

BASIC EDUCATION SEMINARS

*335. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state the names of the States which have expressed their desire to hold Basic Education Seminars and have asked for financial assistance from the Government of India for the purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): Orissa, Punjab, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Kerala and Bombay and Union territories of Tripura, Manipur, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know how much money was spent on these seminars; how much grant was given by the Education Ministry?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I shall place a statement on the Table of the House.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know how much have submitted any report on these seminars to the Education Ministry?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Not yet.

*336 and *337. [*The questioner (Moulana M. Faruqi) was absent. For answers vide col. 2875 infra.*]

PERMISSION TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS FOR REMARRIAGE

*338. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of cases in which permission for a second marriage was granted by the Ministry of Home Affairs to Government servants after the year 1954-55?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): Three.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether it is a fact that a very high police officer

was granted permission to remarry though he has got a good, healthy and handsome wife in Himachal Pradesh?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I am not aware of this particular instance. But permission is granted after full consideration and as far as possible after safeguarding the interests of the first wife.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know what are the grounds on which permission was granted in these cases?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: In one case it was a very serious form of disease, namely, pulmonary tuberculosis; in the other case it was insanity and in the third case it was temperamental incompatibility.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Is it the policy of Government to encourage its own employees to contravene the law?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: No; it is not the policy at all. It is the policy of Government to see to it that our officers, males as well as females, do not contract second marriage.

SHRI P. N. SAPRU: Is it the opinion of Government that husbands who have got wives with pulmonary tuberculosis should have two wives?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: The wife herself consented in that particular case.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know whether the permission for second marriage that was granted was in contravention of the law, that is, the Hindu Marriage Act, and if so how was the permission given?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: May I point out to the hon. Member that there are certain other communities than Hindus? So far as Hindus are concerned, they cannot have more wives than one under the new Act. So far as Muslims are concerned they are governed by their own personal law

and, therefore, they can have more wives than one but still Government comes in the way and we have made rules according to which an officer while in service either a male or a female, cannot contract second marriage.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Are these officers all Muslims?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : Yes; all the three are Muslims.

SHRI ONKAR NATH : How many applications were received out of which these three were granted permission?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : In all, after the rules were made, we received 14 applications and about half the number was refused.

SHRI ONKAR NATH : Half of 14 means seven. The hon. Minister said just now that they granted permission in three cases. Out of 14 if half were refused, what about the other four cases?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : Sir, half of 14 is 17.

(Laughter)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Datar, you said 14 applications were received. You also said 3 were granted and 7 were rejected. Apparently, the other four are under consideration. Is that so?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : What I said is this. The figure of three relates to a certain period. But I said in all after the rules were made we received 14 applications and seven were rejected. I have no objection; if necessary I can give the various names.

SHRI ONKAR NATH : I enquired about the same period in which these three applications were granted. What was the number of applicants during that period? I have not asked for any other period.

SHRI B. N. DATAR : I have not got that information.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: May I know if the Government have made certain rules or conventions which must be satisfied before such permission is granted?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : Yes, Sir. Government have evolved certain rules in this respect.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: What are those rules—may I know?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : The rules are that as far as possible such permission should not be granted. (Interruptions) I have not finished.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order.

SHRI B. N. DATAR : Government policy is to discourage such marriages. When it becomes necessary—as for example, the wife is not keeping fit, or when for example, she is suffering from insanity or certain other serious diseases—then, as I have said, the wife's consent should be obtained, and in all cases proper provision should be made for the maintenance of the wife.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order. One at a time.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: What is meant by temperamental incompatibility?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : In that particular case, it was the case of a Muslim. There the husband would have obtained the divorce merely for the asking. *Talaq* could have been asked even by a single pronouncement. And, therefore, the wife agreed. The wife was a highly illiterate woman. The marriage had taken place long ago.

MR. CHAIRMAN : They are asking about (i) the pulmonary tuberculosis; (ii) insanity. What is the third, temperamental incompatibility?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : That is what I was explaining. In that particular case, this couple had been married

when the husband was 13, and the wife was 7. The husband is an M. A. and the wife does not know even the three R's. And, therefore, the husband and the wife could not pull on together. The wife refused to be literate, and, therefore, they agreed to divorce.

(Laughter)

MR. CHAIRMAN . Next question.

CULTURAL PERFORMANCES ARRANGED BY THE SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI

*339. SHRI B. V. (MAMA) WARE RKAR: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some cultural stage performances were arranged by the Sangeet Natak Akademi in honour of the delegates to the UNESCO Conference; and if so, how many;

(b) whether these programmes were (i) recorded by the All India Radio for being broadcast later and (ii) photographed by the Films Division like other important programmes;

(c) whether it is a fact that some of the programmes were not allowed to be (i) recorded and (ii) filmed due to objections by the authorities of the Akademi; and if so, what were the grounds for such objections; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what action was taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. MONO MOHAN DAS): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, eleven.

(b) Yes, some of the cultural programmes were recorded by the All India Radio and broadcast as special programmes or included in radio newsreel. These programmes were also filmed by the Films Division's cameramen like other important programmes.

(c) Only on one occasion a programme was not allowed to be recorded

as the participating artists had specifically desired that their items should not be recorded.

(d) In view of (c) above no action has been considered necessary.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: We are interested to know if the hon. Minister will give a short summary of what is there in the statement.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: If the Chair permits, I can read out. It is a short statement.

SHRI B. V. (MAMA) WARERKAR: May I know whether the Minister knows that it was for the first performance in the series that the permission was refused?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: I am not aware whether this was the only first performance where recording and photograph was not allowed. I am not aware of it.

SHRI B. V. (MAMA) WARERKAR: It was the first performance of it and the permission was refused. It was after the intervention of a Member of Parliament that the permission was granted from the second performance.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: So far as this particular case is concerned, permission could not be granted or the recorders were not permitted to take the record because the artistes who were performing themselves, objected. They said, "In our agreement with the Sangeet Natak Akademi nothing was said about recording etc. So, we cannot allow our performance to be recorded by the All India Radio".

SHRI B. V. (MAMA) WARERKAR: May I know, Sir, whether the representatives of the All India Radio and the Films Division were allowed to contact those artistes and explain to them the reason and get their recording and filming?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: It happened actually during the time of performance. I think there was no