

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, towards the end of September, the Public Accounts Committee was in Calcutta. Some political hartal—regarding foodgrains—was announced by the political parties, and announcements were made by the West Bengal Government saying that no bus services would be run, no services to the Aerodrome would be run and no railway trains would be run. This is a fact, Sir. Therefore, Sir, I do not know the basis on which the hon. Minister says that it is not so.

SHRI B. N. DATAR: The State Governments take whatever action is necessary. May be they do not take action on the lines the hon. Member has in view.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Keeping in view the importance of essential services, especially these days, will it not be desirable to bring some uniform legislation in the Centre, to ban such strikes?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: It is for the State Government to take action.

PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S EDUCATION

*341. **SHRI V. K. DHAGE:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the recommendations made by the National Council for Women's Education for a special programme to promote the education of girls and women?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

The following recommendations have been made by the National Council for Women's Education for a special programme to promote the education of girls and women:—

(1) The special programmes to be drawn up in each State should be adjusted very carefully to local conditions.

(2) The programme of Central assistance should be flexible and each State should have full scope, subject to the overall policy and the funds placed at its disposal for the purpose, to select any of the approved programmes for its area.

(3) The feasible targets for the Third Plan should be as follows:—

(a) the education of girls should be as fully developed as that of boys in the age-group 6-11;

(b) the number of girls enrolled in the age-group 11-14 should be at least half that of boys in the same age-group;

(c) the number of girls enrolled in the age-group 14-17 in the secondary stage should be at least one-third that of boys in the same age-group;

(d) education of girls at the University stage should be expanded as largely as possible; and

(e) special educational facilities in the form of condensed courses to prepare adult women for passing the Middle or Matriculation Examination should be so organised as to ensure two such courses in every Block of hundred villages.

(4) (a) A sum of not less than Rs. 100 crores should be allocated for the special programme in the Third Plan.

(b) A sum of not less than 10 crores in addition to existing provisions should be earmarked during the remaining period of the Second Plan.

(5) The system of matching grant should be done away with in so far as the development of education of girls and women is concerned and the entire financial responsibility should be that of the Government of India.

(6) A formula for financial assistance from the Centre should be worked out taking into account the more urgent needs of the less advanced States with a view to achieve at least the minimum enrolment of girls in

the Primary, Middle and Secondary stages. The needs of the more advanced States also should be taken into consideration for giving assistance to certain programmes for further development.

(7) Adequate and special administrative machinery should be created in all the States and at the Centre to implement the special programme.

(8) Voluntary Organisations which have to play a very important role in women's education experience numerous difficulties in getting financial assistance. A high power committee should be appointed by the Government to examine the whole problem and to simplify the existing procedure for payment of grants-in-aid.

(9) The schemes suggested in the special programme include quarters for women teachers; special allowance for women teachers to work in rural areas; appointment of school-mothers; special educational facilities for adult women to secure more women teachers; attendance scholarship; grant of books, stationery, clothing, etc. hostels for girls and introduction of diversified courses in Secondary schools suited to girls.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: May I know whether the Government has taken any decision with regard to any of these recommendations?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, Sir.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What is the decision?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The decisions are as follows:

1. Government agree in principle, that high priority should be given to women's education and special measures adopted for the purpose.

2. The Government of India agree to assume greater responsibility for guiding the States actively in formulating special schemes for the expansion of girls' education; to endeavour to find necessary funds

and to assist in the effective implementation of the schemes.

3. The Government have not been able to accept the recommendation to provide the additional Rs. 10 crores for the education of girls and women only during the remaining period of the Second Five Year Plan. As for the Third Five Year Plan, Government will bear in mind the Committee's recommendation for adequate provision for the purpose.

(4) The Ministry of Education has recommended to the State Governments that there should be in each State Department of Education, a Deputy Director or a Joint Director of Women's Education who should be specially charged with the formulation and execution of the special programmes for the education of girls and women in the State.

(5) A unit is being established in the Ministry to deal with the study of all issues arising out of the programmes formulated for promoting women's education and to expedite action.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: One of the recommendations of this committee has been that voluntary organisations should be given financial help and they have said that this matter should be expedited. Has any decision been taken in this regard?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, Government agree with this view that we should try to encourage voluntary organisations in this field.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: I am not saying that they will not encourage voluntary organisations. What I am asking is this: It is said there are difficulties in their getting financial assistance from the Government of India. What steps will Government take to expedite the sanction of these grants?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Well, as I said, for the Second Plan our funds are already committed. But in the Third Plan, as I have already stated,

we will try to make special allocations for this purpose.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: The recommendation of this committee as laid down here says:

"Voluntary organisations which have to play a very important role in women's education experience numerous difficulties in getting financial assistance. A high power committee should be appointed by the Government to examine the whole problem and to simplify the existing procedure for payment of grants-in-aid."

This is not with reference to any Plan at all. It is with regard to procedure. Has the Government taken any decision with regard to the removal of the difficulties which are referred to in this report or recommendation?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I have already explained that this question of giving grants to voluntary organisations will only arise when we have funds at our disposal. We do not have funds at our disposal; but we hope that more funds will be available in the Third Five Year Plan for this purpose and then we will examine this question. As I said, I am in general agreement with this recommendation that we should give more assistance to voluntary organisations.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Do I take it that the Government of India at the moment gives no financial assistance to any voluntary organisations?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: We have been giving some.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: It is with reference to such institutions as get grants that I put the question. What is the procedure adopted to expedite the sanction of these grants? That is the point.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Well, Government is already taking the necessary action and there is no delay in giving the grants.

SHRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR: One of the recommendations is this:

"The system of matching grant should be done away with in so far as the development of education of girls and women is concerned and the entire financial responsibility should be that of the Government of India."

Has that also been accepted? Does it form part of the general acceptance of these recommendations?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: We have written to the State Governments that if they cannot find the matching funds for themselves, then they can make use of our funds, that is to say we are not insisting on matching grants.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Has the Government decided to allocate a separate fund for girls' education in the Third Plan?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Sums already allotted are being utilised by the State Governments. But the amount that has been asked for by the Council—Rs. 10 crores—we do not have at present, and we will try to find it in the Third Five Year Plan.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARNAND: Has the Government decided to give money for the starting of secondary schools in the States in addition to the extra amounts that have been decided to be given for the education of girls?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I do not know how this question arises out of the main question.

केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा कृषि कर का
लगाया जाना

*३४२. श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : क्या
वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या १० नवम्बर, १९५९ को
टाइम्स आफ इण्डिया के दिल्ली संस्करण में
प्रकाशित यह समाचार सच है कि वित्त उप-