

education in the country. However, the Government of India is urging the States to adopt a uniform pattern of education as far as practicable.]

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : सरकार ने अनिवार्य शिक्षा पद्धति के बारे में अनेक राज्यों के नामों का उल्लेख किया और साथ ही यह उल्लेख किया कि अनिवार्य शिक्षा करने में, उसको कम्पलसरी बनाने में सरकार की आर्थिक स्थिति ठीक-ठीक नहीं है, तो इसी संदर्भ में मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिस राज्य का अनिवार्य शिक्षा पर जो खर्च बैठता है और उस खर्च को वहन करने की क्षमता राज्य सरकार को नहीं हो, तो उसमें केन्द्रीय सरकार क्या सहायता देना चाहती है ?

इसी के साथ एक और अध्याय जुड़ता है कि अनिवार्य शिक्षा सभी राज्यों में पूर्णतः लागू हो, इसको केन्द्रीय सरकार अपनी जिम्मेवारी संवैधानिक ढंग से समझती है या नहीं और अगर समझती है, तो क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कोई योजना इसको पारित करने के लिये बनाई है और यदि हाँ, तो वह क्या है ?

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, जैसा कि मैंने मूल प्रश्न के उत्तर में बताया था कि संविधान के अनुसार शिक्षा राज्य सरकारों का विषय है, इसलिये प्राथमिक शिक्षा के प्रति पूरी दिल-चस्पी रखते हुये भी केन्द्रीय सरकार अपनी ओर से कोई सहायता नहीं दे सकती, यह राज्य सरकारों का उत्तरदायित्व ही है और सभी राज्य सरकारें अपने आर्थिक साधनों को ध्यान में रखते हुए इसके लिये भरसक प्रयत्नशील हैं और आशा की जाती है कि धीरे-धीरे इसका प्रसार हो जायगा ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : हमारा पूछना है कि ...

श्री सभापति : आप एक छोटा सा सवाल पूछिये ताकि मंत्री जी का जवाब भी हो जाय, सवाल का समय खत्म हो रहा है ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो समान स्तर वाली बात है, तो जब तक कि केन्द्रीय सरकार कोई योजना नहीं बनायेगी, शिक्षा के विषय में, शिक्षा के स्तर में एक योजना नहीं चलायेगी और शिक्षा के माध्यम के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार कुछ सहायता नहीं देगी, तो फिर समान स्तर जो है, उसका किा ढंग से प्रचार होगा ?

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, समान स्तर के बारे में भी यह स्थिति है कि चूँकि हमारा देश इतना विशाल है और हमारे देश में तरह तरह की प्रणालियाँ चल रही हैं, इसलिए उन सब में एक दम से एकरूपता लाना तो असम्भव है । फिर भी शिक्षा मंत्रियों के सम्मेलनों, केन्द्रीय शिक्षा परामर्श परिषद् और वाइस-चांसलर्स की कॉन्फ्रेंसों के द्वारा समय समय पर यह प्रयत्न किया जाता है कि जहाँ तक हो सके समानता लाने का प्रयत्न किया जाय । यह भी ठीक है कि इसमें हमें अभी तक बहुत अधिक सफलता नहीं मिली है ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

12 NOON

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

PAY-SCALES OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES-IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

3. SHRI S. D. MISRA :†
 SHRI P. C. MITRA :
 SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY :
 SHRI B. K. KAUL ;
 SHRI CHITTA BASU :
 SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR :
 DR. SALIG RAM :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that agitation by non-gazetted officers in Himachal Pradesh is Continuing due to non-fulfilment of the promise given to them to

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

grant pay scales at par with the pay scales obtaining in the neighbouring State of Punjab and not at par with the scales obtaining in Delhi as now announced ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some of these employees have gone on hunger strike ;

(c) whether the police had lathi-charged the strikers and if so, on how many occasions ; and

(d) what is the stand of the employees and the Government of Himachal Pradesh respectively about the applicability of Delhi scales to the NGOs and what steps are being taken to meet the demands of the employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) The non-gazetted officers of Himachal Pradesh Government are agitating for grant of pay and allowances on Punjab pattern. No promise in this regard was given to them by the Government.

(b) Yes sir. Five employees went on hunger strike from the 5th March 1970 and called it off on the 21st March 1970.

(c) No sir.

(d) The Government of Himachal Pradesh and their employees demand pay and allowances on Punjab pattern. It has been decided, as a matter of policy, to adopt the pattern of Central Scales of pay and allowances for the employees of all the Union Territories including Himachal Pradesh. The Home Minister has already made a statement in the Lok Sabha on the 17th March 1970 that the cases of such of the employees who are adversely affected by this decision will, however, be considered sympathetically and they may be allowed the option to retain the existing scales of pay and allowances.

SHRI S. D. MISRA : Sir, is it not a fact that the Government of India sanctioned with effect from 1st September, 1948 the Punjab pattern pay-scales for the non-Secretariat officers of Himachal Pradesh and they sent a communication to the State Government ? Because he has said 'No', I am giving the details. It is letter No. F41/109-56/C dated 1st March, 1956 authorising the Lieut.-Governor of Himachal

Pradesh to revise the pay scales of the non-Secretariat staff as and when the pay scales are so revised in the adjoining Part 'A' State of Punjab, so as to bring them on par with the pay scales obtaining for the corresponding posts of Punjab. It is from the Home Ministry. Is it also not a fact that subsequently in 1969 they withdrew that letter giving an assurance that the Home Ministry was considering the question of automatic linkage of the pay scales, etc ? When there is an increase in the pay scales in Punjab, it will be automatically announced as applicable to Himachal Pradesh. A letter was sent from the Home Ministry to the Himachal Pradesh Government and that letter was withdrawn. Now, when there is an agitation by the employees that they should be given pay scales at par with those in Punjab, it is being said that no such assurance was given. All these are facts which are in the records of the Home Ministry.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : There was a system of automatic linkage of the pay scales of the Union territories with the adjoining States. That was removed about two years back. That was taken away. Then, we had decided that the pay scales of the Union territories would be decided in comparison with the adjoining States and the Central scales of pay and whichever was lower would be given to them. That was the decision taken about two years back. After that . . .

SHRI S. D. MISRA : Was it communicated to the State Government ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Yes, it was communicated to the State Governments. The State Governments knew about that. The automatic linkage was removed. Then, there was an agitation about it. When Punjab was reorganised, certain parts of Punjab went to Himachal Pradesh and Punjab employees also went to Himachal Pradesh. Then, the question arose whether those people would get the Punjab scales of pay or they would get the scales of pay as had been determined for the Union territory employees. It was decided that they would get pay according to the decision that had been taken, i.e., either the scale of pay of the adjoining State or the scale of pay in the Union territory of Delhi—the Central scale—whichever was lower. When this trouble arose, we again considered the matter and we came to the

conclusion which was announced in this hon. House a few days back that the Central scales of pay would be given to all the Union territory employees irrespective of the scales of pay in the adjoining States. This is being implemented.

SHRI S. D. MISRA : One more question. The Delhi pay scales, as the Government has recently announced, will be applicable to Himachal Pradesh. Is it not a fact that even the Delhi scales of pay are in some cases lower than the existing scales in Himachal Pradesh and they are substantially lower than the revised Punjab scales ? I am giving one or two instances. For example, constables in Himachal Pradesh are in the scale of Rs. 125-150, but in Delhi they are in the scale of Rs. 75-110. In Punjab it is Rs. 125-150, but it is much less in Delhi. Similarly, take the case of Patwaris. The existing Patwaris in Himachal Pradesh get Rs. 60-175. I leave out the increments. In the case of Delhi it is Rs. 85-128, whereas in Punjab it is Rs. 110-200. So, it is a double hit by the Home Ministry. They are not getting the revised scales of pay as in Punjab. I do not know what will happen to these people and whether they will get even less than what they are getting now, because you have just given them the pay as in Delhi. Related to this is, what will happen to the compensatory allowance which is being given in Simla, etc. ? Will it not be withdrawn since you are giving them the Delhi scales ? Then, is it not a fact that the Himachal Pradesh Secretariat employees are getting exactly the same scale as the Government of India employees and Punjab employees ? Why is this distinction between Secretariat employees and non-Secretariat employees ? One lakh employees are there and they are not getting the benefit, whereas the Secretariat employees are getting it. These are my three questions.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : If the hon. Member had carefully heard my answer, it would not have been necessary for him to ask at least the last part of his question. I have stated in reply to part (d) of his question that in case the pay scale of any employee in Himachal Pradesh is higher than the Central scale of pay, he would be allowed to retain it. It would not be reduced. As far as the 2—17 R. S./70

other question is concerned, I have already stated that it is our basic policy to see that the employees of the Union territories all over the country get the same scales of pay. The scale of pay in the Union territories should not differ from one another. We should not cast a burden on the Central Revenues just because the Finance Minister of a particular State decides to revise their pay scales or make them very high. Then, automatically the pay scales of these people will not go up without our being able to decide whether any increase is justified for these employees or not. Therefore, we have taken a decision that henceforth all the employees of the Union territories shall be governed by the Central scales of pay and there would be no distinction. As I have said, this would benefit a large chunk of the employees of the Union territories and it is not going to reduce their pay. In case there are any employees where they are getting a much higher pay and their pay will be reduced, they will be allowed to retain their existing scales of pay. They will not be reduced.

SHRI P. C. MITRA : May I know whether the Government is aware that the cost of living in Himachal Pradesh is higher than in many of the Union territories, including Delhi ? At the same time, the Government of that area and the Chief Minister are also in sympathy with the strikers. In view of these facts, why does not the Government reconsider the situation and not stick to its own stand which it took about two years back ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : We have reconsidered our stand that we took two years back and we have revised it. Our earlier stand, as I stated here, was that they shall get the Central scales or the scales of the adjoining State, whichever were lower. That has been revised. Now we say, whether lower or higher, all the employees of the Union Territory shall get the Central scales. This is going to mean about Rs. 21.28 lakhs extra payment to the employees of Himachal Pradesh Government. It is no doubt true that the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh has supported the demand of his employees that they should get the Punjab scales, but ultimately the money goes from the Central fund, the Consolidated Fund of India. So we had to take a decision about this matter as to whether there

should be any invidious distinction between one Union Territory and another. We thought that it would be best if the pay scales of Union Territory employees were the same throughout the country rather than differing because of the fluctuations in the scales of pay of the States which are adjoining the Union Territories.

SHRI P. C. MITRA : I asked regarding the cost of living.

SHRI S. D. MISRA : His question was, is it not a fact that the cost of living in Himachal Pradesh is higher than in the neighbouring States of Haryana and Punjab ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : The hon. Member asked whether the cost of living in Himachal Pradesh was higher than the other Union Territories—that was the question he asked—including Delhi. He did not say neighbouring States. I do not have the comparison here at present with me, but I do not think this would be true because it does not look likely that the cost of living in Himachal Pradesh, which is a vast hilly area, would be higher than what we can find in Delhi, Goa or Pondicherry. But I do not have the figures with me.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY : Is it not a fact that if the pay-scales of Punjab are given to the Himachal Pradesh people, it will cost the Government of India more than Rs. 1 crore, and if you give them the pay scales of Delhi, it will not cost the Centre more than Rs. 20 lakhs ? If so, why is not the Government thinking at least of giving the Delhi scales ? *(Interruption)* Yesterday in the radio I heard that the Chief Minister has given an assurance to the NGOs saying, "Please withdraw your strike ; go on two days' casual leave" and he has given them an assurance that they would look into their affairs. Does the Government of India know what are the assurances given by the Chief Minister, will it be possible for him to tell us that, and if so, will they be favourably considered ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : The hon. lady Member knows that we have already taken a decision to give the Delhi scales of pay to the Himachal Pradesh employees. As far as the assurance of the hon. Chief Minister is

concerned, he did contact the officebearers of the union of the NGOs and gave them the assurance that their demands would be considered by the Central Government and that they should not go on strike. I am happy to say that I got a call from the Chief Minister this morning and he informed me that he has appealed to the NGOs and the NGOs have agreed to call off their strike, and I can assure the hon. Member that if the office-bearers of the union come here and talk to us, we shall sympathetically hear their demands and consider them. But as far as the Chief Minister is concerned...

MR. CHAIRMAN : She says the Chief Minister gave an assurance. Do you know anything about it?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : The Chief Minister only gave the assurance that their demands would be considered by the Central Government. This is the only assurance that has been given to them. On this assurance they have withdrawn the strike notice.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that the introduction of the new policy, that is, the Central pay scales in Union Territories, would adversely affect the pay packets of the large number of Government employees in Himachal Pradesh ? Having this thing in view, can the hon. Minister assure the House in specific terms that in no case any employee would be adversely affected and that their pay packets as they had been receiving will be protected ?

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : He has already given it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : You do not understand this thing.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : He has already given it twice.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You put your question.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : I understand that he has said something, but nothing has become clear. Why is he disturbing me? I want to know whether the Government is in a position to give the specific assurance that after the introduction of the new pay scales as decided upon it would not adversely affect

any of the Himachal Pradesh Government employees, that is, their pay packet is to be protected in all possible manner. Secondly, may I also know whether the Government can also assure this House that no employees of Himachal Pradesh will be victimised for merely participating in the strike or participating in the hunger-strike or participating in the agitation now going on.' thirdly, may I also know from the hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that in Chandigarh itself a new problem will be there? As far as my information goes, about 6000 employees who were earlier with the Punjab Government were unallocated while the Punjab State was divided, but some of them, about 3000, have been provisionally allocated and they had been deemed to be working as Punjab Government employees on deputation at Chandigarh. They have been receiving even today the Punjab scales, but the very moment, as Chandigarh is already a Union Territory. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the question ?

SHRI CHITTA BASU : The question is whether in their case pay protection will be also guaranteed because the very moment they are treated as Union Territory employees, they will not be able to get the Punjab pay scales and their pay scales will be reduced. I ask whether in that particular case the provisionally allocated 3000 Government employees at Chandigarh would also get the benefit of pay protection, as I have demanded earlier.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I have already stated that because of the decision if any section of employees in Himachal Pradesh are adversely affected, then they will be given the option to retain their existing scales of pay and allowances. This I have already made clear and I hope this satisfies the hon. Member, and in view of this it can be safely stated that this decision of the Government of India will not adversely affect a single employee of the Himachal Pradesh Government. On the other hand we will be paying Rs. 21.28 lakhs more to them as a result of this decision. Sir, the other question he asked was about victimisation. The administration never victimises its employees. We have no intention of victimising anybody nor will we ever victimise anybody for this.

If they have committed any wrong, if they violated any rules of conduct, then due departmental action will be taken against them, but there is no question of victimising anybody just because he was taking part in union activity. His third question was regarding Chandigarh. It is a completely separate question. It has nothing to do with the Himachal Pradesh employees.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : That is with regard to the question of pay scales of the Union Territory. The very moment this new policy of introducing the Delhi pay scales in the Union Territory at Chandigarh is put into effect, the employees will be affected because they have been receiving the Punjab scales.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : There are differences in each Union Territory. What differences we find in Himachal Pradesh may or may not be there in Chandigarh or in Pondicherry or Goa or Tripura or Manipur. I think I am not called upon to give particulars about each Union Territory. If he puts a separate question, I shall give him the answer.

डा० शालिग्राम : क्या गृह मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जब पंजाब का विभाजन हुआ तब यह एम्प्लॉयमेंट दिया गया था, एक प्रावधान किया गया था, जिसके मुताबिक दो साल तक जो लोग वहां से एलोकैट होकर हिमाचल जाएंगे, उनके पेन्सकेल वही होंगे जो पंजाब में होंगे ? 1968 से जो पेन्सकेल दिए गए और जिनके लिए यह एजीडेशन हो रहा है, क्या उसी के आधार पर ये पेन्सकेल हिमाचल एम्प्लॉयमेंट को देने के लिए आप तैयार हैं या नहीं ? दूसरी बात, अभी आपने कहा कि वहां के अखराजात दिल्ली या दूसरे शहरों के मुकाबले बहुत कम हैं । मैं इतना ही निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि क्लाइमेट का आप अन्दाजा कीजिए । जो लोग 6 महीने से अधिक वर्ष के अन्दर रहते हैं, उनके खर्च कपड़ों के लिए, ब्रेडिंग के लिए, फुएल के लिए, कैरोसिन के लिए बहुत ज्यादा होते हैं । बाहर से ये चीजें आती हैं, जिनके लिए किराया-भाड़ा अधिक देना पड़ता है । फूडग्रेन्स भी हमारे अब कुछ पैदा नहीं होता, जिस इलाके में होता था वह

आपने डुबो दिया पोंग डैम में । उस इलाके में सीरियल्स पैदा होते थे ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Come to the question.

DR. SALIG RAM : I am informing him that the cost of living is much more in Himachal Pradesh than anywhere else in India. We are living there in Lahaul, Spiti, Mahasu, etc. They are inaccessible during the winter season and even after that, living is much difficult. और फिर इसके अलावा जो हमने चीजें लानी-ले जानी होती हैं 5-5, 6-6 मील तक उनका किराया-भाड़ा बहुत देना पड़ता है ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why are you repeating this ?

DR. SALIG RAM : I am repeating only to show...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not repeat, please. Put the question.

DR. SALIG RAM : I am giving all these details because the people outside will not be able to know these. I am coming from Himachal Pradesh. And I should inform the Home Minister what is the cost of living there. यातायात के साधन भी हमारे यहां बहुत लिमिटेड हैं । रिमोट एरियाज में...

श्री सभापति : सवाल कीजिए ।

डा० शालिग्राम : सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने कहा है कि रूरल एरियाज में काम करने वालों को हम लोग बेहतर तनखाह देंगे । हमारे यहां तो सारा एरिया रूरल एरिया ही है । रूरल एरियाज में सर्विस करने के लिए अधिक एलाउन्स दिए जाते हैं । तो हमारे यहां हिमाचल में, जो सारा का सारा रूरल है, जहाँ रिमोट एरियाज हैं, आने-जाने के साधन नहीं हैं, क्या वहाँ के लोगों को आप यहां के दिल्ली के लोगों के निस्वत अधिक वेतन देने के लिए तैयार हैं या नहीं ?

इसके अलावा एक बात और है...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please put a definite question.

DR. SALIG RAM : I am asking a definite question. There are so many things that I would like to ask.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Put a question. You are giving the details.

डा० शालिग्राम : कितनी एजुकेशनल फैसिलिटीज यहां हैं, क्या वह आप वहां देने के लिए तैयार हैं, क्या इलेक्ट्रीफिकेशन और ट्रिकिंग वाटर जो यहां है, वह वहां देने के लिए तैयार है ? होम मिनिस्टर साहब अगर यह सब कुछ हमें देते हैं, तो हम आपके स्केल लेते हैं ।

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : सभापति महोदय, इन्होंने कहा कि क्या कोई ऐसा आश्वासन दिया गया था कि दो साल तक पंजाब की स्केल्स आफ पे उन लोगों को दी जायंगी जो पंजाब से हिमाचल प्रदेश में जाएंगे । मुझे मालूम नहीं है कि ऐसा आश्वासन दिया गया था या नहीं, लेकिन पंजाब का पुनर्गठन हुए दो साल से ज्यादा हो गया है । अगर ऐसा आश्वासन दिया गया होगा, तो वह वर्तमान समय में लागू नहीं होता ।

इन्होंने वहां के खर्च के बारे में कहा । हो सकता है वह सच हो; क्योंकि डा० साहब वहां से आते हैं, इस बात को अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं कि वहां के खर्च ज्यादा हैं या कम हैं । लेकिन हमारा मूल सिद्धान्त यह है कि सब यूनियन टेरीटरीज में, जो केन्द्र-प्रशासित क्षेत्र है, एक ही पे-स्केल रखें और उसके अनुसार ही यह निर्णय लिया है ।

बाकी बातें जो उन्होंने कहीं वे ठीक हैं । वहां डेवलपमेंट की आवश्यकता है, ग्रामीण क्षेत्र बहुत हैं, ये समस्याएं हम जानते हैं और समय-समय पर इन्हें हल करने की कोशिश करते रहते हैं ।

SHRI C. L. VARMA : Is it a fact that the NGOs, who were on a fast, have now given up the fast on the clear understanding and assurance given by the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh that now the hon. Home Minister of the Government of India has agreed to have discussions about the Punjab pay-scales instead of the Delhi Administration pay-scales with the

representatives of the NGOs and, if so, when will these talks be held? Secondly, will the hon. Minister assure this House that all those office-bearers of the employees' union and union members whose services have been terminated will be taken back without any break in service or any financial loss and that the cases which are in the court or under investigation will be withdrawn?

Then, Sir, I just wish to emphasise again, as my friend, Dr. Saligram, has said, that between the cost of living in Himachal Pradesh and the cost of living in Delhi there is no comparison. In Delhi you are connected with the aeroplane, you are connected with so many facilities. And what is there in Himachal Pradesh? Therefore, the pay-scales of Delhi are not suitable to the hilly areas of Himachal Pradesh or Kashmir or anywhere else. For the plains it may be all right and you may have them there, but not for the hilly areas. And naturally you will have to have some difference between the pay-scales of Delhi and those of the hilly areas.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I have already indicated . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : He asks whether you will make any difference.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : He has asked three questions. The first question was whether any assurance has been given by the Chief Minister regarding the discussion of the demands. I have already stated that if they come here and if they want to discuss the demands with us, we shall discuss their demands. But no assurance has been given whether any demand could be accepted or not accepted or whether this demand or that will be discussed or not. If they want to come here and put forth their demands, we shall definitely discuss with them.

The second question was whether the people who have been suspended and all that would be taken back or not. I think, as soon as normal conditions are restored, all these matters will be considered by the Himachal Pradesh Administration about the cases in court, suspended employees, etc.

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI : I would like to know from the Government whether they are not aware of the fact that Himachal Pradesh happens to

be a tourist State. Many tourists go there with the result that the cost of living in Himachal Pradesh shoots up. I think it is even double that of Punjab. Therefore, to say that the Delhi scales would apply to Himachal Pradesh is a complete misnomer. In the first place, Punjab pay-scale itself is low for Himachal Pradesh. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government does not think it proper to have a special scale for Himachal Pradesh or think of the feasibility of giving some kind of allowance to make it equal to the scale that exists in Punjab so that the people in Himachal Pradesh do not face this difficulty.

I would like to inform the Minister of another difficulty and that is the difficulty of accommodation. Sir, all the tourists centres have the problem of accommodation. No Government employee is able to get any accommodation at these centres because whatever little accommodation is there is occupied by the tourists or somebody else. And the rents are very high. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government would also consider a scheme for building houses for these Government employees and giving them out on a nominal rent.

Another thing I would like to know from the Government is whether they will not think it proper that these States like Himachal Pradesh and Manipur are given full Statehood so that they can solve their problems because it looks as if the Central Government does not seem to understand even the problems of Himachal Pradesh or Manipur or States like these, because they are still living in Delhi and all that they can think of is in terms of Delhi only. So, I would like to know from the Government whether they would consider putting these on a special footing.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Delhi ?

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI : New Delhi.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : As far as these questions are concerned, I have already answered most of them. I will again repeat. I have said that I am not aware of the difference in the cost of living here and there. It is likely that in the hilly areas there might be additional cost of living and there are allowances, hill allowances, etc. given here and there. I do not have here

particulars of what kind of allowances or what scales of allowances are given to the Government employees posted in the various outlying areas.

So far as the question of Statehood is concerned, I have already made it clear that talks with the Chief Minister have taken place. It is being examined in consultation with the Planning Commission. And we hope to take a very early decision on this matter. And it is not a fact that we do not know the problems there; we do know the problems. The question is how to solve them. But we have to consider the problems within the resources available to us. We cannot go beyond the resources and the means available to us.

SHRI A. P. JAIN : The Union territories are spread all over the sub-continent from Tripura to Goa and from Himachal Pradesh to Pondicherry. The living conditions and the climates there are different. The economic conditions are different. May I know the governing consideration or the policy underlying the change in the previous rules which provided that the pay scales should conform with the pay scales of the neighbouring State ? Now you say that there should be one scale for the whole of India in the Union territories.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, the Union territories are spread all over the country and so also are the Government of India offices. Therefore, we have the Central pay scales which take care of all the Central Government employees and also the Government employees in the Union territories. We wanted uniform pay scales for all the Union territory employees. I forgot his second question. Yes, he wanted to know the underlying consideration for having uniformity of pay. This question arose because certain State Governments were giving rates to their employees which were even higher than the Central scales of pay in certain cases. This was creating difficult situations in the various Governments and the Union territories. Therefore, in order to streamline the whole thing we thought we should give uniform pay scales to all the Union territory employees so that these invidious distinctions do not arise just because the adjoining State pay scales vary in this manner.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The hon'ble Minister is insisting on his contention that it would be fair to give uniform scales of pay. Now, Sir, was it not a fact that a commitment was made by the Government itself that the employees of the States should get their pay scales revised on the basis of the pay scales obtaining in the adjoining State ? And this applies also in the case of the employees of Himachal Pradesh. What is the reason for this breach of faith, I should like to know. Why is the Government going by its own thinking and not the thinking of the employees themselves who say that they require the Punjab pay scales ? What is the difficulty in extending the Punjab scales of pay to the employees in Himachal Pradesh ? Do I understand there is some difficulty in it or is it just a fad of the Government that the so-called Delhi scales of pay should alone be applied ? I should also like to know why there is delay again in reinstating all the government employees of Himachal Pradesh whose services have been terminated for whatever reasons, I am not going into that. These terminations arose as a result of their participation in their legitimate trade union agitation. Do I understand that when the Government is considering the matter these cases have been kept pending with a view to pressurising and bullying the Government employees so that they accept the terms of the Government ? Would it not be better if these restrictions are withdrawn so that the discussion between the representatives of the employees and the Government could take place in a better climate ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I have already explained that there is no question of assurance, as the hon'ble Member said. Actually it was an existing practice ; it was not an assurance but an existing practice that the pay scales of the Union territories were linked with the pay scales of the adjoining State. That was going on for about 21 years. An *ad hoc* decision was taken. Instead of an automatic linkage in that manner a new system was devised. That new system was that instead of giving them automatically the pay scales of the adjoining States they should be given either the scales of the adjoining States or the Central scales of pay whichever was lower . . .

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI : Why not higher ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I am only stating. I am not giving anything for or against. I am only mentioning the position. Then there was some difficulty. There was agitation and the employees of the Union territories did not like this. Various representations were received by us. We discussed this matter with them and ultimately again this matter was revised and we came to this conclusion after seeing the ways and means position and the conditions in the various Union territories. (Interruptions) We know all other factors which made it possible for us to agree to the demand that there should be Central scales of pay for all Union territories whether the scales of pay of the States adjoining are higher or lower. The question was gone into and the Central scales of pay were provided for all Union territory employees.

About another point, that is reinstatement, that Mr. Bhupesh Gupta raised I join with him in the hope that they will be soon reinstated and the position will be normalised. It is not that we want to do this to pressurise the employees. We hope the Himachal Pradesh Government will take steps to normalise the situation very quickly.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : The hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs has said that there are uniform scales of pay in the Union territories. I think that is not correct in view of the fact that Chandigarh is a Union territory and will remain a Union territory for five years. There you have given them the Punjab scales of pay. In the Andaman and Nicobar Islands they have higher scales of pay. Therefore, only Himachal Pradesh is an exception where you have applied this rule. The employees in the Union territory of Chandigarh are given higher salaries than Himachal Pradesh which is costlier. You say it is "likely". It is a definite thing. Why do you say it is "likely" when you are certain that Himachal Pradesh is costlier than Chandigarh ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : The hon'ble Member should have had some information before asking this question. As far as the Union territory of Chandigarh is concerned, there are various kinds of employees there. There are certain employees who are on deputation. You must understand this. There are certain employees who are on

deputation from Punjab. There are certain employees who are on deputation from Haryana and there are certain Union territory employees. This will apply to only such employees who are employed by the Union territory. If there are people on deputation from the Punjab or Haryana or from other States, of course, they will get the scales of pay of their States. This particular thing will be uniformly applied to everybody in Chandigarh. Everybody there is not a Union territory employee. There are certain employees who are on deputation from other States.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : That can happen everywhere.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Wherever this happens the same situation will come. But the employees of the Union territories as such will all be given the Central scales of pay.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : मैं आपसे पहले से

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think we have thrashed it out.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : सरकार द्वारा यह आश्वासन दिये जाने के बाद कि इस निर्णय के बाद जिन लोगों को जो-वेतनमान मिल रहा है, उस पर बुरा, विपरीत परिणाम नहीं होगा, मैं समझता हूँ कि हिमाचल में अब तीन श्रेणियाँ बिलकुल स्पष्ट हो जायेंगी। एक तो वह श्रेणी होगी कि जो पंजाब के कर्मचारी हैं और हिमाचल प्रदेश में आये और जिनको पंजाब के पे स्केल्स मिलते थे। अब इस आश्वासन के बाद अब जिन पर कोई एडवर्स एफेक्ट नहीं पड़ेगा। दूसरी श्रेणी हिमाचल प्रदेश के कर्मचारियों की है, जिनको हिमाचल प्रदेश के वेतन मान मिलते थे और जो कि इस घोषणा के बाद भी किसी प्रकार प्रभावित नहीं होंगे, उनके वेतन पर कोई असर नहीं पड़ेगा। अर्थात् अब जो नये भरती होंगे, केवल उन्हीं पर सेंट्रल पे स्केल्स लागू होंगे; क्योंकि बाकि को एडवर्स एफेक्ट न करने का आप आश्वासन दे चुके हैं। तो इसका मतलब यह है कि नये भरती होने वाले लोगों पर ही सेंट्रल पे स्केल्स लगेंगे; दूसरी जगह आपने वह वचन दिया है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश को पूर्ण राज्य की सत्ता देने का प्रश्न आप के ऐक्टिव

कंसीडरेशन में है। जल्दी ही आप उस पर फैसला करने वाले हैं, तो इस थोड़ी सी अवधि के लिए आप हिमाचल प्रदेश पर सेंट्रल पे स्केल्स लागू करने का निश्चय स्थगित क्यों न करें? इसके बारे में मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपको क्या विचार है।

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो पहली बात कही वह तो सही है कि जिनके आज पे एंड एलाउमेंस सेंट्रल स्केल्स से ज्यादा हैं, उनके लिये हम लोग चाहते हैं कि उनके पे एंड एलाउमेंस कम न हों, पर वहाँ का जो वर्तमान वेतन-मान है, हिमाचल प्रदेश के कर्मचारियों का, यदि वह सेंट्रल स्केल से कम है, तो वह आगे बढ़ जायगा, यह बात नहीं है कि वह वैसे का वैसे ही रहेगा।

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : अगर ज्यादा है तो?

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : ज्यादा है तो ज्यादा रहने दिया जायगा।

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : एडवर्सली एफेक्ट तो नहीं होगा?

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : वह तो मैं कह चुका हूँ, तीसरी बार या चौथी बार कहा है और फिर दुबारा कह रहा हूँ।

अब, जहाँ तक कि हिमाचल प्रदेश को पूर्ण राज्य का स्तर देने का सवाल है, मैंने यह नहीं कहा कि हम बहुत शीघ्र निर्णय करेंगे, हमने कहा कि शीघ्र निर्णय करेंगे, बहुत हमने नहीं कहा।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SARKAR COMMITTEE REPORT ON C.S.I.R.

*569. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the case of Dr. Amarjit Singh, Director, Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute, Pilani was not referred to the

Sarkar Committee till the 19th December 1969 ; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the C.I.S.R. administration issued a letter on the 19th December 1969 to Shri Amarjit Singh to offer his comments on certain complaints against him ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO) : (a) The C.S.I.R.

has not referred any case of its own to the Sarkar Committee. Reference about Dr. Amarjit Singh, Director, Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute, Pilani was received from the Sarkar Committee on 22-3-1969 which was replied to on 28-3-1969.

(b) Yes, Sir.

STUDY ON AGRARIAN TENSIONS

*570. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has made a recent study on the causes and nature of current agrarian tensions and come to the conclusion that the country is facing a disturbing situation in the villages which may cause an explosion if the growing disparity among the rural people is not tackled effectively ;

(b) if so, whether a copy of the study report will be laid on the Table of the House ;

(c) whether his Ministry is in dialogue with the other Ministries and the State Governments to solve the village problems as a result of this study ;

(d) if so, the response so far received in the matter ; and

(e) what other steps are being taken by Government including the enlistment of private agencies and organisation to remove the disparity and tension in the villages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) A paper entitled "the Causes and Nature of Current Agrarian Tensions" was prepared in the Research and Policy Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs ; copies of the paper in its final form are available in the Parliament library.