

step and since the Central universities were their direct charge it was possible for them to increase the salary scales there. And as far as other universities were concerned, they cannot take unilateral action. They will have to consult the State Governments and their universities before giving them these salary scales. I can only assure the House that the University Grants Commission is keen on increasing the scales of pay of other universities also provided we placed adequate funds at their disposal. We will in course of time know how much funds we will have in the Third Plan. We shall take up this matter with the universities. Beyond this I cannot say at the present moment.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARNAND: Has the Government made any assessment of the quantum of funds that would be required in order to give identical scales of pay to the professors, etc. in the other universities?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, Sir all assessment has been made.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We are concerned with our own Education Minister here. May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister and his Ministry have made an assessment broadly of the requirements of the States, and having made that assessment whether they have taken up the matter with the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry—the Finance Minister is now looking backwards—to get more funds. Maulana Azad did it. He formulated certain policies, asked for certain funds and pressed for it with the authorities concerned. May I know, Sir, whether the Education Minister is putting up that sort of fight with the indomitable Finance Ministry?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: That fight is continuously going on. But I am not completely unaware of the total economic situation of the country.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: May I know, Sir, why in cases where the State Governments are prepared to meet their cost of the expenditure the University Grants Commission should not make the scales of pay applicable to Central universities but other universities? That is the question.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I am sorry I have not been able to explain the situation fully to the hon. Members. The position is that the University Grants Commission would like the salary scales to be increased for all the universities, but they cannot take unilateral action; they will have to consult the State Governments in this matter. But I expect that it is not the desire of the hon. Members that for that reason they should also stop the increments in the Central universities also. That would not be fair. Since we know the total financial situation about the availability of funds in the Third Plan, the University Grants Commission, I am sure, will take up the matter with the other universities also.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The hon. Minister said . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: That will do.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: There is plenty of time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know that. That is why I am giving you a lot of time. Next question.

CONSTRUCTION OF SMALL-SIZED STADIA.

♦106. SHRI V. V. SARWATE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the main features of the scheme for providing assistance in the construction of small-sized (utility) stadia;

(b) what are the criteria for granting such assistance; and

(c) whether Local Bodies will be given any preference for such grants?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI) : (a) The stadium should not cost more than Rs. 50,000 excluding the land which is to be provided by the sponsors. The Central share is Rs. 25,000 or 50 per cent, of the cost of construction whichever is less. Preference is given for the stadia to be constructed with the aid of 'Shramdan'.

(b) and (c). Grants are paid to the State Governments/State Sports Councils/National Sports Federations on the recommendation of the All India Council of Sports and all applications are treated on merit.

SHRI V. V. SARWATE: If the municipality or the local body concerned is prepared to contribute a certain fixed percentage of the cost, may I know, Sir, whether the necessary assistance shall be guaranteed under the scheme?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The Sports Council will consider the matter, provided the application is forwarded through the State Government.

SHRI K. SANTHANAM: May I know, Sir, if it is not a matter to be left entirely to the State Government and the local authorities?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Sir, the Central Government has been trying to encourage sports and I think some national responsibility is involved in the development of sports, and we have been taking all kinds of measures to encourage the development of sports in the country. This is one of the steps which has been taken by the Centre.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether in this connection any assistance from the Centre has been sought by the West Bengal Government for the construction of a

stadium in Calcutta? If so, what is the nature of assistance sought and whether the Government has accepted their proposal in this connection?

Dn. K. L. SHRIMALI: This question does not directly arise out of this question. I am saying from memory and am speaking subject to correction, some time back the West Bengal Government asked for some grant for putting up a stadium in Calcutta. The estimate which they sent was very high and we had asked them to cut it down. I do not exactly know what happened afterwards. If the hon. Member writes to me about it separately, I would be glad to give the answer.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: On what basis— if I do not hold any brief for the Chief Minister of West Bengal— did the hon. Minister suggest that the grant asked for should be cut down? Since he made that suggestion, did he also envisage cutting down the size of the stadium?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: In regard to the details the hon. Member will have to write to me separately.

"107. [The questioner (Shri Maheswar Naik) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 604-05 infra.]

SETTING UP OF ANOTHER CURRENCY NOTE PRESS

*108. SHRI B. N. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether Government have decided to set up or have actually set up another Currency Note Press?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : A new Currency Note Press adjacent to the existing Press at Nasik Road is under construction and is expected to go into production soon.