and legitimate grievances of the student community and also the teaching community of the State ?

SHRI A.K. KISKU : May I make the point clear that the type of raids that are going on in the educational institutions do not reflect the student unrest or student indiscipline as such. They are clear indications of indiscipline or raid by a small number of students or groups of young men, with a motive of political adventure. On the whole, we can say that these are not symptoms of any indiscipline either from the students or from any other groups towards the educational or academic

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Chitta Basu.

matter. On the other hand, we have clear indications that the students themselves are trying to resist some of the raids that are taking place occasionally here and there.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Sir, he has only agreed with me. But my question was different. I wanted to know whether there are certain genuine, legitimate grievances among the students against the authorities of these institutions, against the Board of Secondary Education, against the Calcutta University authorities and also against the very system of examination itself and, if so, whether the Government has taken any steps to remove these legitimate and genuine grievances of the students.

SHRI A.K. KISKU : Sir, we do not have any record with us.....

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : No record ?

SHRI A.K. KISKU :.....representing the grievances of the students.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Then, some students should burn the records of Mr. Kisku which do not mention the students' grievances.

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : May I supplement my colleague's answer ? I do not know why Mr. Arora wants to burn the records belonging to Mr. Kisku. Mr. Kisku is a very peaceful and very nice person.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : But his records are bad.

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : I am sure Mr. Arora does not really mean what he says when he talks of burning some body's records. As far as the question is concerned, there is no doubt about the fact that there is a great deal of dissatisfaction in the existing system of examination as well as of instruction; there is no doubt about it. As we know, this is the reason why numerous commissions and committees have been appointed. First, there was the Education Commission and then there was the Committee of Members of Parliament and the National Policy on Education. The difficulty has been one of enforcing all the various reforms that have been suggested and also concretising some of these reforms such as work experience, vocationalisation of education and so on. And for this purpose, we are taking action to set up a number of pilot projects. But inevitably it will take some time before the whole system of instruction gets reformed. As regards examination, this has been one of

the most important grievances of the student community all over the country both in schools and colleges. For that purpose also, a number of universities are experimenting with examination reforms. The University Grants Commission has made some suggestions and in the Central Advisory Board on Education, on which all State Ministers of Education are represented, a committee has been appointed for the purpose of examining this question in depth. I believe in the course of the next two months or so, this committee will make its report. I want the C.A.B.E. to do it because all the State Ministers of Education are on it, and school examinations are under the jurisdiction of the Ministers of Education in the States. All that my colleague wanted to say was that these raids which are taking place on the schools for the purpose of disrupting the examinations are not the result of these grievances, but are the result of some other cause with which, I am sure, my friend is familiar, coming as he does from Calcutta.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Chatterjee.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Sir, I have to put my second question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You have put all your questions.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : No, Sir. I had to get up thrice to get a reply to my first question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : All right, please be brief.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : May I know whether the hon. Minister of Education agrees with me that the restoration of academic atmosphere cannot be done merely by relying on the police forces or by adopting the law and order attitude? May I also know whether the Government proposes to initiate a process by which every educational institution would have a machinery to have some open dialogue with the representatives of the students, with the students and their guardians at large, so that we can restore the academic atmosphere in the institutions ?

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : Regarding the first part of the question I think it is not only the Minister of Education, but the entire Government of India is agreed that this problem is not merely a problem of law and order. As far as the second part of the question is concerned, he has made a useful suggestion which, I shall see, is transmitted to the authorities of West Bengal.

SHRI A.P. CHATTERJEE : Is it a fact that during the President's rule which started in West Bengal since 7th March, 1970, there have been raids on educational institutions to the extent of 600? During this period there have been 600 raids on educational institutions. Is it a fact or not?

SHRI ARJUN AFORA : Are your records complete?

SHRI A.P. CHATTERJEE : Is it also a fact that on 19th November last when student volunteers belonging to the Siksha Samrakshan Samithi of Jadavpur were guarding an examination that was being held in Jadavpur Higher Secondary School, there was a raid on a neighbouring school called the Vikramgarh High School and one of the volunteers, Khokan Pal, wanted to go there—he was a volunteer—to transfer his guard there so that the examination there may be held safely, but the plain-clothes policemen... (Time-bell rings) Why are you ringing the bell, Mr. Deputy Chairman? Am I or am I not asking a questions?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You should be brief.

SHRI A.P. CHATTERJEE : Yes, I am putting it briefly. You have developed the knack of ringing the bell.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You should try to be brief.

SHRI A.P. CHATTERJEE : Yes, I am trying to be brief.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No, you are not.

SHRI A.P. CHATTERJEE : Is it a fact that that volunteer, Khokan Pal, was shot dead by the plain-clothes policemen even though he was one of the volunteers who were standing guard outside the institution in order to see that the examination was held safely? If it is so, does it not follow from this that the policemen who are sent there who are put there in West Bengal, under the President's rule, are helping those who are disrupting the examination, those who are disrupting the educational system, and are not protecting the examination, are not protecting those who want the examination to be held safely? These are my three questions.

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : I am sure the House will appreciate that it is not possible for the Minister of Education to answer these questions. What I shall do is I shall have an extract taken from the records of what the honourable Member has said and have it transmitted to the educational authorities of West Bengal.

SHRI A.P. CHATTERJEE : My first question was this, whether during the President's rule there have been 600 raids on the educational institutions or not. The Minister must answer that. Secondly, one Mr. Khokan Pal, a volunteer, was shot dead, a volunteer of the Siksha Samrakashan Samithi. He must answer these questions.

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : As far as the first question is concerned, I can answer it, but the second and the third questions are questions which I am not in a position to answer because the honourable Member is making a reference to the names of individuals and organisations which.

SHRI A.P. CHATTERJEE : No, no. On a point of order. I do not understand this kind of an answer from the Education Minister. I wanted to know whether it is or it is not a fact that Khokan Pal was shot dead while he was standing guard over the examination. This question he must answer. If you have no information, say you have no information.

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : The honourable Member has a very gentle voice. Why does he want to make it rough?

SHRI A.P. CHATTERJEE : No, my voice was never so gentle as you say.

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : As far as the first question is concerned, I have not got with me data about the raids on educational institutions. But I have got with me data of incidents of extremist lawlessness in West Bengal, and according to my information, the number of incidents in educational institutions from January up to the 20th of July seems to be 269. The honourable Member has stated the number 600. I shall try to find out which of these two figures is correct. Regarding the other question, about some volunteer having been shot dead, I have no information. If the honourable Member would like me to ascertain the facts, I can get them ascertained and pass on the information to him.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : मंत्री महोदय ने स्वयं स्वीकार किया है कि 269 घटनायें हुई हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो जवाब उनके महायक ने दिया वह किसी प्रकार के फैक्ट्स वैरीफिकेशन के आधार पर है या एक जनरल रूप में इन सवालों का जो जवाब दिया जाता है, उसके आधार पर है और अगर है तो इन 269 में से कितनी घटनाओं के स्टैटिस्टिक्स एकत्र करने के बाद जो परिणाम पर वह पहुंचे हैं उस पर उनको पहुंचने में सफलता मिली है।

मैं यह भी जानना चाहूंगा कि जो व्यवस्थायें इम्तिहान करवाने के लिए की गई, उसके लिए क्या सरकार इस नतीजे पर नहीं पहुंची कि अभी तक की गई व्यवस्थायें अपर्याप्त साबित हुई हैं। जैसा कि प्रश्न के पार्ट (घ) में है। इम्तिहान कराने का आपका आग्रह है—यह होना चाहिए और मैं इसका पूरा समर्थन करता हूँ। लेकिन इम्तिहान शान्तिपूर्वक हों और इसके लिये की गई व्यवस्थायें जिस प्रकार से अब तक अधूरी साबित हुई हैं, उसको देखते हुये इनको और अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के लिये आपके सामने कौन सी स्कीम है या आप किसी प्रकार के नये सुझाव इसका प्रबन्ध करने के लिए वहां के एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन को देना चाहते हैं, जिससे कि इम्तिहान ठीक प्रकार से हो सके।

और मेरा एक तीसरा सवाल यह है...

श्री उपसभापति : दो सवाल काफी हो गये।

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : एक छोटा सा सवाल है। मैं मंत्री जी की इस बात को भी स्वीकार करता हूँ कि ये घटनायें जनरल अनरेस्ट के कारण नहीं। लेकिन इस विश्लेषण में क्या उन्होंने इस बात की जांच की कि 269 में से वास्तव में ऐसी कितनी घटनायें हैं जो कि अमेनिटीज के सवाल को लेकर हुई या जो कि अध्यापकों के असंतोष के कारण हुई? क्या इन घटनाओं का किसी न किसी प्रकार से उससे सम्बन्ध जोड़ा जा सकता है? अगर इसके

अलग-अलग आकड़े उनके पास हों तो वह सदन के पटल पर रखें।

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : The hon. Member has asked a large number of questions. The information that I gave was that these 269 incidents in educational institutions were not connected with the examinations as such. The hon. Member was speaking about raids and so on. The information that we have got in the Central Government is that the number of incidents affecting educational institutions was 269. As regards the examinations, I thought that my hon. colleague, in answer to the question, said that 90 percent of the examinations have been conducted without any difficulty. As a matter of fact, Government have issued very strict...

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI : How do you corroborate 269 incidents and 90 per cent of the examinations...

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : I am sorry. Evidently I have not made my point clear to Shri Bhandari. These 269 incidents had nothing to do with the examinations. They were not connected with the examinations. The information we have was given in his answer by my hon. colleague. He said that—I am reading his answer—necessary steps have been taken by the State authorities. Examinations have been held in about 90 per cent of the institutions according to available information. The State Government have issued a circular to schools asking them to hold annual examinations and insisting that the students might not be promoted if they failed to appear in the annual examination.

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI : It is not relevant to my question.

DR. B.N. ANTANI : Is the Minister aware of the fact that the results of annual examinations in art and science faculties in the Calcutta University, held during March last are not yet announced? If it is a fact, will he kindly tell the house the reasons therefor?

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : I thought this question related to schools. But the hon. Member has now asked a question about the Calcutta University examinations. I have to ask for notice. I have not got the information.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that, apart from the violent raids going on in

West Bengal schools, the West Bengal schools are going to be closed as 50 per cent of the teachers are not paid their salaries for the last six months ?

PROF. V.K.R. RAO : The hon. Member is very much aware that this particular question has been taken up and it is under examination in consultation with the various authorities.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The Question Hour is over.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह मंडारी : मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि हम लोग हिन्दी में प्रश्न पूछते हैं तो मंत्री महोदय उसका अनुवाद समझ कर हमारे प्रश्नों का उत्तर दे दिया करे। इसके लिये अनुवाद की मकेनिज्म को भी ठीक करने की जरूरत है, नहीं तो हम पूछते हैं पूरब, यह जवाब देते हैं पश्चिम।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

†NORTH-WESTERN ZONE NARCOTICS CONFERENCE

†*448. SHRI K.L.N. PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a three days annual North-Western Zone Narcotics Conference of experts was held in Srinagar on the 15th September, 1970 to discuss and emphasising national and international ramifications of trafficking in drugs ;

(b) if so, what were the other subjects discussed in the meeting ; and

(c) the decisions arrived at in the said conference ?

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Narcotics Conference of the North Western Zone comprising officers of the enforcement agencies of the States and the Central Government such as State Excise, Drug Control, Police, Intelligence Bureau and the Central Bureau of Investigation was held at Srinagar from the 14th September to the 17th September, 1970 to discuss problems of national and international ramifications of trafficking in narcotic drugs.

(b) The other subjects discussed in the Conference were as under :—

- (i) Addiction to various narcotic drugs such as opium, ganja and poppy heads and psychotropic substances ;
- (ii) Propaganda and publicity against drug addiction ;
- (iii) Treatment of narcotic addicts and their after-care ;
- (iv) Control over manufactured drugs—morphine, pethidine etc.; and
- (v) Liaison between different enforcement agencies in India responsible for suppression of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs.

(c) The main recommendations made in the said Conference are :—

- (i) A selective survey should be conducted in the States to ascertain the extent of addiction to various drugs ;
- (ii) A Registered opium addict should be allowed to have on an average about 70 grammes of opium per addict per annum for his consumption. In hard cases, the increased quantities should continue to be issued on the recommendation of the medical authorities ;
- (iii) Medicinal opium tablets should be supplied by the Government Opium Factory to the States for issue to the opium addicts ;
- (iv) Extent of addiction to charas and ganja should be ascertained in the country for remedial measures for their elimination ;
- (v) Publicity material should be prepared for the education of the masses against drug addiction ;
- (vi) States should take suitable measures for the treatment and deaddiction of the existing opium addicts ;
- (vii) It should be examined how control could be exercised over prescription of narcotic drugs by the medical practitioners with a view to ensure that there is no indiscriminate prescription of the same by them ;
- (viii) Efforts should be made to suppress the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs by the enforcement agencies in India and the Government of India should continue their efforts to tackle the problem of