

SHRI M. H. SAMUEL: There are several classes of people who are economically well off and are still classed as backward. Is Government taking corresponding action in those cases?

(Interruption.)

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: All these suggestions are before the Government and they have not yet come to any decision.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMAN-AND: How long will it take for the Government to come to a decision in view of the fact that this is causing a lot of inconvenience specially to the student community?

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: I do not think that it is causing so much hardship to the students but the Government can come to a decision only when they hear again from the States.

SHRI PURNA CHANDRA SHARMA: Are Government aware that the class of people considered backward in one State is not considered backward in another State?

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: Yes, this anomaly does exist for the present.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All these things are under the consideration of the Government.

POPULARISATION OF DEVANAGARI SCRIPT

*120 SHRIMATI SEETA YUDHVIR: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state the amounts of grants given to States in the year 1958-59 for popularising Devanagari script?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): No grants have been given for popularisation of Devanagari script as such, but grants have been given for 'Promotion of Hindi' (written in Devanagari script) in non-Hindi-speaking States. Information as to the actual expenditure incurred by State Governments of non-Hindi speaking States on all schemes relat-

ing to 'Promotion of Hindi' has not yet been received. The calculation of Government of India grant depends on this information.

श्रीमती सीता युद्धवीर : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि हिन्दी भाषा के लिये जो जोर दिया जा रहा है उस के बजाय यदि देवनागरी स्क्रिप्ट के प्रचार के ऊपर जोर दिया जाय तो क्या ठीक नहीं होगा ?

डा० के० एल० श्रीमाली: हिन्दी भाषा की जगह तो देवनागरी स्क्रिप्ट नहीं ले सकती है। हिन्दी भाषा के साथ ही साथ देवनागरी स्क्रिप्ट का विकास हो सकता है।

श्रीमत्. सीता युद्धवीर : क्या मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार इस बात पर गौर कर सकती हैं कि बच्चों की जो किताबें ओरिजनल स्क्रिप्ट में होती हैं उसी के साथ साथ देवनागरी स्क्रिप्ट में भी वे बच्चों को मुफ्त बांटी जायें ?

डा० के० एल० श्रीमाली : मैं आप के प्रश्न को समझा नहीं।

श्रीमती सीता युद्धवीर : जो किताबें ओरिजनल स्क्रिप्ट में छपती हैं बच्चों के लिये, उन को देवनागरी स्क्रिप्ट में भी छपवा कर बच्चों में बांटा जाय।

डा० के० एल० श्रीमाली : यह आप का सजेशन है जिस पर विचार किया जायेगा।

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: Has the Central Government decided about teaching other State languages in Devanagari Script without taking the States' opinion about their respective languages? Imposing Hindi itself is one thing but wanting to teach the other languages also in Devanagari is, I think not correct. What has the Minister to say about it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all. Question Hour is over.