

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, 17th September 1958

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MEMBER SWORN

Mirza Ahmed Ali (Delhi)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CHARACTER BUILDING PROGRAMME IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

*584. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state the steps Government propose to take for starting character building programmes in schools and colleges as recommended by the Union Public Service Commission?

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

STATEMENT

Character Building Programme in Schools and Colleges as recommended by the Union Public Service Commission

"Character" as referred to by the Union Public Service Commission appears to be connected with the development of personality. Though the question of character building in a purely ethical sense is one which each school, college and university should tackle by itself, efforts made by the various authorities to raise standards in educational institutions will have beneficial effect and influence and accelerate the process of developing 'personality'. It is hoped that the character building in schools and colleges will be automatic with the improvement in the quality and content of education.

64 R.S.D.—1.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know what are the recommendations and specific directions of the Union Public Service Commission in this direction?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The U.P.S.C. had recommended that the Universities and colleges should give more attention to the development of character and personality of students. Now I have said in the statement that the various measures that are being adopted by the University Grants Commission—the improvement of the pupil-teacher ratio, improvement of library facilities and giving better attention to students, all these measures—will ultimately influence the character of the students. Character is a very complex factor which is determined by various other factors. It is difficult for me to specify one single thing.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: It has been related in the statement that it is hoped that the character building in schools and colleges will be automatic with the improvement in the quality and content of education. I want to know whether the recommendations of the Commission have been passed on to the various educational institutions or not.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The University Grants Commission has considered and taken various steps, as I have already said.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know if the National Discipline Scheme which has been started in the various schools under the supervision of Shri Bhonsle has not been considered worthy enough to be taken as part of this character building programme?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: That also is one of the Ministry's scheme and along with this scheme, there are various other measures which the Ministry has undertaken.

MR. CHAIRMAN: National Discipline includes the behaviour of Members of Parliament also. It is 'national discipline'.