

## ‡ भारतीय कृषि सेवा

99. श्री भगवत नारायण भार्गव : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारतीय कृषि सेवा बनाने के लिये सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

## †INDIAN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

99. SHRI B. N. BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government to create the Indian Agricultural Service ?

—गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री-श्री जय-सुख लाल हाथी : सभी राज्य सरकारें भारतीय कृषि सेवा के बनाने से सिद्धांतरूप में सहमत हो गई हैं। चालू अधिवेशन में संविधान के अनुच्छेद 312 (1) के अधीन राज्य सभा में एक संकल्प रखने की तैयारी की जा रही है।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI) : All the State Governments have agreed in principle to the creation of Indian Agricultural Service. Steps are being taken to move a Resolution in the Rajya Sabha under Article 312(1) of the Constitution in the current session.]

## ‡CENTRAL MINISTERS' TOUR OF KERALA

167. { SHRI ABDUL GHANI :  
SHRI JAGAT NARAIN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Central Ministers who toured Kerala during the last two months and the reasons for their tours; and

(b) the amount spent by Government on these tours ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

12 NOON

STATEMENT RE STARTED QUESTION NO. 530 ANSWERED ON THE 11TH DECEMBER, 1964

SHRI SURJIT SINGH MAJITHIA AS CHEF-DE-MISSION IN THE FOURTH ASIAN GAMES.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRIMATI SOUNDARANI RAMACHANDRAN) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Bhakt Darshan, Deputy Minister, I beg to make the following statement. While replying to a supplementary Question arising out of Starred Question No. 530 answered on the 11th December, 1964, I had stated that Shri Surjit Singh Majithia had acted as Chef-de-Mission in the Rome Olympics in 1960. The correct position is that Shri Majithia had acted as the Chef-de-Mission of the Indian Contingent sent to the Fourth Asian Games held at Djakarta during 1962. The error is regretted.

## CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED HUNGER-STRIKE AND OTHER FORMS OF AGITATION BY TEACHERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Education to the reported hunger-strike and other forms of agitation by teachers throughout the country and the Government's policy in regard to the demands of the teachers. I would like him to state the developments in West Bengal in particular.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI M. C. CHINGLA) : The Government of India are aware of the agitational attitude adopted by teachers in some parts of the country. In particular the All-India Primary Teachers Federation, Kerala Aided Primary Teachers' Union and the All-India Secondary Teachers' Federation have been approaching the Ministry of Education through representations and deputations to indicate some of their demands and views. A few

§Transferred from the 22nd February, 1965.

†[ ]English translation

‡Transferred from the 23rd February, 1965.

[Shri M C Chagla]

other organisations like the All-India Federation of Educational Associations and Delhi State Parents Association have also broadly and generally suggested sympathy for these demands of teachers

The Government of India have all along been of the view that the emoluments and service conditions of teachers at all stages, as well as their qualifications, should be improved so that standards of education may be maintained. For this specific purpose a scheme for improvement of salaries of teachers has been provided for in the Plan and the Central Government bears 50 per cent of the expenditure on this scheme provided of course that it is included in the approved Plan programme of the State concerned. In addition to this the Government of India has been pressing upon those States in particular where the emoluments are very low to take effective steps to raise them. As a result of this advice many State Governments have raised the pay scales of their teachers the most recent increase of pay scales being in Assam.

An allied problem is that regarding the pay scales and emoluments of teachers of aided schools. In some States there is a disparity in the emoluments of teachers of aided schools as compared with the emoluments of teachers in Government schools at the same level e.g. in Bihar. The Government of India have requested all the State Governments to eliminate this disparity, as far as possible, of course, this will involve a decision that the qualifications of teachers in private schools as also the method of their recruitment will be the same as that of Government school teachers.

For the Third Plan period the provision of funds for increase in emoluments of teachers was approximately Rs 8.34 crores for elementary education and Rs 3.03 crores for secondary education but as a result of the insistence of the Government of India as well as the realisation by the State Governments that teachers should receive a fair deal the actual expenditure on these schemes is estimated to be of the order of Rs 22.94 crores for elementary teachers and Rs 14.63 crores for secondary teachers.

Government of India have also been stressing the need for adoption of the Triple Benefit Scheme (Pension, Provident Fund and Insurance) by the State Governments. A number of States have made a beginning with this scheme and others are taking it up as and when funds permit. The Central Government is also examining a Pension scheme for teachers of private schools in the Union Territories and its financial implications are under scrutiny.

The Government of India have also established in June, 1962 the National Foundation for Teachers' Welfare, to promote the welfare of the teachers generally, and in particular to alleviate distress amongst them and their dependents. The accounts of the Foundation now have a sum of approximately Rs 75 lakhs collected from Government grants and private contributions. From 5th September, 1964 it has been decided to commence the release of funds to individual cases and a beginning has been made in this direction.

The difficulty resulting from the low emoluments of teachers particularly in some States has been greatly aggravated by the increase in the cost of living particularly since the proclamation of the Emergency. It is felt that whereas there was a necessity to raise the emoluments of teachers even earlier, a substantial increase is needed now only to neutralise the effect of the higher cost of living. It is felt that this is a broader issue and should be dealt with in the same manner as the increase in the dearness allowance of other employees.

The Teachers' Associations have also sponsored a suggestion that there should be a Secondary Education Grants Commission like the University Grants Commission so that it can take positive steps to introduce uniform pay scales, security of service and scheme of terminal benefits. The Government of India have examined this issue and found that they have no legal authority under the Constitution to establish a statutory body for this purpose.

The State Governments it would appear are doing their best and have in fact spent much more than what was provided for improving the salaries of teachers. The

Government of India have also borne their share of the expenditure and stressed the necessity of further improvements in various directions I have myself taken up this issue vigorously with the State Governments ever since I took up this portfolio and have found that in many States have taken on themselves quite a heavy burden on this account although their resources were already pledged to various development schemes of the Third Plan The financial problem is of a formidable size which has been made still more difficult because of inflation Therefore, the Government of India feel that while efforts to improve the salaries of teachers particularly in those States where they are very low should be pursued vigorously, may be in the non-Plan sector also, there is no just cause for agitation by teachers all over the country as indicated in the Calling Attention Notice A suggestion has been mooted that there should be a pay commission for determining pay scales of teachers all over the country There are some inherent difficulties in this approach inasmuch as the emoluments of teachers in different States differ partly because they are related to the pay scale of other similar employees as also to the cost of living and availability of teachers On the last occasion when this matter was discussed in the Central Advisory Board of Education (May, 1963) it was felt that the appointment of such a Pay Revision Committee might raise expectations without corresponding arrangements to find the funds for implementing the recommendations which might be made by it

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA** Sir, the hon Minister has referred to agitation Let him just say a word about this thing I have received a circular letter from the General Secretary of the All Bengal Teachers' Association, Shrimati Anita Devi, from Calcutta I would like to know whether his attention has been drawn to this letter —

"We earnestly request you to kindly make all efforts so that the West Bengal Government comes to an amicable settlement for the fulfilment of the promise of the late Chief Minister, Dr B C Roy"

Now, is the Minister aware that the late Chief Minister Dr B C Roy made these

promises on the floor of the Bengal Assembly in the year 1960, September and these assurances were communicated and they have not been implemented up till now This is one of the reasons as to why the teachers of West Bengal at least have been forced to take this step Now, Sir, may I know whether it is not a fact that it has been pointed out, for example, by the Secondary teachers of West Bengal that in view of the steep rise in prices of food and other essential commodities there should be a D A rise of Rs 30 for all school employees with a provision for raising it by Rs 5 for every ten units in the cost of living index Now, Sir, this is the demand Then they have also demanded that the pension scheme which exists in six other States should be implemented These are already there I should like to know whether in such matters the Central Government is in a position to intervene I am aware, Sir, that they have said that they are prepared to give 50 per cent of the money required for meeting some of the demands This is admitted in the circular letter also Has the hon Minister's attention been drawn to the fact that if the allocation is always within the framework of the general allocations of the Five Year Plan, it is possible for the Governments of the States concerned to meet the demands provided the Central Government makes additional allocation to what already exists in the Five Year Plan, and is it not a fact that the West Bengal State Government for example, is prepared to meet the demands of the Secondary School teachers provided the Central Government makes its share of contribution in addition to what goes in the Plan or within the Plan This is now the crux of the matter Therefore I should like to know whether it is being approached from that angle Everywhere in Madras, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, in all other places, the teachers after having waited for a long long time have come out with their demands Is it not necessary for the Government to make some additional funds available to the State Government ?

**SHRI A D MANI** (Madhya Pradesh) What is the question ?

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA** Who said, 'What is the question ?

SHRI A. D. MANI : I am asking.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The question is whether the Government, in view of the fact that the requirements cannot be met within the framework of the Plan allocation which is very restricted, cannot make additional funds available for meeting this contingency ?

This is the question. In this connection I would like to know whether the Central Government is intervening to get the West Bengal Government to talk to the teachers who are squatting there and withdraw the circular of the D.P.I. which is insulting to the teachers and to which they have taken exception ? All the Opposition parties are trying for an amicable settlement and nobody wants agitation if it can be helped. Therefore I would like to know from the Government in what manner they are going to meet the present situation to begin with when there is a living agitation in Bengal and also other places ?

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA : My hon. friend, I am sure, realises that primary and secondary education, also for the matter of that, University education are State subjects. The Central Government can offer assistance, can give advice but it cannot interfere with the affairs of State Governments. I had a deputation of Bengal teachers—University and College teachers—and I told them that it was extremely wrong for teachers to talk of strike and direct action. If they themselves are not disciplined, how can they expect students to be disciplined ? I must say to the credit of the University teachers who came to see me that they agreed. I said I will take up their cases and see that justice was done. At least they agreed that they will not strike but so far as primary and secondary teachers are concerned, a deputation did not come and see me but even if they did, I realise the difficulty of the Bengal Government. It is not the difficulty of Bengal Government, it is the difficulty of every Government. When we offer fifty per cent, the Government says : 'We have not got the other 50 per cent. You give this outside the Plan'. I have not received any specific request from the Bengal Government but I received specific requests from the Bihar Government and

the Kerala Government. I took it up with the Finance Ministry and the Finance Ministry is adamant that it will not give anything outside the Plan ceiling. Every State must find the money within the Plan ceiling and if they find that, we will give 50 per cent.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : This is the difficulty.

SHRI A. D. MANI : The Minister said that it is not feasible to set up a Pay Commission. Has the Government considered the possibility of advising the State Governments to conduct an *ad hoc* regional enquiry into the pay structure of teachers ? This has not been done for years. It is easy for each State to conduct such enquiry though such an enquiry need not be in the form of a formal Pay Commission. Has the Government considered this matter ?

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA : Yes. We are considering what better method we can evolve rather than this matching grant in the Fourth Plan. My own view is that these matching grants have not succeeded. We must approach this question of teachers on an all-India basis but how we can do it is the question.

SHRI A. D. MANI : He has not answered the question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The position is this. You know it very well. Many States are not in a position to meet this within the Plan ceiling. This 50 per cent. comes only within the four corners of the Plan ceiling. If the States are not in a position to raise the resources, their part of the resources, under the Plan now why the teachers should suffer and when the Government is taking a broad national view in this matter, is it not necessary that the Government of India should make grants from year to year outside the Plan ? They are doing in many other cases. Why should it not be done in this particular case ? We have Supplementary Budgets making additional Grants. Why in this case it should not be made ? To-day the West Bengal Education Minister is in Delhi. I have heard from Comrade Renu Chakravarty who met him that the West Bengal Government

would be prepared to meet the demands of the teachers in Bengal but not within the four corners of the Plan projects because they have not the money. Therefore they want the Centre to give. They are sympathetic to the demand. Really what they have done is, they have declared the schools closed in order to show that the teachers are not in strike. That is very interesting. In the Assembly they have demanded that the students should be waived the tuition fees because the schools have been closed. All this should not be done. I therefore suggest that the Minister should talk to the Education Minister and the teachers, take a very broad national view in this matter and not make a fetish of this so-called Plan allocation. Education should have all precedence. If you are not in a position to make adequate allocation—I would say that Maulana Azad at one time wanted Rs. 1,200 crores in the Second Plan and that was not done and they had given Rs. 300 crores,—and specially we find cut coming first in the case of education and therefore—it is not a party issue—the Parliament should give moral support to the Minister in order that he can approach the matter from a broad national angle and find the requisite funds to help the States in order to meet the demands of the teachers. In the Calcutta streets they are waiting for eight days, squatting before the Raj Bhavan. It is a sad spectacle.

HON. MEMBERS : How long? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. M. DHARIA (Maharashtra) : Will this opportunity be given to others?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You give a Motion. If he speaks on this, I shall not speak for seven days.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh) : On a point of order, I very humbly request you to consider this matter. The hon. Member in the Opposition has been pleading his case and if any other Member takes objection to this, has the hon. Member the right to have a direct

dialogue with the hon. Member and threaten him of any consequences? This is the habit of the hon. Member on that side. If you are going to give liberty to that hon. Member, will it not be right for us to behave in the same manner in this House and ask you for permission to make irrelevant speeches on any matter whatever it may be?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : This is a point of order?

MR. CHAIRMAN : My ruling is. . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : This is an exuberance of a person who has become a convert to the Congress Party, having deserted the Opposition and therefore I fully sympathise. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : I entertain the point of order and my ruling is, if some objection is raised to a Member's speech, he should not give a direct reply. That is well-known parliamentary practice. . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Members should not have a dialogue. When I say a Member, I mean not only Mr. Gupta but everybody.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I fully submit to your ruling. I am not asking anything irrelevant but about what Mr. Chagla said. I do not think he was treating the whole matter as irrelevant. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nobody is treating you as irrelevant. As a matter of fact you are pleading your case twice over. You pleaded it in the first instance and you now say the same thing.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : When he gave the answer, I drew his attention to the position taken by the West Bengal Government and I asked the Education Minister to consider. I suggested he was here and I did not raise irrelevant points. I have pleaded let the Government consider and if I have to say these and our Congress friends did not get the chance, it is because they do not raise these because they think it is. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : You need not expatiate at such length.

SHRI D THENGARI (Uttar Pradesh) In view of the fact that the Minister, in spite of his best efforts, has not succeeded so far in bringing about uniformity in the pay scales in all the States and also in getting the increased cost of living neutralised and also of the fact that he has suggested that the teachers should not resort to agitation what other channels would he like to suggest for the teachers to get their grievances redressed? What are the other channels for the teachers?

SHRI M C CHAGLA Democracy prescribes certain channels

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA What are they?

SHRI M C CHAGLA The channels are, meet the Minister, explain to him, meet the Ministers of their own State, get public support but no direct action not to say that and what will be the effect on or 'I will go on strike. How could a teacher say that and what will be the effect on students?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA The Government is forcing them

SHRI ABID ALI (Maharashtra) The present position is very interesting. On the one hand the teachers ask for increase in their emoluments and on the other they lead the students for tuition fees being waived. And the more unfortunate position is that gentlemen like the hon. Member there are organising the teachers on party lines. But they are not friends of the teachers. They are not friends of the poor. They are only organising them for party purposes, and I want to know from the Government what safeguards are there to protect national interests.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA I rise on a point of order

SHRI ABID ALI That is the difficulty. He would want you to allow him to say anything.

MR CHAIRMAN You are also allowed to say what you wish.

SHRI ABID ALI That is my misfortune and that is our misfortune. He is taking most of the time and he will not.

MR CHAIRMAN Mr Abid Ali, please take as much time as you wish.

SHRI ABID ALI Thank you very much, Sir. I wish you were always liberal like that so far as we are also concerned.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V PATEL (Gujarat) It is a reflection on the Chair.

SHRI ABID ALI I want to know what the Government are doing so far as this infiltration of the traitor elements among the teachers is concerned.

MR CHAIRMAN Now what is your point of order?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA I am very glad that you have allowed me to raise the point of order. My first point of order was that here was not a general debate. A statement had been made, we sought clarifications and gave our suggestions.

MR CHAIRMAN I am surprised that you say that.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Sir, every word of what I said was all suggestions. I was not attacking the Congress Party or anybody.

MR CHAIRMAN You said it was not a general debate.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Therefore I say. He can say as he likes. Please understand me, I will explain the point of order. We certainly can give the background of the thing and seek clarification, and that is what was done. I came here with the proceedings of the West Bengal Assembly to invite his attention which bear on the subject. Now Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN What is the point of order?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA The point of order is that Mr. Abid Ali started abusing us when we don't come into the picture. A second point of order is this. He said there

were traitors among the teachers Is it not objectionable to say that there are traitors among the teachers ? I don't know, may be in this State but I would say this thing Now, Sir, you should not allow the teachers to be called traitors He can call us traitors How many times, you know, he called us

MR CHAIRMAN Teachers were not called traitors, he said that there were traitors amongst teachers—I do not know The reference was very impersonal, it does not concern you, it does not concern your party

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Unless Mr Abid Ali calls me names people do not look at me Unless I am abused by Mr Abid Ali I am not taken notice of by the people

MR CHAIRMAN I have heard your point of order Mr Abid Ali.

SHRI ABID ALI Sir what I said was that there were traitors in the country Is it the hon Member's case that there is not one traitor in the country ? And what I said was

MR CHAIRMAN You need not explain Please proceed further

SHRI ABID ALI All right Sir He said I was abusing him It is not so What I was mentioning was that there were anti-national interests and anti social elements very much active in this field also posing that they were friends of the teachers The document which Government has placed on the Table with regard to Communist activities that itself was condemnation of the Government that it had been neglecting this matter for so many years and had not been alive to the requirements of the situation My request to the Government is to ask them to take a serious view of the matter which poses a serious problem for us see how our children are being educated what they are being taught in the classes about China, what books they are reading Kindly look into these matters and do not allow anti national influences and anti national elements to bully you You are being bullied

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA You are being bullied

SHRI ABID ALI Sir, I am telling the Government

MR CHAIRMAN Please speak to the Government through the Chair, no dialogue between you and Government

SHRI ABID ALI I am requesting the Government through the Chair So my request to the Government is this So far as the teachers are concerned, of course they are in difficulty They deserve to be treated so far as their emoluments are concerned, in a very fair way, better than other employees, because they are responsible for moulding the character of our children but they are not paid properly, and as the hon Member has said, they should submit a memorandum, they should submit a representation and they should create public opinion All that they have been doing Please do not take them to the stage where they appear in the streets, make demonstration and go on strike Government also has some responsibility not to allow them to go to that stage Within a reasonable time their case should be sympathetically considered and I will also request the Government to see that anti-national forces and anti-social elements do not mix with them and also raise their heads in the country to the great detriment of national interest and national solidarity Please control that situation and do justice to the country as a whole Thank you, Sir

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh) Mr Chairman I shall like to request the Education Minister on only one point In UP also the teachers have served notice on the Government that they will not be co-operating in the invigilation work during examination time, and some trouble is brewing also in the State Would the Education Minister consider the desirability of issuing a general appeal to all the teachers in the country that he is viewing their case sympathetically ? And meanwhile Sir, he should convene a conference of Education Ministers from all the States, where a sympathetic consideration of the demands of the teachers can be had because if situation goes worse I know that Government then succumbs to the pressure

[Shri Chandra Shekhar]

they convene a conference and they abide by the demands that the different sections of the society make, sometimes genuine demands and sometimes wrong demands. So, if the Education Minister is convinced that the teachers are in difficulty, that their demands are genuine, he should convene a conference of Education Ministers at the earliest opportunity and impress upon them to meet the reasonable demands of the teachers, and meanwhile he should issue a general appeal to all the teachers to desist from all such activities which may worsen the situation. So may I request the Education Minister to give these assurances from this House here and now that he will convene a conference of Education Ministers to consider the demands of the teachers in the different States ?

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh) : May I have a word ? I support the suggestion of the hon. Member, Shri Chandra Shekhar, with this addition that it would not help to have only the Education Ministers. First you should discuss the matter again with the Finance Minister and then call a conference of Education Ministers with the Finance Minister also there. It is only then that some concrete results would come out of this conference or discussion.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL (Delhi) : Sir, one of the basic points that the hon. Minister has reiterated is that we wish that the lot of the teachers be improved, and we have been hearing it for so many years. Now in the matter of the Centrally administered universities, Sir, in 1961, when the Government decided to give them better grades, the idea and the approach was that certain universities should start giving higher scales, on a model basis, so that others may follow suit. But it seems that since 1961 the tempo has frozen and now the University Grants Commission seems to have adopted a smugish attitude that whatever was given in 1961 was sufficient to cover all the rise in prices till 1965 although two Pay Commissions in the meantime have given a rise of emoluments to the civil servants. May I ask the hon. Minister, Sir, with your permission if he will kindly agree to see to it that it is an all-India policy, by

sharing the extra financial burden involved equally with the States and, even if the States do not agree and they are not willing to improve the teachers' lot, we should revert back to sustain the original policy and attitude and give better model scales to the Centrally administered universities, particularly in the matter of dearness allowance. And secondly, Sir, will the hon. Minister now at least make a definite policy statement that something is being done to improve the lot of the teachers rather than writing to the States and the States writing back that funds are not available. The time has come when we push the teachers to the wall, and complain against their breach of discipline, which may or may not be. I do not think we are leaving any option to the teachers but to protest. May I ask the hon. Minister to kindly, either by calling a conference or otherwise, do something to see that the teachers' lot is improved instead of only lecturing that they should feel content with whatever they have got ?

SHRI SYED AHMAD (Madhya Pradesh) : I just wanted to support Mr. Akbar Ali Khan.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Sir, the hon. Minister has rightly stressed that teachers should not adopt the means of going on strikes. So far as the teachers are concerned, we are aware that they are not governed by the Industrial Disputes Act or the Industrial Relations Act or some other Act, which are meant for industrial workers and some other workers. When there are no such legal provisions applicable to the teachers through which they can seek a remedy and have justice, is it not the duty of the Central Government and also of the State Governments to render justice to the teachers without delay ? I entirely agree with the hon. Minister that there should not be agitation. But deputations of several teachers have been to me when I was in Poona, consisting of teachers from secondary and primary schools. They could prove to me that the wages that they were getting in the year 1939 were more than what they are getting today. Even taking into account the dearness allowance and everything else that is given to them, they could prove to me that having regard to the rise in prices of the various articles, the wages that they are



getting today are not more but less than what they were getting in the year 1939. If that is the state of affairs of the poor teachers, when after our independence we are trying to share the profits or the benefits out of our Five Year Plans and out of our prosperity, then what are the poor teachers expected to do? I entirely agree with the hon. Minister that they should not go on strike. It is just because they do not want to resort to this means that they prefer the means of going on hunger strike. They want to rivet the attention of the whole country to this problem and that is why they are resorting to the means of going on hunger strike on Sunday, the day on which the schools and colleges are closed. If you are not giving consideration to their demands and not giving them speedy justice, what else are they expected to do? If we do not render them justice in time and if the teachers resort to strike, how can we blame them for going on strike? I feel that the time has come when the Education Minister who no doubt, has sympathy for the teachers, should take immediate action. I entirely agree with the hon. Member, Shri Chandra Shekhar, that the Education Minister should convene a conference of the Education Ministers and try to see that speedy justice is rendered to the teachers. It is from this point of view that I would request the hon. Education Minister to use all his good offices with the Finance Minister. I am well aware that when such a question comes up there is an adamant attitude on the part of the Finance Department. But here are the teachers in a Department for whom we do not have any such laws as apply to the industrial employees and others. This aspect also the Finance Department should consider and it is from this point of view that the hon. Education Minister should insist on the Finance Ministry and use all his good offices.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** It seems to me what you objected in the case of Mr. Gupta you have yourself done.

**SHRI M. M. DHARIA :** There should be something done.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** You have said almost exactly what Mr. Gupta said.

LSRS/65-4

**PROF. B. N. PRASAD (Nominated) :** In view of the fact that so much heat has been generated over this important matter, I would say only a few words. The problem of these starving teachers is really a very serious problem. It is not caused by any consideration of parties. Among the teachers I know there are teachers sympathising with one political party or the other. It is really a fact that these teachers are starving and because they feel compelled to take resort to some method which might give them the hope of their grievances being redressed at an early date. I think they have taken to this type of strike. We all say here that people should not go on strike, and this is quite right in theory. But how many of us here, even in Parliament, when we feel about a certain thing, tend to have a sort of group agitation? Therefore, I want to say that this problem should not be considered as a party problem. It should be considered as a national problem. I say this because these primary and secondary teachers everywhere in the country, lay the foundations of our early education. It is they who influence the minds of the young boys and girls and therefore, it should not be considered that it is only the problem of the Education Department. With your permission, Sir, I would suggest that this should be considered a national problem and if the Minister of Education feels the necessity to tackle it from a broader point of view, he may as well take it to the Cabinet because this is a problem which is not dependent only on the Education or Finance Departments. It is a national problem and I think it should be tackled as a national problem and as a very urgent problem and there should not be too much delay over this matter.

**श्री जगत नारायण (पंजाब) :** मैं वजीर मौसूफ की खिदमत में दोसुझाव रखना चाहता हूं। यह दुरुस्त है जैसा कि उन्होंने कहा कि एजुकेशन सबों की ज़िम्मेदारी है, मगर इसके बावजूद भी मुश्किल यह है कि हर सबे में प्राइमरी और हायर सेकन्डरी स्कूल के टीचरों की तनख्वाह मुश्किलफ मुश्किलफ है। इसलिये मेरा पहला सुझाव यह है कि सेंटर को इस बात

[ श्री जगत नारायण ]

की कोशिश करनी चाहिए कि टीचरों की तनखाह सब सूबों में यूनीफार्म हो। दिल्ली में टीचरों की तनखाह कुछ है, पंजाब में कुछ है और यू० पी० में कुछ है, जिसकी वजह से स्ट्राइक होते हैं। सेन्टर को इस बात को तय करना चाहिए कि सब जगह टीचरों की तनखाह यूनीफार्म हो।

दूसरी बात जो मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि जहाँ तक एजुकेशन मिनिस्ट्रों की कॉन्फ्रेंस बुलाने का ताल्लुक है, मैं उनकी खिदमत में यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि जिन-जिन टीचरों की यूनियनों स्ट्राइक कर रही हैं उन्हें भी बुलाया जाय। जब मैं पंजाब में एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर था तब मेरा तजुर्बा यह था कि जब टीचर स्ट्राइक करने लगे तो मैं उस समय के शिक्षा मंत्री श्री मौलाना आज़ाद के पास आया। मैंने उनसे कहा कि आप मुझे भी बुला लें, उन लोगों को भी बुला लें और फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब को भी बुला लें ताकि सब मिल बैठ कर इस बारे में फैसला कर लें। मौलाना आज़ाद साहब ने यही बात की। उन्होंने टीचरों की यूनियन के नुमाइन्दों को, मुझे और फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब को बुलाया और सब ने बैठ कर फैसला किया। उसके बाद कोई स्ट्राइक नहीं हुई। इसलिये मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि वज़ीर तालीम साहब भी इस मसले को इसी तरह से हल करें। वे सब को यहाँ बुला लें और बैठ कर फैसला कर लें ताकि इस मसले का फैसला हो जाए और स्ट्राइक भी न हो।

SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN (Nominated) : I do not wish to appear to be unhelpful. My hon. friend, Shri Chandra Shekhar, made a certain proposal and support has come to that proposal. But I think that this matter affecting the salaries of teachers is a very old matter. Education Ministers including Shri Chagla and previous Ministers, particularly Prof. Kabir have waxed very eloquent on this subject

that what the teacher gets is not a proper remuneration, that he is a disgruntled, frustrated human being, into whose hands we are entrusting millions of our children. These things have been stated with a thoroughness which cannot be bettered and the facts are absolutely well known. I remember a time when Prof. Kabir tried his best to get teachers at least a minimum of Rs. 50 per month even which is less than what a *chaprasi* would get in Delhi. All the facts are well known. If you invite the Education Ministers of the States, I promise they will merely add to the confusion. Each of them will say, "Let the Central Government pay for this." This is the style now. If some justice is to be done to any section of the community, then the Ministers of the States say, "You have initiated this matter. So you pay for it." What is necessary now is to recognise that the problem, is one that cannot be put away by a day or an hour. It is a very emergent problem, as emergent as any emergency in this country because if you have teachers who are unhappy, frustrated and disgruntled, then the whole of your education will go completely waste. This is known to Mr. Chagla and he knows it much better than myself. But it is no use keeping on simply saying that this is a big problem. You have to take a decision. It is no use saying money is not there, that the Finance Ministry in their turn cannot find the money. We have heard all this repeatedly. Every time there is a cut by Government, it is a cut on the head of Education. Why should we tolerate this thing? It is thus a question of taking a decision. There should be a minimum salary for the whole of India for a teacher and a minimum for different grades of teachers. You can bring any expert from anywhere in the world to look into the matter, including your own experts; but you should take a firm decision to work out minimum salaries for teachers. Delhi is becoming notorious for taking no timely decision on important matters. You evade the issue and go on evading till the thing grows to such a proportion that it catches you by the throat and then you struggle to get out of that throttle-hold. I warn the Education Minister not to play the old game. I am obliged to put it at that level. Make up

your mind and confront the Government with a demand that there should be a uniform minimum salary for teachers. This minimum should be fixed and before you fix this minimum salary, take all the care you want. But once the minimum is fixed, stand by it. And then the Minister insists that the teachers should not strike. I tell you that this is an advice which nobody is going to listen to in this country. Everybody resorts to strike in this country and one of these days, the State Ministers themselves might strike over something! That is the kind of situation in which we are today. It is no use saying to a disgruntled community, "We see no way of settling your grievances. You can come to me and talk to me". They will come to the Minister and talk. They will go to the Ministers in the States and talk to them but the problem may not be solved. What then are they to do? There must be some legitimate way in which any community in this country can register its final protest as effectively as possible. There are two ways of striking; you can strike at others and you can strike at yourself. This strike is striking at oneself, starving, going without work and facing trouble. Don't tell them not to do that because the other alternative is to strike at somebody else. You may, of course, give all the advice you can. I am one of those who are sick of strikes in the country. I am just now coming from Madras. I tell you, much more trouble is in store for us from that area than people here know. They are fiddling here while things are burning there but I am not going into that today. Let us be realistic. Let us have the courage and tell the teachers, "This is a poor country and there is a limit up to which we can pay and here is the limit." After this, if somebody is not satisfied, then let him resign and go away. But we must have the courage to tell ourselves and the people, "This is a poor country. We can only pay up to a certain limit. If you make me pay beyond this just now, the Government will go bankrupt." There must be courage, there must be vision, there must be clarity, and a determination to do things. That is the one thing lacking, Sir.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY (Madras): Sir, while deprecating resort by teachers to strikes and such forms of agitation, what are we to think of a Government that lets even teachers resort to strikes and these extreme forms of agitation, which will not take notice of the grievances of anybody till they come to strike? It is part of the general attitude of the Congress Governments that they will not take notice of any grievances unless they take the form of strikes or some kind of violence. A wise Minister should anticipate the grievances of the people, the grievances of the teachers, the needs of the teachers. May I remind the Minister of Education and other Ministers of the Congress of the advice given by the President of India on a recent occasion, that wise statesmen should anticipate trouble and not wait for trouble till it catches them by the throat. I think the Minister of Education should go all out with his colleagues in the Cabinet to press for a solution of this problem that will satisfy the minimum needs of teachers. Otherwise, they will have declared their bankruptcy.

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA : I will just say one word, Sir. I would have been very happy to call a conference of Education Ministers as was suggested but I know their answer. They will say, "Give us the money and we will be prepared to help the teachers". The problem is as between the Education Ministry, the Finance Ministry and the Planning Commission. I am taking up this matter with the Planning Commission to try and solve this problem on an all-India basis. We have got to do something because frankly the States would say, "We are prepared to do. We have no money. You give us the money and from our side we will try to do it." We are also in difficulties. We cannot give them more than what we have already given towards the Plan ceilings. So, this is a problem of finance. It is not a problem of policy. Everyone in India is convinced that the teacher is badly treated, that he is not properly paid. The only way to solve the problem is to pay him more but the question is, where is the money to come from. The States say that they have no money. The Centre says that it has already given them

[Shri M. C. Chagla]

enough, that it cannot give more. The question, therefore, is of finding the money and I am trying to see how we can do it.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL (Punjab) : Could not the Minister think of levying an education cess in order to find the necessary resources ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Any other suggestion that Members would like to make in this connection may be passed on to the Minister. We have had enough of this.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

##### MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE) NOTIFICATIONS

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR SAHU) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :—

(a) A copy of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification G.S.R. No. 272, dated the 17th February, 1965, under sub-section (5) of section 59 of the Finance Act, 1964. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3850/65.]

(b) A copy each of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :—

(i) Notification G.S.R. No. 126, dated the 23rd June, 1965.

(ii) Notifications G.S.R. Nos. 273 to 275, dated the 17th February, 1965.

Placed in Library. See No. LT-3846/65 for (i) and (ii).]

(c) A copy of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification G.S.R. No. 276, dated the 17th February, 1965, under sub-section (5) of section 62 of the Finance Act, 1964. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3851/65.]

(d) A copy each of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)

Notifications G.S.R. Nos. 277 and 278, dated the 17th February, 1965. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3852/65.]

(e) A copy of the Central Board of Direct Taxes Notification S.O. No. 591, dated the 15th February, 1965, under section 296 of the Income-Tax Act, 1961. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3849/65.]

(f) A copy each of the following Notifications of the Central Board of Direct Taxes :—

(i) Notification S.O. No. 168, dated the 4th January, 1965, publishing corrigendum to Government Notification S.O. No. 969, dated the 26th March, 1962.

(ii) Notification S.O. No. 654, dated the 16th February, 1965, publishing corrigendum to Government Notification S.O. No. 169, dated the 4th January, 1965.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3849/65 for (i) and (ii).]

#### SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR EXPENDITURE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF KERALA FOR THE YEAR 1964-65

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR SAHU) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants for Expenditure of the Government of Kerala for the year 1964-65.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Before you give your ruling and before we take up the Private Members' business, I want to raise another matter. I have given notice. We see from the newspapers . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you have given notice, then you need not mention about it here. I will deal with it.