

taken any decisions on the recommendations of the Deshmukh Committee regarding the reorganisation of university education and if so, when they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): No, Sir.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know whether any of the recommendations is now under the consideration of the Government and whether they have agreed to the request that the intermediate colleges should reduce their course by one year and increase the degree course to 3 years?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes. The whole recommendation of this Committee is about the implementation of the scheme with regard to the three-year degree course and this Committee has suggested practical steps; and the financial aspect is under consideration.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know whether the Central Government have decided to give some financial help to the States if they took up this three-year degree course? If so, what is the proportion of their help to the expenditure?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The whole proposition is under consideration.

SHRIMATI CHANDRAVATI LAKHANPAL: Besides the starting of this three-year degree course, what are the other features of this scheme of reorganisation of university education?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: If the hon. Member is interested, I may place the Report of this Committee on the Table—in the Library.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I may mention that there is the fixing of a ceiling to the number of college students, a definite student-teacher

ratio, strengthening laboratories and libraries and also improving the quality of the education. I will place the whole Report in the Library.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ KAPOOR: May I know whether the Government is taking up the question of weaning the students in the universities from the habit of strikes and all that?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: That would be the result of the general improvement in educational standards.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: The hon. Minister said that the financial aspect of the proposals made in the Deshmukh Committee's Report was under the consideration of Government. But did not the Government know the cost of the introduction of the three year degree scheme when they recommended it to the various universities?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, the Government had some rough idea about the cost that would be incurred in the implementation of these recommendations; but we wanted this Committee to go into all the details and then make their recommendations.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: What is it now under the consideration of the Government, the stages by which money should be provided or the feasibility of the scheme?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: There is discussion going on between the Education Ministry and the Finance Ministry about the feasibility of the scheme and I am hoping that a decision will soon be taken on this matter.

*80. [For answer, vide cols. 640-42 infra.]

COMPANY RESERVE DEPOSIT SCHEME

*81. **SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of collections so far made under the Company Reserve Deposit Scheme; and

(b) the extent to which the desired objective of the Scheme has been achieved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) The total amount deposited by companies (under the scheme of deposits enacted by sections 10(2B) and 10(2C) of Indian Income-tax Act, 1922) in the year ended on 31st December, 1957, is Rs. 348 lakhs.

(b) As the hon. Member may be aware, the general object of the scheme is to ensure that surplus monies of the corporate enterprise arising out of liberal tax-free depreciation development rebate, etc., are utilised for developmental purposes. Since the scheme of deposits is effective only from the 1st April, 1957, it is too early to assess fully the extent to which the objective of the scheme has been achieved.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: I want to know whether it is a fact that some of the companies are complaining that the collections on this account could very easily be utilised for expansion of their own scheme, inside their own activities and, if so, has that factor been taken into consideration by the Government with a view to giving such an exemption?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I think, Sir, we have not received any such complaints on that account but if they want to utilise such funds for developmental purposes, they always could get exemptions if they apply to the Commissioner of Income-tax and to the Board of Referees. A large number of companies have got such an exemption and I do not think there is any legitimate grievance or ground for complaint.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Is this compulsorily applicable to all the companies?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is so if the companies want to claim depreciation and developmental rebate, but they get exemptions also if their grounds are legitimate.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether it is within the knowledge of the Finance Ministry that after the enactment of the Company law by Parliament, considerable sums out of reserves had been utilised by the various companies for acquiring shares with a view to securing control of other companies and, if so, what is the total amount involved in such transactions?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: That has got nothing to do with this question, Sir.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I think it has something to do with this. The hon. Minister has given the figure of Rs. 348 lakhs. I want to know as to how this figure compares with the amount that had been spent or so invested in acquiring shares in other companies out of the reserves of the companies?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I will only suggest that the hon. Member may brush up his memory because according to the Finance Act of last year, there were two provisions, one relating to the current profits and another relating to accumulated reserves. The Act as now in force is only for the first and not for the other and so, the question of reserves and all that does not arise.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I have brushed up my memory but one has to brush up one's conscience also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: After he gave you the information, you switch your memory back.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I have got the figure given by the Government of acquisition of certain reserves and I want the honourable Finance Ministry which is in dol-drum nowadays....

SHRI RAGHAVENDRARAO: How do you say so?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:.... to say how this figure compares with the amount invested out of the reserves for purposes which are not so honourable.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: As I said, Sir, this refers to current profits. So far as reserves are concerned, the hon. Member might brush up his memory. They do not come under this case.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I do not know how my memory requires so much of brushing up but, Sir, it is a fact that current reserves are built up into various reserves under the Depreciation Fund and the Reserve Fund.

SHRI SHRIYANS PRASAD JAIN: In view of the fact that the scheme is not giving any extra amount and has proved irksome to industry, I want to know whether Government will be prepared to consider withdrawing this scheme.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is another question.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: These are all matters of opinion. As I said earlier it is too early to assess the results.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: Is the hon. Deputy Minister aware that the hon. Finance Minister gave an assurance in the U.S.A. that the deposit scheme will be dropped?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: As it is, Sir, it is prevalent and so I cannot say about the future.

SHRI P. D. HIMATSINGKA: I am talking about the assurance given by the Finance Minister.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: What am I to say, Sir? If he has assured that can only be applicable when future policies are framed. I am not in a position to answer that question now.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether such assurances

galore given in the U.S.A. by the hon. Finance Minister will still bind his successor?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You are not allowing my question, Sir? I seem to be asking unanswerable questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Reserve it for some other day.

ECONOMY IN THE EXPENDITURE ON CULTURAL DELEGATIONS

*82. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state:

(a) whether the current economy drive has in any way affected the programme for sending and inviting cultural delegations to and from foreign countries, and if so, in what way; and

(b) what savings are likely to be effected therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The current economy drive of Government has resulted in the curtailment of the programme for sending and inviting cultural delegations to and from foreign countries. While some items are in the process of implementation in the current financial year, others have either been dropped or deferred for implementation in the next financial year.

The original estimate of expenditure for this purpose was Rs. 21,80,000. Out of this amount, a sum of Rs. 9,00,000 has been offered for surrender on account of economy measures.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know the number of delegations that