

PROF. SHER SINGH: If some such request comes, of course, it will be considered.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask the Minister, apart from other countries seeking our co-operation, whether the ICCR has approached the UN asking for Hindi being recognised as one of the official languages of the UN? Hindi is spoken by more people than those who speak English, French and Spanish. It is next in importance only to the Chinese language, as far as the numbers are concerned and Chinese is not being spoken in the UN, though it is one of the official languages of the UN. May I know why the Government has not taken up this matter?

PROF. SHER SINGH: Hindi undoubtedly has the second or third place in relation to the number of people who speak this language in the whole world and Hindi, of course, deserves that status.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

*693. [The questioner (Shri B. V. Abdullah Koya) was absent. For answer, vide col. 5394 infra.]

SELF-EMPLOYMENT OF ENGINEERS

*694. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN:†

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he recently made a statement at a function held under the auspices of the Institute of Engineers in New Delhi regarding the self-employment of engineers by setting up their own small scale industries;

(b) if so, what are the details of such a proposal;

(c) the details of financial and technical facilities to be given to those engineers who want to become entrepreneurs;

(d) whether any such help has been sought by engineers, if so, what is their number;

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Jagat Narain.

(e) whether Government propose to set up a Technical Corps of Engineers, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken to popularise the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. TRIGUNA SEN) : (a) to (c) I did not suggest any special scheme to assist engineering personnel in setting up their own engineering enterprises. All that I suggested is that our engineering graduates and diploma-holders should become more self-reliant and to that end they should avail themselves of the credit and other facilities available under small industries development schemes of the Central Government and State Governments.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Ways and means are being devised by the Planning Commission to increase employment opportunities for engineers and technicians.

श्री जगत नारायण : मैं वजीर साहब से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उसी फंक्शन में हमारे वजीर के० एल० राव साहब ने यह कहा है कि इस वक्त सारे हिन्दोस्तान में 3 लाख इंजीनियर हैं मगर उनमें जो बेकार हैं उनकी तादाद 50 या 60 हजार के करीब है और एक इंजीनियर पर पेरेंट्स का कम से कम दस पन्द्रह हजार रुपये का खर्चा आता है उनको तालीम दिलवाने पर, तो इन 50, 60 हजार में इस साल कितने और इंजीनियर्स का इजाफा होगा ? जो उन्होंने यह कहा कि वहाँ उन्होंने सिर्फ यह मजेशन दिया था कि उनको किसी स्माल स्केल इंडस्ट्री में लगाना चाहिए तो क्या गवर्नमेंट इन बेकार तौजवानों के लिए कुछ प्रबन्ध करना चाहती है ? उनके मां बाप रो रहे हैं कि हमने हजारों रुपया खर्च किया और वे बेकार बैठे हैं, तो गवर्नमेंट उनके लिये क्या इन्तजाम करना चाहती है ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN: Their number is about 35,000 to 40,000. After several years the figure will go up from 50,000 to about a lakh. The institutions will produce every year about 50,000 graduates and diploma-hol-

ders. It is known to Members that due to recession in industries and drought for two years, unemployment amongst technical personnel has become a problem. It takes about five years to train an engineer and according to the anticipated demand of engineers institutions were started. They have been trained. In the Second and Third Plan periods the jobs were available to them. It is only during the last two years that this recession has come and we are faced with this problem. As soon as that came to our notice, you know that I referred it to the Planning Commission to take necessary steps, and all of us are at it seriously and several schemes have been proposed for immediate action and also for long-term action. Members might be knowing that the programmes formulated envisage filling of all vacant posts of engineers and technicians in Government establishments including the Army Technical Corps and immediate start of preliminary surveys and investigations for major projects likely to be undertaken in the Fourth and Fifth Plans, and extension of industrial training and apprenticeship facilities. These three measures are estimated to provide additional employment opportunities to about 10,000 to 15,000 engineering graduates and diploma holders this year. The Planning Commission has also suggested a special scheme to be implemented by the State Governments for giving financial assistance to engineering graduates to set up small-scale industries. Engineers' co-operatives may also be encouraged in the field of construction. The compulsory use of indigenous consultation by firms seeking institutional financial assistance and employment of qualified engineers by Government contractors are the other important measures recommended. While recommending the filling of all vacant posts in Government establishments, the Commission has said that engineers may also be considered for employment in the fields of marketing, sales and management by public sector undertakings. It is interesting to note that the Army Technical Corps is reported to have 1,000 vacant posts besides 4,000 posts manned by non-technical staff. If all

these resources are tapped, we feel that this unemployment question will be solved to a very big extent.

(Several hon. Members stood up.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know it is an important question and so many Members want to take part in it. I will say . . .

श्री जगत नारायण : क्या वजीर साहब बतलायेंगे कि जो बेकार हैं क्या गवर्नमेंट उनको सबसिडी देने को तैयार है ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN: Government is not prepared to give a subsidy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There will be a complete discussion on this matter.

This question has come up from time to time and time will be fixed for this matter.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Will this be discussed before the House disperses?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is my view.

SHRI M.M. DHARIA: Sir, I have given notice of a Short Duration Discussion. You have granted half an hour. Even the Business Advisory Committee has accepted my demand and has allotted 2½ hours. They have received a scheme from the Planning Commission. The whole matter was before the Planning Commission and Government was to have received a scheme from the Planning Commission. Now that the proposals have come from the Planning Commission, may I request you to fix . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am fixing on Friday a 2½ hour discussion.

SCIENCE POLICY RESOLUTION

*695. SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) when the working of Science Policy Resolution was reviewed last; and

(b) what is the machinery for the collection of data, facts and figures, for the formulation, review and implementation of Science Policy Resolution?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. TRIGUNA SEN): (a) The last review was in August 1963.