

good example of the Central Home Ministry?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: We have already requested the State Governments to consider the desirability of extending the educational concessions which are admissible to children of Government servants; that is, the facilities which are available to Government employees should be available to pensioners also. I have already written to the State Governments.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Has there been any proposal made to Government that a committee should be appointed to go into the entire matter, as has been done in the United Kingdom where a committee has reported on the relief which should be given to pensioners?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: We may have no objection to that but it will have to be done at the appropriate time, number one. Number two, there are some specific facilities which they want immediately. It will be better to consider them just now and then go into the general problem.

GRANTS FOR PLAYS TO THEATRE GROUPS

*154. SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any changes have been effected in the scheme relating to giving grants to theatre groups for production of plays; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir; but the amount of grant may be reduced as a measure of economy.

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: Sir, in view of our experience with the Sangeet Natak Akademi what procedure is being adopted to see that grants are well utilised?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: This has nothing to do with the Sangeet Natak Academy. Grants are given to theatre groups on the recommendations of State Governments and till now the experience has been satisfactory.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: In view of the emergency, may I know whether Government have curtailed the grants to the theatre groups under the scheme which was in force previously?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: I have just now stated that the scheme has not been dropped but the amount of the grant may be reduced. We have written to the theatre groups and many of them have agreed to a lower grant.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: May I know whether it is a fact that one of the conditions for giving these grants is that they should stage at least 100 plays a year? Is it possible for any theatre group now-a-days to stage 100 plays and get this grant?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: As a result of representations from many State Governments, we have reduced* the number to fifty plays a year.

श्री बिमलकुमार मल्लालाखी चौरड़िया :
क्या श्रीमान यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इन थियेटर ग्रुप्स को, जिनको ग्रान्ट दी जाती है, उन्हें शासन की तरफ से इस तरह की कोई सूचना दी गई है कि चीन के आक्रमण से उत्पन्न बदली हुई परिस्थितियों में वे इस तरह के नाटकों का निर्माण करें और प्रदर्शन करें जो देशभक्ति और साहस की भावनाओं को जाग्रत करें ?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: That is quite correct. After the Chinese aggression we wrote to the theatre groups that it would be desirable to have, in view of the changed circumstances, plays which have a national appeal without being too specific about any particular incident, and the.

scripts should also be approved by the State Governments.

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: My question was, in view of our bitter experience with the Sangeet Natak Akademi . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question? Don't say what was.

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: My supplementary, which the Minister had answered, was, what steps Government was going to take to ensure that the money does not fizzle out, as has happened in the case of the Sangeet Natak Akademi.

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: As I said, it has nothing to do with the Sangeet Natak Akademi.

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: It has. After all, you give money to theatrical companies . . .

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: If the hon. Member wants a reply, then he must listen to me. Instead of listening to the reply he is going on saying something so that neither he is heard nor myself.

I stated a moment ago that this has nothing to do with the Sangeet Natak Akademi. Besides, administration of the Akademi has also been improved. Certain conditions are laid down and it is only when we receive a certificate that the play has been produced that the balance of the grant is released. Actually we find that the results have been very encouraging. A number of plays have been produced in 1960-61, 1961-62 and this is going to be the case in 1962-63.

STEPS TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL AT ANKLESHWAR OIL FIELDS

♦155. SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken or are proposed to be taken by Government to increase the produc-

tion of crude oil at the Ankleshwar oil fields; and

(b) if so, what has been the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rate of supply of oil from the Ankleshwar oil field has been stepped up from 1500 tons a day to 1800 tons per day with effect from the 15th February, 1963. There is a possibility of increasing the production of oil in this area to about 2,000 tons per day within the next few months.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know whether any institutional or organisational changes have been made to increase production of crude oil in Ankleshwar?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: No institutional or organisational changes are needed to increase the production. Oil is there to be tapped. We can increase it whenever we want but the question is, what shall we do with the oil? We are not trying to increase the production of oil till the Koyali Refinery comes into operation and in the meantime, we are selling oil to the Burmah Shell Refinery. As and when they require more, we will go on supplying them more. It is a question of entering into an agreement with them to take more from us.

*156. [The questioner (Shri Surjit Singh Atwal) was absent. For answer, vide col. 1203 infra.]

*157. [The questioner (Shri Babu-bhai M. Chinai) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 1203-1204 infra.]

ARRESTS, DETENTIONS, ETC. UNDER DEFENCE OF INDIA ACT

*158. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons arrested, detained and prosecuted under