

निन्दा कर सकेंगे। अगर वे साबित नहीं कर सकती हैं तो हम लोगों को उनके उस वक्तव्य की निन्दा करनी होगी और सभी पार्टी वाले उसकी निन्दा करेंगे। चूकि संयुक्त सोशलिस्ट पार्टी को साधारणतः मान्यता है देश भर में कि वह एक लोकतांत्रिक पार्टी है। प्रधान मंत्री की पार्टी का आज जिन पार्टियों के साथ गठबंधन है, उसके संबंध में लोगों के मन में कुछ शंकाएं उठती हैं लेकिन संसोध के बारे में, संयुक्त सोशलिस्ट पार्टी के बारे में शंका नहीं उठती है। हम लोग इसकी निन्दा करते हैं।

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि पहली जुलाई से कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी का आन्दोलन चल रहा है...

श्री उपसभापति : आपको मोका मिल चुका है और आप सबेरे 20 मिनट बोले।

श्री राजनारायण : मैं कोई अन्तर्गत बात नहीं कह रहा हूँ। जो कुछ मैं कहने जा रहा हूँ वह कम आवश्यक नहीं है। आगे जो तोड़फोड़ होगा उसकी जिम्मेदारी प्रधान मंत्री पर जायगी।

श्री उपसभापति : यह आपने सबेरे कह दिया

श्री राजनारायण : अगर प्रधान मंत्री ने तोड़ फोड़ किया तो उसकी जिम्मेदारी प्रधान मंत्री की होगी।

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठ जाइए।

श्री राजनारायण : तो आप प्रधान मंत्री की भर्त्सना कीजिए।

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है, आप बैठिये।

श्री राजनारायण : एक पार्टी के बारे में वे ऐसा कहें...

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिये।

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

MASS ACTION OF UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE TEACHERS IN WEST BENGAL— contd.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now the Minister, Dr. Rao.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO) : Sir, I think the statement has been made available to the Members. Of course, if they like, I am prepared to read it out, but I am told that it was made available in the place from where Members collect papers.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Copies of the statement cannot be made available unless

श्री राजनारायण : हमको नहीं मिला।

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : It is rather technical and lengthy.

श्री राजनारायण : यह मेम्बरों को मिला नहीं है। आपकी जो भावना थी कि मेम्बरों को मिला होगा उसे सुन कर वे सवाल करेंगे, लेकिन उनको नहीं मिला है।

प्रो० वी० के० आर० वी० राव : मुझे नहीं मालूम है कि कैसे नहीं मिला।

and until the statement is placed on the Table of the House. If it was read, it would have been circulated to the Members. But now...

(Interruption)

श्री राजनारायण : आप श्रीमन्, देखेंगे कि यह पांच मिनट का समय क्यों नष्ट हो गया। अब हमारा एक प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर है। मेरा प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर यह है कि इस सदन का एक सम्मानित सदस्य जो शिक्षा से संबंधित है, कहता है कि मैं जो बयान दे रहा हूँ, उसकी प्रतियां सदन के माननीय सदस्यों को मिल गयी हैं। वस्तु-स्थिति यह है कि उसकी प्रतियां सदन के सदस्यों को वितरित नहीं की गयी हैं और न मुझे प्राप्त हुई है। हमारा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न यह है कि मंत्री जी स्वयं अपने वक्तव्य की प्रति सदस्यों को मिल जाय यह आवश्यक समझते हैं और

[श्री राजनारायण]

उस के बारे में पहले बोलते हैं फिर भी मंत्रियों को उसकी प्रतियाँ नहीं मिलीं। तो क्या मंत्री को ऐसा वक्तव्य यहाँ पढ़ना उचित है? मैं चाहता हूँ कि जब तक वह वक्तव्य मंत्रियों को न मिल जाय, तब तक आप मंत्री जी को अपना वक्तव्य पढ़ने की आज्ञा न प्रदान करें और मंत्री जी उसे पढ़ने के अपने सोम का सवरण करें।

श्री उपसभापति : जब तक कि मंत्री महोदय का बयान यहाँ नहीं होता तब तक उसकी कापी सदस्यों को नहीं मिल सकती है। कार्यालय अटेंशन का जो नोटिस दिया जाता है, उसके जवाब में मंत्री जी स्टेटमेंट करते हैं और अगर सम्बन्ध स्टेटमेंट होता है तो उसको एक कापी पटल पर रख देते हैं। तो उनका स्टेटमेंट होने के पहले वह कापी भिलना चाहिए पर सम्झना पलत है। भाव्यद मंत्री महोदय भी वह भावना होगी कि भाव्यद सबेरे पटल पर यह स्टेटमेंट रखा गया होगा और उस दृष्टि से उन्होंने ऐसा कहा होगा। वैसा नहीं है।

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमान्, मेरा प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर है कि जो सम्झना प्रका है उसके अनुसार यह सदन चलना या नहीं? हमारा प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर यह है कि मंत्री महोदय खुद अपनी जिम्मेदारी को महसूस करते हैं और मंत्री महोदय अपने में विश्वास रखते हैं कि जो हमने बयान रखा है, जो कुछ सदस्यों को वितरित किया है, वही भी पढ़गा। तो मंत्री जी को यह कहने का हक है कि हमने सदन में भिन्नवा दिया था और यह सदस्यों को मिलना चाहिए। इसके लिए तो वही मंत्री जहम करते हैं कि जो कामजोर है। लेकिन डाक्टर राव ऐसे कमजोर मंत्री नहीं हैं। डाक्टर राव को विश्वास है कि जो बयान उन्होंने लिखा है और जो वह पढ़ेंगे उसी को उन्होंने वितरित करने के लिए भेजा है। इसलिए मैं चाहूँगा कि उनके बयान की कापी हम लोगों को दे दी जाय ताकि उसके मुतादिक ही हम लोग सवाल कर सकेंगे।

श्री महावीर स्थायी : अगर मंत्री कोई बयान पढ़ते हैं तो ऐसा भी रिखाज है कि पढ़ने के बाद भी वह सदन के पटल पर रखा जा सकता है। इसलिए जब सारा बयान आप खुद कानों से सुन रहे हैं तो सदन पटल पर उस के न रहने से कोई नुकसान नहीं होगा।

श्री राजनारायण : हमारा कोई नुकसान नहीं है, मंत्री की भावना के प्रति हमारा सम्मान है। मंत्री स्वतः अपनी भावना को बता रहे हैं कि उन्होंने अपना बयान रखा है। अगर उसे सोम अपने पास रखेंगे नहीं, तो उसे टिक के सम्झेंगे नहीं।

श्री उपसभापति : कापी पढ़ने के बाद मिल सकती है।

श्री राजनारायण : देखिये मंत्री जी, हमने आपकी इतनी सचासत की है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Yes, Dr. Rao.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : I obey the direction of the Chair.

Sir, according to the information furnished by the State Government of West Bengal, the university and college teachers resorted to three days cease-work, from August 5 to 7. They also led a mass deputation to the Governor on August 5 and squatted for 48 hours re the Writers' Building during this period.

The teachers put forward certain demands in connection with the implementation of the latest revised salary es approved by Government for various categories of teachers and other matters.

The main demands of the teachers were :

- (1) Immediate fixation of pay in the new integrated pay scale of Third Plan college teachers, new entrants and teachers of 60-65 age group.
- (2) Sanctioning of all posts approved by the Universities.
- (3) Application of new integrated pay scales to Librarians and Physical Instructors, eligible for the scale laid down by the U. G. C.

(4) Fixation of B. Sc. (Pass) Demonstrators- who are in receipt of old UGC seal; in the new integrated pay scale.

(5) Regular monthly payment of all emolumer

The scheme of revised salary scales for teachers in under-graduate colleges approved by the Government of India effective from 1-4-1966, provided for two scales of lecturers, namely Rs. 300-600 and Rs. 400-800. At the instance of the State Government, the Government of India agreed in November, 1967 to an integrated scale of Rs. 13-800 being given to all Lecturers subject to the condition that the Central Government would be limited to what would have been due to the State Government on the basis of the approved scheme. The State Government, however, sanctioned the new integrated scale with effect from 1-4-1969. It has already determined salaries of 4,416 teachers of affiliated non-Government colleges. These teachers were working in existence as on 31-3-1966 in colleges which had adopted the revised salary scales previously sanctioned by the U. G. C. (in 1957).

In respect of the teachers working in colleges which were established during the Third Plan period, the position is that the revised salary scales previously approved by the U. G. C. were either not adopted at all or on the stoppage of assistance from the U. G. C. with effect from 1-4-1966, the colleges which had adopted the revised salary scales revert to their pre-revised scales. The State Government has stated that on account of this position, it has become difficult to fix the salaries of teachers numbering about 600 in the new integrated scale. The salaries of teachers vary from college to college depending upon the college scale of pay. Meanwhile, the State Government has sanctioned an ad hoc grant of Rs. 60 p. m. towards the salary of every teacher working in these colleges. The question of continuation of assistance by the U. G. C. for the implementation of the scales of pay approved in 1957 has been considered by the U. G. C. and my Ministry, and it has now been decided that such assistance will continue beyond 1-4-1966 for a total period of five years from the date of commencement of the application of the revised scales or until 1-4-1969 whichever is

earlier. This decision is being communicated by the U. G. C. to the concerned universities, and I expect that it will facilitate the pay fixation of these teachers in the new integrated scale.

In so far as the new entrants appointed in posts created on or after 1-4-1966 are concerned, and it is understood that the number is about 1000, the Government of India has informed all the State Governments that under the scheme, assistance will not be admissible from the Centre. It has not been possible for the Government of West Bengal to fix their salaries in the integrated scale so far, as the number of posts created and the basis thereof have yet to be approved by the State Government. The Education Department of the State Government has worked out a formula for the purpose and communicated the same to the managements of the colleges concerned. Pending this, as in the case of teachers working in colleges established during the Third Plan, an ad hoc grant of Rs. 60 p. m. per teacher is being given to the colleges for these teachers also. The State Government hopes that the managements of the colleges will find the formula worked out by the Education Department as acceptable.

As for grant of financial assistance to colleges for meeting the cost in respect of teachers in the age group 60-65, the State Government has found it difficult to undertake the obligation in view of the fact that the U. G. C. has not agreed to give any assistance for the implementation of the revised salary scales approved by it during the Second and the Third Plans.

The scheme of revised pay scales sanctioned by the Government of India in 1966 did not originally provide for revision of the scales of pay of Librarians and Physical Instructors. These have been included in the scheme since and the State Governments were informed about the decision of the Government in September, 1968. The demand for the application of new integrated pay scales to these two categories of employees is at present under consideration of the State Government. The State Government has, however, decided that pending a decision in the matter, the Librarians and Physical Instructors be paid on an ad hoc basis a sum of Rs. 60/- p. m.

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In the case of Demonstrators, the scheme approved by the Government of India provides for a revised scale of Rs. 250-400. Further on the advice of the U. G. C, it was laid down that the revised scales should be made applicable to only those who possess a Master's Degree or an Honours Bachelor's Degree. Subsequently on representations received from various States, we have accepted the proposal that the benefit of the revised salary scale may be given to Pass graduates also provided the universities concerned are satisfied that the revised pay scale can be given on the basis of their qualifications and experience.

It is a matter of regret that the teachers should not receive monthly payment of their emoluments regularly. Paucity of resources and the non-furnishing of utilisation certificates by the colleges in time are stated to be the main causes for the delay in making grants to the colleges regularly. I feel greatly distressed about this situation. The least that we can do for the teacher is to ensure that he is not subjected to unnecessary hardship on account of avoidable delays in the payment of his dues. During my visit to Calcutta this week-end, I have discussed this matter with the Governor and the Adviser (Education) and have asked the State Government to send me their proposals for remedying the situation.

In his talks with the deputation of teachers, the Governor of West Bengal has assured them that their demands will be sympathetically considered by the State Government. The teachers have resumed work from August 8, 1970.

I also took the opportunity of my visit to Calcutta this week-end to meet the representatives of teachers and had a frank and free discussion with them during the course of which I informed them of the position in respect of their main demands in so far as the Government of India is concerned.

This House is aware of my concern for the teaching community, and I am glad to say that on the basis of my discussions with the Governor and the State Government, I am in a position to assure the House that the State Government will make every effort to meet the legitimate demands of the teachers without undue delay. Sir, if I may add

one sentence—it is not in my statement—I want to add this : "I am thinking of deputing an officer from my Ministry to go to Calcutta to get in touch with the West Bengal College Teachers' Association and the West Bengal State Government, to gather all the details—because it seems a complicated situation—to find out where the Central Government comes in, where the State Government comes in and what could be done to remedy these grievances of non-regular payment of teachers in West Bengal Colleges."

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MU-KHERJEE (West Bengal) : Sir, the Minister has made a statement and it appears from his statement that the West Bengal Government has assured him that they will take up the matter without any further delay.

May I know from him whether it is a fact that the new scales were announced by the U.G.C. in 1966 and since then only 50% of the fixation has so far taken place ? Apart from the introduction of this new revised pay scale, there was an old pay scale for which the U.G.C. had its definite commitment to give financial assistance to those colleges which introduced this new pay scale for a period of five years. But, with effect from 1-4-66, the U. G. C. had ceased to render any financial assistance to those colleges, particularly those colleges established during the Third Plan period. As per the condition, neither the State Government nor the U. G. C. is giving any financial assistance to those colleges duly established during the Third Plan period.

Secondly, Sir, regarding the new entrants, neither the Government of West Bengal nor the Union Education Ministry nor the U. G. C. has taken any responsibility to extend the benefit of the revised pay scale.

Next, sir, about the monthly pay packet : May I know from the Minister whether the Government of West Bengal has made any recommendation to the Union Education Ministry for advancing a handsome fund for paying the college teachers and the school teachers in advance so that the school and college authorities are in a position to pay regularly to the college and school teachers ?

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : Sir, regarding the Ant thing, I do not want any misunderstanding to be caused in the House. What I said is that I am in a position to assure the House that the State Government will make every effort to meet the legitimate demands of the teachers without undue delay.

SHRI PRA JAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : It is already four years.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : I entirely agree with his indignation, Sir. It has taken a long time and it is most undesirable. All that I wanted to say was that the discussions I have had with the State Government, which meant the Adviser to the Governor, indicated that they are seized of the situation and they are anxious to see that they dealt with it as expeditiously as possible. I wanted to say, fiat because there should be no misunderstanding that I have given an assurance, etc.

Secondly, regarding the U. G. C. scales : Sir, this was a problem which we took up. What happened, Mr. Deputy-Chairman, was that the U. G. C. had agreed through the Universities, not through the State Governments, to give 50% of a certain increase in scales provided the college managements were willing to pay 50% on their own. This was routed through the Universities and not through the government. And, some colleges accepted it, some colleges did not accept it and some colleges accepted it somewhat late. Then, the U.G.C. at the end of the period of five years or so, said : "We no longer will be prepared to give this grant." In the mean time, the new pay scales introduced by the Union Government, i.e., Rs. 300-600 and P s. 400-800 had also been announced and the U. G. C. said, "Well, the Union Government has announced the new scales. It is not now necessary for the U. G. C. to pay the 50% through the Universities." The State Governments were unwilling but we were willing to pay 80 per cent, and the 20 per cent, had to come from the State Governments. The State Governments felt that the differential between the un-revised scales and the new scales that we had mentioned was too much for them. They had to pay 20 per cent, and the difference. Therefore a lot of delay took place. In the meanwhile, I am very glad to tell the House—in fact it has been mentioned in the Statement and the attention of hon. Members might perhaps have been drawn to it—that the

UGC only very recently, probably last month, agreed that they were prepared to pay their share of the arrears. As far as the Government of India are concerned, we are prepared to pay 80 per cent, of the difference between the existing salary scales and those that were recommended. The State Government has to find the remaining 20 per cent, and also to find the arrears. I now understand—I have not got this in writing—that the State Government accepted this position and it is now wanting to place in the new integrated scale all the teachers including the new entrants as well as those to whom I referred just now. They have evolved a formula for fixing diem in a particular position in the grade and they have sent that formula to the college managements; they are in correspondence with the college managements and they hope that the college managements will find that formula suitable and things will be all right as quickly as possible.

Then, Sir, the other question was about the monthly pay packet. From the impression that I gathered both during my discussion with the West Bengal Teachers' Association and others—I also met the Headmasters—was that there was something wrong there as far as the regular payment of salaries and allowances was concerned and many people did not seem to be getting their salaries and allowances regularly month by month; sometimes they remained in arrears for four, five or six months. And that, to my mind, is an intolerable situation. I do not see how people, who have to rely on the salaries for their living can live if the salaries mount up for 4 to 6 months in arrears. I asked the State Government and they said this one reason was, it takes time to get the utilisation certificate, it takes time to do some other bureaucratic thing but they said the major reason was that they do not have the funds and they would like some advances and the Adviser said that they would like to get some loans from the Central Government to cover expenditure for 15 months instead of for 12 months, so that three months' pay they will have on hand and over 5 years they will be able to pay back. All this has been oral. I have requested the Adviser to send me definite proposals. It seems to be a ways and means problem. After I get the note from the West Bengal Government, I shall take it up

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certainly with the Government here and see what can be done to see that this kind of irregular payment is stopped as far as it lies in the power of the Central Government.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Dr.
Chauhan.

DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA (West Bengal) : Many interesting details about the problem have been placed before the House by the Minister but I think some important things have not been made clear. I know that the financial benefit offered to some colleges were not actually available to the teachers during the Third Five Year Plan period because of the financial poverty of the institutions because they could not fulfil the requirement of giving 50 per cent, on their own. What happened was, in 1966 when the increased pay scale was offered, it was not offered to some teachers of those colleges which could not fulfil the financial condition of giving 50 per cent, of what was given by the UGC. So those tea-unfortunate teachers, who were deprived of increased pay packet in the Third Plan period have also been deprived for the second time during the Fourth Plan period, that is from April 1966. So they have been deprived twice. The second thing which has not been made clear in the interesting details by the Minister is this. Even in 1966 the teachers' agitation had been going on for years together and the peculiar part of the thing is, unless this movement or agitation assumes a distressing and alarming proportion, the Government does not pay heed to it. When the time comes to pay heed to it, there is a very unfortunate but persistent controversy between the State Government and the Central Government, one blaming the other for the responsibility of giving actually the money but once the agitation is there, as it was in 1966, ultimately the demand was conceded. After that four years have passed. The same agitations for the regularisation of the services of the teachers in the sponsored colleges and for the regular payment of the pay packet on the 1st of the month, all these have been going on for years together, almost for 4 years, to be precise, but now the Government is coming with an explanation which is more than an excuse that it is for the State Government to

give the benefit. You must realise what is the demoralising effect of persistent denials by the Central and the State Government together to the legitimate demands of the teachers. Now they have squatted for 48 hours but they have a programme as per which they are going to launch an indefinite cease-work movement by the 1st week of October, if true, it is really assuring that the Minister has said that the legitimate demands will be gone through—a careful wording—and gone through very quickly, doubly reassuring.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE (West Bengal) : Doubly confusing.

DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : Now this demand is conceded again before the indefinite cease-work movement. The impression the teachers will get is that in a decade twice the increase was effected under heavy pressure and not due to the wisdom or far sight of the Ministry either the Central or the State. So, Sir, against this background I will put some specific questions. Will the Government arrange for the payment of the arrears due to the new entrants for the prior to April, 1966? In some cases, Sir, the people have been deprived of this benefit even right from 1961. Secondly, Sir, will this benefit be extended to the teachers of the age group 60-65? Because, Sir, the UGC has, in principle, agreed to think of giving service extension to teachers over even sixty years of age. So, Sir, these teachers of the age group 60-65 are reasonably expecting something of this benefit of pay increase. Thirdly, Sir, when will the triple benefits of pension, gratuity and provident fund, ...

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (बिहार) :
स्टेट गवर्नमेंट कहती है कि उसके पास पैसा
नहीं है और उसे की दिक्कत की वजह से वह
यह कार्य नहीं कर सकती है।

DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA : ... as recommended by the UGC and as already accepted in principle by the Central Government, be extended to the college and university teachers? These are my three specific questions. Thank you, Sir.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : Sir, regarding the first question I do not

quite follow how it becomes the liability of the Government to pay the alleged arrears due to the new entrants for the period before 1966. I understood the new entrants as those who came after 1966. And in the case of these entrants, they apply to colleges

which were established after 1st April, 1966. That was the impression that I had. But, as I said just now, as far as people, who were already in service before 1-4-1966, are concerned, even in their cases the revised scales recom-

manded by the UGC, namely, on the 50 : 50 basis have not been applied. I thought I informed the House that the UGC has very recently decided, with the concurrence of Finance Ministry, that they would be prepared to pay their share, namely, 50%, to them up to 1-4-1969, from which date the State Government is proposing to place all these people, whether they were in service before 1-4-1966, or the new entrants, on the new integrated scale. As far as the new entrants are concerned, there is no provision not only as far as West Bengal is concerned; it is so in regard to all the other States as well. West Bengal is not the only State which has raised this question. A number of other States have also raised this question that "we have appointed the people after you sanctioned these scales. Will your assistance also extend to these new people who were appointed?" At the highest level in the Government of India it was decided that if new people had been appointed, it was the business of the State Government to give them the new scales, and it was only in regard to those who were holding their appointments on the old scale that the revision was effected with Central assistance.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : यह जनरल क्वेश्चन है जो सदियों से चला आ रहा है।

F. V. K. R. V. RAO : Sir, I do not know why I am interrupted in the middle of my reply. I think the hon. Member is at perfect liberty to put questions with your permission at the end of my replies. Then I shall try to answer his questions to the best of my ability. (Interruptions) Again I am being interrupted.

Therefore, Sir, as far as the new entrants are concerned, there is no proposal on the part of the Central Government to pay the arrears of their

salary scale up to the time when the new integrated scales were introduced. On the new scales, which are now taken over by the Central Government, there is some confusion, because the original scale, for which the UGC said there will be 50%, was to be routed through the University, and the University said that they would give the 50% if the college managements agreed to find the other 50%. Government did not come into the picture excepting in so far as financing colleges under the new scheme which is now in existence, is concerned. This is a scheme financed by the Central Government where the Central Government gives 80% of the difference between the existing scales and the scales, recommended by them, for a period of five years on condition that the State Government pays the remaining 20% and then takes over the total liability at the end of the five years. I believe, as I told the hon. Member in the very beginning, it is my impression that all these people, whether they are new entrants or whether they are people who are already getting the revised scales or they are people who did not get the revised scales, all of them the State Government wants to place on the integrated scale from 1-4-1969. About 4,500 teachers have already been placed on it. In regard to the others I understand they are having discussions with the colleges, and are devising a formula and are trying to find out the particular point in the scale where the concerned persons should be fixed. I believe that in principle they are going to place them all on the integrated scale, but I do not think, to the best of my knowledge, there is any proposal on their part to pay any arrears as far as the new entrants are concerned. Then, Sir, he raised the question of extending it to the age group of 60-65. It is my information that it was the University Grants Commission who took the view that what they were giving cannot be extended beyond 60. Now I understand from the hon. Member that the University Grants Commission has taken a decision that the services of college teachers could be extended beyond 60. If the services of college teachers are extended beyond 60, I do not see why there should be any discrimination in the period of service of teachers employed directly by the University and of teachers employed by the colleges. I think there is a clear problem involved there because to me it is very odd.

[Prof. V. K. R. V. Rao.]

that if a person, has been given some revised scale and his services are not terminated but he is permitted to go beyond 60 and his salary is going to be cut down. I can understand his services being terminated but if he is permitted to continue in service and if he is not given what he was actually getting only a month earlier, it is a very odd kind of situation. I propose to take it up and find out the details and see what can be done about it.

The last question was about pension, provident fund etc., recommended by the UGC and accepted by the Central Government. He wanted to know whether that will be extended to the West Bengal Government. This is a matter which has got to be taken up with the West Bengal Education Department because everything will depend upon the finances of the West Bengal Education Department. As far as I am concerned, I will certainly recommend to the West Bengal Education Department and to the West Bengal Governor that the kind of facilities in the matter of pension, provident fund, gratuity etc., which have been given to school teachers in other places and which have been recommended by the UGC they should try to extend them to their teachers in their own State.

Finally once again I will repeat the sentence with which I concluded the written statement. I have spent some hours yesterday over this and I find there are all sorts of problems which I do not understand. I do not understand who is responsible, I do not understand what precisely is the responsibility of the Central Government and what falls within the scope of the State Government I propose before I take up this question any further—if it is solved by itself there is no problem, but meanwhile I thought it would be a good thing for me—to send an officer from my Ministry to go to Calcutta, get into touch with the West Bengal Teachers' Association, with the West Bengal Education Department, get all the details regarding new entrants, about old colleges, regarding increments, scales of pay etc. etc. and find out what the State Government's responsibilities are and what, if any, is the responsibility of the Central Government. After a full picture of the whole thing has been got,

we shall certainly try our best, I personally will try and see what can be done in the matter. I cannot guarantee a satisfactory solution because I am not complete master of the situation but I shall certainly try my best to see that the interests of the teachers of West Bengal are not let down.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : I congratulate the hon. Minister for the very good and successful efforts he has made for solving the problems of the teachers of West Bengal. It is after a long time that the Education Department is being handled by such an able person. May I just suggest to him one thing ? I want to know what his views are. I have been insisting for some time past; education obviously is a State subject and the Central Government has gone to the rescue of the State Government because of their financial difficulties. That is all right but may I suggest to the hon. Minister to see if there is a possibility of applying the Government Servants' Conduct Rules to all those teachers who draw any amount, whether from the Central Government or the State Governments, towards their pay on the ground that they are being paid by the Government ? Despite the fact that they belong to the private institutions, could not this condition be imposed on them that the Government Servants' Conduct Rules would be made applicable to all those persons who draw any benefit from the Government with regard to their pay ? This will establish an overall sense of discipline in the whole educational system.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : This question really, as the hon. Member must be fully aware, is not related to what we are discussing and also as far as I am concerned it is rather difficult for me to give any answer. He was saying that the Government Servants' Conduct Rules should be applied to all teachers who get any part of their salary financed by Government. I wonder if the hon. Member would also be prepared to extend that to anybody in the country . . .

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : Yes, yes.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : . . . who may be contractors, businessmen or sellers of commodities and others. Would he be prepared to suggest that anybody in the country, not only the teachers..

who in any way is advanced for the production of his income by the Government should also have the Government Servants' Conduct Rules imposed on him?

SHRI MAHAVU TYAGI : If one is given pay; the contractor does not get a pay, in that rise.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : I am sure the hon. Member has been a distinguished . . .

SHRI MAHAVU TYAGI : Service Rules apply only to servants.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : I do not like to describe J as a servant; just because I drew salary from the Delhi University for a number of years, I cannot be described as a servant who is inferior in status to a contractor, or businessman or a seller of all kinds of commodities in the open market. I think the hon. Member knows it very well. He has held very distinguished positions. It would be very difficult for me to give an answer as to whether I can extend to every teacher, who gets any Government salary, the Government Servants' Conduct Rules.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Sir, the hon. Minister, while replying to another hon. Member's question, said that he is not the master of the situation. Now, perhaps he meant that 'Education' is a State subject. As far as West Bengal is concerned, I do not know why he should not be the master of the situation because West Bengal is now being governed under article 356 of the Constitution, viz., by the President, of course through the Governor of West Bengal, who is nothing but an instrument of the Centre. Therefore, I do not know whether the hon. Minister tried to shirk the responsibility by saying that he is not the master of the situation. If he does not want to shirk the problem that has been posed here, may I ask this short question to him? It has appeared so far—it has also fallen from the mouth of some hon. Members on the floor of the House—that unless the professors are on the war path or are in some movement the Government does not take any steps. Now, of course, it appears that because the professors have taken some steps by way of a movement, as I understand it, the Education Minister went there. Now, he will depute an officer to look into

the affair, but then there are so many 'ifs' and so many problems. There are so many complications and added to these are the words of the Minister saying that he is not the master of the situation. I think the feeling is engendered on the floor of the House that perhaps, in spite of all these things, the professors will be left where they are. Therefore, may I ask this specific question : Whether he is prepared now to give an assurance that from a particular date to be specified, the professors will be given the arrears and those who have come after 1-4-1966 will be given the new scale of pay? Will he also see to it that the University Grants Commission do not involve themselves in a bureaucratic tangle while having to pay all these arrears? While asking these two questions I may also tell you that, though I am now long out of touch with the profession of a teacher, I was once a teacher. In 1949, I was also one of those who had to go into a movement for the purpose of getting the grievances of teachers redressed and the result was that I was sacked from the college. I had the whole thing raw. Therefore, I know where the shoe pinches as far as the teachers are concerned. Therefore I am asking whether the hon. Minister will make clarifications on the two specific questions and not beat about the bush and not create further confusion.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : I am sorry the hon. Member seems to be so susceptible to getting confused. I should like to make one thing clear. I did not go to Calcutta because of the agitation launched by the West Bengal Teachers' Association. I went to Calcutta because there was a Zonal Conference of Education Ministers and Vice-Chancellors, which was being held in Calcutta. Then when I went there, I got a request from the College Teachers' Association that they should come and see me. That was how I met them, and I spent about 1 hour 40 minutes with them. The deputation was led by Dr. N. M. Chakravarty, President, and it consisted of Shri M. Bhattacharya, Prof. S. K. Mitra, Prof. Raj Kumar Chakravarty, Prof. Amiya Das Gupta and Prof. Dilip Chakravarty. They wanted an interview and I said 'yes'. We had a very long, full and free discussion. I can assure the hon. Member that as far as I am concerned—I do not want to reveal all that I told them; actually I

[Prof. V. K. R. V. Rao.]

said, "Why did you go and squai there because, whatever the hon. Member might have done in 1949 which earned him the sack from his college, I did not think that was the most appropriate way of making oneself felt. Anyway We had a very good discussion. There was no question of being irised or my having done something in order to avoid being pressu-

Regarding the suggestion about sending an officer, thai too I can tell the hon. Member, I had no such intention But in the other House where we had a discussion I was rely told that I am now responsible, the same point which the hon. Member ide, that as West Bengal is under President's rule I am now responsible. Quite honestly you may think it very ignorant on the part of a Minister and I hope this may not cause further confusion in Mr. Chatterjee's mind, but really I did not know anil still do not know to the full what precisely is nly responsibility. Because West Bengal is under President's rule, for education in West Bengal, is it the whole budget, is it all the appointments, is it all the disciplinary actions, is it all the policy, for which I am responsible ? I do not know. Therefore, I am trying to find out. But when hon. Members assured me that I hr.ve got some power, I decided let me first of all get all the facts; if I find I have got power, then I will be able to do something about it. That was the reason why, Sir, that it was not a part of the written statement, why I made up my mind after listen-i the discussion in the Lok Sabha and I told this House that I proposed to send an officer of mine to Calcutta to get in touch with the West Bengal College Teachers Association to get all I have been hearing some shocking details. I am hearing that there are some college teachers who are getting Rs. 100, and I am told that there are some colleges where the pay is Rs. 140. I do not know all the facts. I should like to get clearly what the position is regarding the payment of salary, scales, regularity, etc. etc., of the teaching profession in West Bengal and after getting all the informaion, then, Sir, I shall find out. I shall put it to the authorities to whom I have to subordinate myself, namely my own Cabi-

net, as to what precisely is the role that this Education Minister, in a Governor-controlled State, in a President-ruled State, can play to remedy the educational problems of that State including the problem of finance.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Sir, on a point of order. The hon. Minister just now said that he is subordinate to. the Cabinet. Can a Minister say that he is subordinate to the Cabinet ?

MR., DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : All right, please sit down.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : I thought the hon. Member would have some sense of proportion.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ; Mr. Man Singh Varma.

श्री मान सिंह वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, यह प्रश्न केवल बंगाल का ही नहीं है। बराबर सारे देश में समय समय पर इस प्रकार के आंदोलन अध्यापक वर्ग की तरफ से होते रहे हैं और वह बिना अर्थ के नहीं होते रहे हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी भी इस बात को स्वीकार करेंगे कि स्वतंत्रता के पश्चात् आज तक अध्यापक वर्ग को वह दर्जा नहीं मिल सका है, वह सम्मान नहीं मिल सका है, जिसका कि वह अधिकारी है। आज कंडीशन्स उनके लिए उतनी अच्छी नहीं हो पायी हैं, जितनी कि और दूसरे वर्गों की दूसरे विभागों में है और आज तो यह बड़ी विडम्बना है कि हमारे देश में प्राइमरी स्कूल के अध्यापक की वेतन से अधिक वेतन हमारे चपरासी को मिलता है। आज चपरासी से भी अधिक गिरी हुई उसकी स्थिति है। तो ऐसी अवस्था में यदि माननीय मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि वे इसको हंडिल करेंगे तो ठीक है, लेकिन केन्द्र की तरफ से जो सहायता जाती है, उस के बावजूद भी अध्यापक वर्ग का स्तर उच्चा नहीं हो पाया है, जैसा कि बंगाल में हो रहा है...

श्री उपसभापति : आप प्रश्न पुछिये।

श्री मान सिंह वर्मा : अभी बंगाल में हो रहा है, इससे एक वर्ष पहले उत्तर प्रदेश में आन्दोलन शुरू हुआ था और आपकी राजधानी में कुछ

न कुछ होता ही रहता है तो मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि अध्यापक वर्ग के स्तर को ऊँचा करने के लिये केन्द्रीय स्तर पर क्या विचार किया जा रहा है। इस प्रकार से अन्दोलन अलग-आलग अर्थों में न होकर सारे देश में जो होते हैं, उसको समाप्त करने के लिये केन्द्रीय स्तर पर आप क्या विचार कर रहे हैं कि कम से कम जो दूसरे विभागों के आफिसर्स हैं और राज-कर्मचारी हैं, उनके समतल तो एजुकेशन डिपार्टमेंट के लोगों को लाया जा सके। इसके विषय में आपकी सरकार कुछ विचार कर रही है या नहीं कर रही है ?

PROF. V.K.R.A. RAO . The Central Government will give consideration to the suggest on made by the hon. Member.

SHRI G. A. APPAN (Tamil Nadu) May I know from the hon. Minister i whether it is not a fact that even peons in banks and mertain industnes get more than Rs. 200 or Rs. 300, that people who are clerks in some of uiese banks and all these things get neaiij Rs 300' When th s is the case, does he feel himself conteited that the teachers and the lecturer, n the col'eges shout i be contented with Rs. 250 or Rs. 300 w:ort he expects such a standard of MA for them? A a) I also know from him whether this rregularity in the payment of salaries o the college teachers is there only in West Bengal and not tn other States? Under these circumstances, will he a'so assure the House that he will make out some scheme so that the teacheis are paid regularly every month, th it the Government or the umversi jes concerned reimburse the loss ot income foregone by me gran, of tee con;essions to certain eligible classes eveiy month and that the colleges eligible for grants are paid icguhrly every nth onth to enable them to pa^s them on and that they will no! release the other month's grant unless the first month's acquittance roll comes here? May I alsı say—of course, it is for the information of the House—that when I was a teacher in a high school in 1937 . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN . You need not mention all that.

SHRI G. A. APPAN : .. I used to get the salary only once in a year In

all those years we used to have tuitions and like that "Ine same thing happens even now with the college teachers. Is he aware of the fact that in Madras up till the high school standard the salary li. paid by the Government through the school e^ery month on the 30th or on the last day of the month" When this is the case, will he see that the colleges throughout the countr> pav their teachers regularly every mon'h by the close of the month?

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh) : A good point. Sir.

PROF. VKRV. RAO I am prepared to have a transcript made ot the suggestions of the hon. Member and send it to the Chairman of the University Grants Commission, who, I think, has got some influence over the colleges because some of them come for deve-opmental and other grants

SHRI A. D. MANI . You have the power

PROF V.K.R.V. RAO . I am afraid I have no grants tor collets and they -re not under the President's rule

Then, I should also like to say that as far as irregular payment in other States is concerned, this is a problem. I have heard in some conference that jn a number of cases, especially JI> the case of schools even more than colleges payment is not being made regularly. And one of the suggestions which v'e made and which I behe've is in open-tion, in some States—If I am not mistaken, the Bihar Government also has adopted it—is that the salaries <*re paid directly to the teachers by cheque, If some such device is made so that the teachers pre paid the salary on the first of the month, it might be . . .

SHRI A. D. MANI • It should be honoured. You should see to it

SHRI G. A. APPAN • Sir, on a point ct order On a point ot vital clarification You know—if the salaries of the teachers are paid directly to the teachers, they do not give any respect to the school management and the college management

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ; It is not a point ot order.

SHRI G. A. APPAN : For the information of the House, he should also see that the management has some Conon exercises discipline over the teachers.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :
Please sit down.

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : In any case all that I wanted to say is that this is e of the suggestions which is under operation. It is entirely up to the hon. Member to see that in the State where he seems to command so much influence, this is not enforced. But he cannot prevent the Bihar Government or any other Government adopting a facility which they think is more convenient for the teachers. Regarding the question of low salary and so on paid to the teachers I must say that I resent very much this comparison. I felt honestly a little bit shocked when Mr. Appan, for whom I have great respect for he has already 14 degrees and he will be having more degrees after he appears privately for the Correspondence course examinations, talked in such terms as a chaprasi getting Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 p.m. I think, Sir, it is not fair to draw that kind of contemptuous distinction between a person who has got a B.A. or M.A. degree and a person who has not got any degree. I can understand his complaint that the salaries are low instead of saying that even a chaprasi gets much more. I think a chaprasi is somebody who is not in all ways inferior to a person who has taken his B.A. or M.A. degree.

(Interruption by Shri G. A. Appan)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

PROF. V.K.R.V. RAO : Mr. Appan interrupts me too much. I do not know why he interrupts me. (Interruption by Shri Pitamber Das) I am sorry I am not yielding. I do feel that as a person who thinks every human being is entitled to human dignity we should not 'hat because a man does not follow a particular occupation, therefore, he is superior or inferior or he is in, what is considered, a better profession. I can understand the complaint that what is being paid to the teachers is low and, therefore, something ought to be done.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Before I put my question one point has struck

public importance

me rather strange. The bon'ble Minister J said he does not know exactly where he stands in the context of the President's Rule.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : Tell me.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I do not know whom I am addressing this question. Perhaps I am addressing my question to one who does not know his functions. I will tell you. The President's Rule is the President's Rule and not the rule of an adviser or a Secretary. The President is advised in all matters, in all circumstances by the Council of Ministers. What happens, whether in regard to this matter or any other matter, would be relatable to the advice given by the Council of Ministers. In the present case the advice comes from the Prime Minister or the Education Minister himself. Therefore, the Education Minister comes directly and in a very straightforward manner in settling the affairs of West Bengal's education as he thinks fit. So long as the President's Rule remains the President functions on behalf of Parliament on the advice of the Council of Ministers. So to be clear about it you can ask your Attorney-General whether my advice is correct or not.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : Thank you, Mr. Gupta.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : So, Sir, this is a point which is not to be clarified by me.

The Government of India's integrated scheme of scales of pay for the University and college teachers does not cover the colleges started after a particular period of time, namely, 1st April 1966, or posts created after April 1, 1966. That is to say, the new entrants, the colleges started after that period, or new entrants among the teachers are straightaway debarred. Why this discrimination against this section of the teaching community and the colleges which have come up after April 1st, 1966 I do not know. Everybody knows that they need the help much more than those who have been in the field for some time. Why the Government is not ending this discrimination I should like to Enow.

The United Front Government decided to switch over to the Government of India's revised pay scales with effect from April 1, 1966 out of their own funds. They also agreed to pay

he arrears between the 1st April 1966 and March 31st, 1969, that is to say, three years' arrears that had accumulated. The U. F. Government requested the Central Government to share, as in other cases, 80 per cent, of the financial obligation and 20 per cent. I should like to know why the Central Government should not have accepted this suggestion of the State and agreed to meet 80 per cent.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : For new entrants Or for all teachers ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : For those who are entitled, even the arrears should be paid. For the new entrants, when the U.F. Government came to power, they said "We shall pay from 1969". You have not given them, because they were new entrants, between the 1st April 1966 and 31st March, 1969. The U.F. Government said "We shall pay the arrears provided, as far as these arrears are concerned, you meet 80 per cent and we meet 20 per cent, as in the case of other obligations shared between you and the State." Why you are not doing it, I should like to know.

Then the teachers' emoluments for 12 months are paid normally in 22 irregular instalments. No teacher knows when he will be getting his pay. Suppose you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, do not know when you would be getting which part of your pay-packet. You are not married. So your wife will not give you trouble. But others will get into trouble. Now if the teachers are not paid, how are they to manage their household affairs? They do not know what they will get, when they will get and how much they will get. I will ask my hon. friends, the Ministers of the Cabinet: Will you be agreeable to an arrangement of this kind, despite all kinds of avenues open to you for getting . . .

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : I hope you are not using the word "you" in a personal sense.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Not in a personal sense. You are all impersonal.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : That does not satisfy me. Mr. Deputy Chairman, I have the great respect and regard for Mr. Bhupesh Gupta. But just now.

possibly inadvertently, he suggested "you will have some other avenues." Sir, I have not got all the resources, all the contacts, all the experience of my distinguished friend. I would like to be advised by him as to what the other sources are.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : If you come to the personal

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : I will come to you for advice.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You can ask Biju Patnaik.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : I will come to you.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You can ask others also. Let us not go into the unsavoury part of it. Since you brought it in...

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : I did not bring it in.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Then, the salaries of teachers are always in arrears for a period between two and six months. You ask the West Bengal teachers and they will tell you. The Centre blames the West Bengal Government and the West Bengal Government blames the Centre. One does not know how to apportion the blame. Anyhow, the teachers are left high and dry. I think you should put a stop to this. I should like to know what has happened to the Third Plan college teachers. Some of these people get only Rs. 200 or Rs. 210 per month. Up to March they were getting something. Now they are being deprived of what they were getting before. There has been a cut in their pay-packet. I should like to know why this is so.

Then, Sir, there are a group of colleges called "Government sponsored colleges". The name is very high-sounding. And they are expected to do better in the matter of emoluments. (Time bell rings) Do not ring the bell. There is power shortage, you know.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : All right, you put your questions.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The dearness allowance in the case of the Government-sponsored colleges is only

Shri Bhupesh Gupta.]

Rs 17.50. But in the Government-sponsored colleges they should get much more. Do you know in the private colleges the dearness allowance is between Rs. 50 to 125 "> My friend should know it. How is it that in the Government-sponsored colleges there is this discrimination against the teachers? Sir, you will be surprised to hear that for 10 to 12 years some of the posts of teachers are not approved by the Government as a result of which the incumbents do not get any increment, do not get any confirmation, do not get any provident fund. And I should like to know how it is that Government's share in the provident fund is not even paid after 10 years or so and the people are suffering as a result of this, Sir, these are some of the things I should like to know. Why is the principle "Similar type of work—similar type of pay", "Similar work—similar pay", not being followed in this particular case? Therefore, I say again, Sir, before I sit down, the Government should do it. The Minister can do it; he has the power to do. Dr. Rao, now that you are in charge, the teachers must get their emoluments regularly. You can surely enforce it. You can surely limit the fine and remove the discrimination against new entrants and the Government of India should naturally advance the funds for meeting the additional requirements of the States when the States do not have enough money to pay. Now, these are some of the concrete, constructive suggestions I have made, but I am very sorry to hear him say that he did not know that ten representations and memoranda have been submitted to the Central Government. Innumerable deputations have met the State Government and the Central Government also. The Central should be aware of what their case is and what their demands and problems are. I am surprised the hon. Minister said that he is not aware of even what exactly the demands are and so on...

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : I did not say that.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Everything he is aware of. I, therefore, suggest, Sir, that in the first instance the matter should be taken to the Cabinet and a decision should be taken in favour of the West Bengal teachers.

श्री राजनारायण : प्राइम मिनिस्टर को भी बोलो न ।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, my friend says I should tell the Prime Minister, but would it not be better if I speak to the Prime Minister through Mr. Rajnarain? Now, secondly, Sir, the matter should be taken up before the Parliamentary Consultative Committee on West Bengal Legislation. We can give him the necessary support. Now, 7,000 college and University teachers involved in all the universities are united in pressing their demands and you cannot say they are guided by any political consideration. There is a universal demand by teachers belonging to all shades of public and political opinion or to no opinion. The Vice-Chancellors are behind their demands. I, therefore, demand that the Central Government should make the funds available and should see that everyone gets similar pay, well in time, regularly. Provident fund should be paid, permanent posts should be approved where the appointments have been there for a long time unapproved, and these things should be done and discrimination against those who came after A. 1966 should be eliminated and done away with. I think I should go to Calcutta to meet the representatives specifically on this subject and I am sure, if he brings his weight to bear on the subject and sympathetically pursues these things in the Cabinet, Parliament will back it, the Parliamentary Consultative Committee on West Bengal Legislation will back it, and there will be no difficulty in meeting the very legitimate demands of the college and university teachers. That is how he can serve in a concrete way now that he is in charge of education in West Bengal.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : Sir, I feel rather overwhelmed by the . . .

श्री राजनारायण : आपको कुछ नहीं कहना है, आप पहले ही कह चुके हैं ।

श्री जगदम्बः प्रसाद यादव : यह तो आपको एडवाइज है ।

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : What all I can tell him, as far as possible, is only on one question, to give an answer, and that is in regard to these new

entrants. This matter was taken up by the Ministry of Education and, as I have told the House a little earlier, it was not merely a question of West Bengal only but it also applies to a number of other States. After a lot of discussion it was decided in the Government efforts. But I am prepared always to extend it to the new entrants, the whole idea being that the Government of India, in order to give a kind of fillip to revision of salaries in the appropriate direction, is willing to give 80 per cent of the difference between the existing scales and the older scales of those already employed. The idea was that if anybody has to be employed afterwards, the Government concerned or the management concerned or the universities concerned will pay them the new scales which were considered to be reasonable scales. This has been the theory behind it and if the hon. Member, wants I am again prepared to take it up. I will lose nothing because I always like to argue the case of my class. I am quite prepared to take up the case. But I am not too sure; just as very often success does not attend the honourable Member's efforts, I am afraid success might not attend my efforts. But I am prepared always to try...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I am sure you will not fail if you seriously try.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : This is what I do not like I do not like this "seriously try" business. When I say I will try, I take it for granted. There is no such thing as "lightly trying or not seriously trying". The honourable Member has said, "If you seriously try". This is what I do not like.

Anyway, regarding the whole case, it is very good of him to say that the entire Consultative Committee will support me, that the entire Parliament will support me, and so on. I am very glad to hear that.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : There is no doubt about it.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: As I said just now, let me get all the facts of the position. For the first time we did everything. For example, the question of Physical Training Instructors, Librarians, all these questions we took up. But this particular thing about which I heard yesterday, the non-pay-

public importance

ment of salaries for several months really shook me to the core. If the honourable Member, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, had heard me talking to the officers last night at half past ten, he would have wondered to which party I belonged. {Interruption} A revolutionary leader like Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, if he had heard me yesterday, would have known my reaction to what I had heard, that the people in this profession were not getting their salaries for months and months. Therefore, I am concerned about it, I am involved in it. That is why I said, let me get all the facts of the case, all the details of the case. {Interruptions} Then the honourable Member was mentioning about the provident fund . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Under the law you are making a contribution to the provident fund of some of the teachers. But that is not being done now.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO: There I agree. But the honourable member is aware that this is arising because there are, I understand, a number of people who are temporary. Under the Provident Fund Rules, I am told, provident fund does not apply unless one serves for a certain number of years—I do not know the rules.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I am not talking of those people. But where you are supposed to make the contribution, in respect of those employees to whom provident fund applies, even there you are not doing it.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : That I will find out. I will find out all these various relevant facts. I will send one of my most responsible and most knowledgeable officers concerned with university education and get all the facts. I shall try my best. But first of all, let me have a case and after the case is there I shall find out if the Central Government or the West Bengal Government is able to solve the problem or some other method has to be found out.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal) : Sir, I want to put one or two questions.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : We have already taken one hour.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : It is on education. We can spend some more time.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : But we have already taken one hour.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : People like me who are half educated, can spend some more time.

SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY (West Bengal) : It is a very important question. Let it be discussed threadbare.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You cannot discuss matters threadbare in a Calling-Attention Motion.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : It does not matter. She comes from Bengal. She is an educated person unlike me.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : Are you not educated, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta?

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, इस पर ज्यादा सवाल पूछ कर न मैं अपना समय, न राव साहब का समय और न सदन का समय नष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिस फीलिंग को देख कर के राव साहब के अन्दर थोड़ी उत्तेजना आई और एक सम्मानित सदस्य ने कहा कि एक चपरासी को जितनी तनख्वाह मिलती है, उतनी भी उनको नहीं मिलती है, उस फीलिंग को देख करके उत्तेजना आनी ही चाहिये। मगर उसी भावना को राव साहब मंत्रियों पर क्यों नहीं लगाते, संसद् सदस्यों पर क्यों नहीं लगाते, जिन संसद् सदस्यों को अपना भत्ता बढ़ाने का मनमाना अधिकार है। देखा जाय, हम लोग कितने पतित और नीच हैं। हम लोग पतित और नीच हैं। बड़ी लम्बी चौड़ी बातें करते हैं। बोलने लगते हैं तो लगता है कि हम बड़े त्यागी हैं। मैं पश्चिमी बंगाल गया था। परसों पश्चिमी बंगाल में था। वहाँ हमको कुछ अध्यापक लोग मिले। उनकी स्थिति बहुत ही दयनीय है। राव साहब खुद ही कह चुके हैं, चार पांच महीने जिनको तनख्वाह न मिले और जो केवल उस तनख्वाह पर ही परिवार को आश्रित रखते हों, आखिर वह जीवन निर्वाह कैसे करेंगे। सवाल यह है कि आखिर जो यह लीगल क्विबिल्स हो रही है, इससे क्या होगा। न्यू एंट्रन्स को नहीं मिलना चाहिए, ओल्ड एंट्रन्स

को मिलना चाहिए, यह सब क्या है। मैं तो कहता हूँ कि न्यू एंट्रन्स को भी मिलना चाहिए और ओल्ड एंट्रन्स को भी मिलना चाहिए। यह एक बारीकी है, इस झगड़े में मैं पड़ना नहीं चाहता। इक्वल रेम्यूनरेशन फार इक्वल वर्क—समान काम, समान वेतन इस सिद्धांत को केन्द्र की सरकार कब लागू कर पायेगी? सीधा सवाल हमारा यह है। और दूसरे जो अध्यापकों का बकाया है उसको यह सरकार कब दिला पायेगी? जहाँ पर 28,882 करोड़ रुपये का बजट हो पंचवर्षीय योजना का वहाँ राव साहब हमको यह समझाते हैं कि केन्द्र यह दे, राज्य यह दे। मैं राव साहब से सफाई के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ कि राव साहब के अंदर तेजस्वीता है। मैं उनकी तेजस्वीता को जान कर कभी-कभी प्रसन्न होता हूँ, उनके आगे झुकता हूँ, लेकिन उस तेजस्वीता को लेकर राव साहब कोई डायनामिक, कोई रेवोल्यूशनरी स्टेप क्यों नहीं उठाते और उस चीज को लेकर इस्तीफा क्यों नहीं दे देते। कम से कम यह तो सिद्ध हो जाय कि...

श्री उपसभापति : आप सवाल पूछिये।

श्री राजनारायण : मैं वहीं कर रहा हूँ। लेकिन जब तक हम क्या या "इज" नहीं लगायेंगे तब तक आप उसको सवाल नहीं समझेंगे।

श्री उपसभापति : क्या यह सवाल हो गया?

श्री राजनारायण : आप सुनते क्यों नहीं? मैंने पूछा कि अगर राव साहब अध्यापकों की स्थिति से खुद द्रवित हैं, उनकी दयनीयता को देख कर, तो राव साहब शिक्षा मंत्री क्यों हैं? हमारा सीधा सवाल है। यानी अगर राव साहब अपनी भावना के अनुकूल वहाँ के अध्यापकों की दयनीयता दशा को सुधार नहीं सकते हैं तो फिर उनके इस शिक्षा मंत्री के पद पर रहने का औचित्य क्या है? अगर वे इस्तीफा दें, तो इस से देश में अध्यापक वर्ग में एक भावना जागेगी, उनके मन में एक विचार आयेगा और अध्यापक यह सोचेंगे कि हमारी मांगों को लेकर केन्द्र का एक शिक्षा मंत्री ऐसा

हुआ है कि जिस ने त्याग पत्र भी दे दिया है। मैं समझता हूँ कि इन तमाम लीपापोती से और श्री भूपेश गुप्त के सवाल जवाब से कुछ होने वाला नहीं है। तो राव साहब इस्तीफा दें। पश्चिमी बंगाल की स्थिति यह है कि इस समय वहाँ राष्ट्रपति शासन है, इसलिए हम चाहते हैं कि राव साहब केवल यहाँ पर लेक्चर न दें, बल्कि कुछ ठोस काम करें, ऐसा ठोस काम जिससे तमाम अध्यापकों की दयनीय स्थिति पर देश का ध्यान आकर्षित हो।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Does the Minister want to say anything ?

PROF. V. K. E. V. RAO : I do not know. I think it is both a suggestion for action and a hypothetical question. Therefore, I do not see how I can answer.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : The hon. Minister has sought to make out a case that he was not aware of the fact that the teachers were not getting regular payment of their salaries for four months, six months, and so on. In some cases even for one year they did not get. Has the West Bengal Government submitted any report, what has been the reaction of the hon. Minister to that ? Now he says that he will send an officer to identify the problems or to size up the problems and then act on it.

Sir, may I know from the Minister whether the West Bengal Government had, during his discussions, given any idea as to the requirement or as to the quantity of money required to fulfil the monetary side of the demand, that is, payment of arrear dues, etc. ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : All right, all right.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : The second point I want to get clarified is whether he is aware of the fact that the sponsored colleges have governing bodies, but the governing bodies are not constituted in accordance with any framed rules and that has also created certain difficulties both for the teachers and also for the management. Will he see that the governing bodies are properly constituted and function in accordance with the framed rules.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I think you have taken too much time.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : I have not taken more than two minutes, Sir...

{Interruptions}

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You should not take more than that.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : I have not taken long. My another point is...

SHRI CHITTA BASU : My another point, Sir, is this : It is not only the question of the college teachers. I think the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that a similar fate is awaiting the secondary teachers also. They are also not getting the arrears of payment, they are not getting regularly...

श्री राजनारायण : सब प्वाइंट तो आ गया है। राज्य सभा को भंग कर दिया जाय और जो पैसा बचे वह टीचरों को दे दिया जाय।

{Interruptions}

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : This is regarding the college teachers. Why are you raising that?

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister... {Interruptions} see that the situation does not deteriorate and a situation arises when the entire teaching staff of the country are on the road to force the government to take the path of reason ?

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : Sir, all I wanted to convey to the House was...

{Interruptions}

श्री राजनारायण : एक रेमडी है साहब कि राज्य सभा को भंग कर दिया जाय और इस पैसे को वहां के, बंगाल के टीचर्स को दे दिया जाय।

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : All I wanted to convey to the House was that I felt a great sense of shock that there have been so many arrears and so on and so forth. I feel I should not have conveyed all the sense of shock to this House. I should have kept it to me.

श्री राजनारायण : यह कहां शाक लगा है।

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : Again Shri Rajnarain will ask me to resign.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : All right, all right.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : But this is on the assumption that nothing happens. You should wait and see. That is why I said it is hypothetical. You should wait and then ask the question.

The hon. Member wanted to know whether, during the discussions I had with the Government of West Bengal, they gave me any indication of the finance and so on. I could not go into all those details. It was only the question of the irregular payment that finance was discussed, and on that I was told that regular payment is not made because the State Government does not have the money and apart from other reasons, they could get three months more, that is, instead of the 12 months' grant, they could get the 15-month grant, which will give them a kind of ways and means cash in their hands and over a period of four or five years, they will be able to repay it and they will be able to solve the problem of payment immediately. Immediately I told the Adviser that he should send a detailed note on the subject explaining the whole proposal and so on. If Mr. Chitta Basu says why I should send anybody from here to enquire into all those things, I accept

the advice of the distinguished Member of Parliament from West Bengal, Mr. Chitta Basu, and therefore, I am not sending anybody to Calcutta.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : All right, all right.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : But I think his own friends there will be annoyed with him if on his initiative I do not take any further action except to wait for a letter from the Adviser on the purpose, the only purpose of payment of arrears, I would suggest to him that I am awaiting letters from the West Bengal Education Department and I would also like to get all the details of all the other things of which I had an inkling there and I think he will have no objection to that. I hope he will have no objection to that.

Regarding the governing bodies of colleges, it is a subject on which we have very strong feelings in the Education Ministry. The Vice-Chancellors' Conference has appointed a sub-committee on the governance of colleges all over the country, how they are constituted, about the security of their tenure, representation of teachers, etc. and that body is now working and after the report of that body has been received and we know the position in the country as a whole regarding the constitutions of the colleges, we will see what could be done about the same. In this respect I may say that even in some of the progressive States the constitutions of some of the colleges leave a great deal for improvement. Bengal will also be covered and as soon as we get the report, we will be able to do something in the matter.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa) : Many of the questions were detailed in their nature. I would ask only a general question. I was extremely shocked to hear that some teachers have not been paid even for a year and the amount of payment that is being made to them is below the subsistence level in Calcutta. If the level is so low and if the payment is not made for years, how do we expect that even the teachers would be able to impart education to the children? That is the reason why many of the colleges are closed in Calcutta and whatever education they would be giving would probably be out of that sense of frustration and intense resentment

against the Government. That is why whatever has happened in Calcutta would probably have been the result of the behaviour meted out to the teachers by the Government. I would very much like to know whether the hon. Minister would take immediate action to even get some money out of the other Departments of Government and to see that whatever commitments have been made to the teachers are honoured. If that is not done, there would be no sense in multiplying the educational institutions in the country without being able to pay them money. What is more grave is that even the provident fund of some of the teachers has been eaten away by the Government. If somebody in the private sector would have done that, he would have been proceeded against criminally. Now when the Government is doing it, discrimination is being made and no prosecution is being launched. Therefore I would like to know whether the Government would prosecute those people who are responsible for this.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : आपने साल भर की बात की। साल भर किसकी गवर्नमेंट वहाँ पर थी। किसके द्वारे यह समस्या पैदा हुई ?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : But the teachers are not to blame. Whichever Government was in power, that Government is to blame. It may be the U.F. Government. Now, Sir, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister would take stern action to prosecute the people who were responsible for this kind of breach in respect of the provident fund and also to see that the commitments to the teachers are honoured even by getting money from some other Departments.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : Sir, I was delighted to hear the hon. Member of the Swatantra Party expressing himself in such strong terms. But I may inform him that my mind is working exactly on the same lines, to get some money from somewhere for this purpose. (Interruption) Mr. Bhupesh Gupta will not carry the same weight as Mr. Lokanath Misra, because Mr. Bhupesh Gupta belongs to the left. I am glad that Mr. Lokanath Misra has raised it and I shall see if I can get some money from somewhere to meet the requirements if the situation. Since he has made this observation, I may

say that the Orissa Government is the only Government which has so far not taken advantage of the Government of India's offer to revise the scales of its college teachers. Even the Madhya Pradesh Government has fallen in line but the Orissa Government has not yet done it. I know that the hon. Member is a very influential person and he belongs to the ruling party of that State. May I request him, since he has shown so much concern for the teachers, to take up this matter with the Government of Orissa to see that the money which will be available from the Central Government for being paid to their teachers is taken advantage of before the period expires ?

Regarding the question of provident fund, I am not the authority for instituting prosecutions for that breach. I will find out if there have been any breaches of that kind and if there is any case of that kind, I will have an enquiry made and certainly I shall have no hesitation in recommending to the authority that be to take appropriate action in the matter.

SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY : We had a very great novelist in Bengal and his name was Sarat Chandra Chatterjee. He once wrote in his novel the grand daughter or the daughter-in-law who got good beatings from the mother-in-law, when in her time she became the mother-in-law, gave more beatings to her daughter-in-law. When Dr. Rao was an educationist, he suffered the same things as a professor and now, because he is the Education Minister, he is giving back those beatings to the teachers in a much more severe degree. The teachers, when they become Ministers, forget their old colleagues and they can afford to allow them to starve for one year to get their salary properly. Most of my friends who spoke here are themselves teachers and professors. Once upon a time I was also a teacher but I will not claim that I am more than that but I represent the other section, that is, the wife of a professor. I speak here as the wife of a professor and I can tell that the family budget of a professor is no budget at all because the wife does not know when the husband is going to get the salary from the college, if it is a private college. It will be very difficult for the new professor, the prospective bridegroom to get a wife because the prospective father-in-law will be

[Shrimati Purabi Mukhopadhyay.]

reluctant to get a professor as a bridegroom for his daughter because everybody in the country knows that the teacher and the professors are the victims of circumstances. Even the Government and the functioning agencies, the private college authorities, do not care a little to pay them regularly.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I hope your husband did not have any difficulty.

SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY : He is in a Government college which is represented by my friend opposite and he gets his salary regularly but about the private colleges . . .

SHRI LOKANTH MISRA : Here is evidence that in Orissa nobody has any difficulty.

SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY : That I will not say. In the private colleges, regarding the service conditions of teachers, they are actually temporary and they do not, have any provident fund and if they are temporary and one does not know how long they will be in that temporary stage. So in all humility I will request the Education Minister in the Government of India, who is himself a well-known educationist in the country to go deep into the problem and not give a superficial answer in the House that he would send an officer to know the problem. He knows the problem, whether he is a Minister or not and he should have sufficient urgency in him to find out the solution. This is not the first time when we are speaking about teachers and professors. In the last session also we talked about professors. He assured the House and I do not want to waste the time of the House nor do I want the Minister to waste the time of the professors in giving a final decision about it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I hope the mother-in-law has been given a good beating by the daughter-in-law.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : Quite honestly I was trying to follow the speech which also contained a question of the hon. lady Member. I got confused. There were so many mother-in-law, father-in-law, professor,

beatings, etc. in that speech that I did not quite understand it. Also I did not understand when she said that I got any beating as a teacher and now as a Minister, I am beating the teacher. I do not know ; it may be a political way of expressing oneself but, Sir, I am not accustomed to this kind of language. All that I would like to remind the hon. lady Member is this. She, I believe, was a Member of the West Bengal Government. . .

SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY : Yes.

PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO : . . . and it would be very interesting to find out how the West Bengal Government, of which she was a Member, dealt with these problems. I shall be very glad to put one of my research, students to find out what happened to college teachers and school teachers during the period when my very distinguished and very eloquent friend was a Member of the Government.

SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY : Please give me a chance to reply to this, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No more.

THE PREVENTION OF WATER POLLUTION BILL, 1969

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, मैं चाहता हूँ कि नेता सदन प्रधान मंत्री को हमारी यह मांग पहुंचा दे कि पश्चिमी बंगाल के अध्यापकों को तनह्वाह शीघ्रातिशीघ्र दे दी जाय ।

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill to provide for the prevention of water pollution and the maintaining or restoring of whole-someness of water, for the establishment, with a view to carrying out the purposes aforesaid, of Prevention of Water Pollution Boards, for conferring on such Boards functions relating thereto and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."