

REVISION OF THE PAY-SCALES OF PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

*510. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister for PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Panel for Education in the Planning Commission in its two days session has recommended that the conditions and pay scales of primary school teachers should be revised; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken by Government on those recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING (SHRI S. N. MISHRA): (a) The Panel did not make specific recommendations in this regard but this was the general view expressed.

(b) The question of raising teachers' salaries had been engaging the attention of the Government of India and the State Governments for a long time. The Planning Commission had laid special emphasis on it in the First Plan and some States revised the salary scales of their teachers. In the Second Plan, several States have made provision for raising salary scales. The Government of India has offered financial assistance to the States which may be up to 50 per cent. of the additional expenditure involved in raising the salaries of the primary school teachers till the Finance Commission submits its report.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether the Planning Commission has verified whether these recommendations were circulated to the various States and their opinions invited on them?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: The Ministry of Education has already addressed a communication to all the State Governments. They did so in the month of February.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know how long it would take to get these recommendations implemented in the various States and whether any time-limit was suggested by this Committee?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: It is not for me to say what time will be taken. We can only hope that they will be able to implement them as soon as possible.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know if the Planning Commission is aware that the pay scales of primary school teachers vary from State to State and, if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, what is the maximum and the minimum paid to the primary school teachers and the names of the respective States?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: It is a fact that their salaries vary from State to State, because salaries have to be adjusted to the local conditions and pay structure. I cannot give the details regarding the various States.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: Has any minimum of pay been suggested, if not the maximum, all over India for primary school teachers?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: The suggestion was that Rs. 50—that is my recollection—should be the minimum pay given to the primary school teachers.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: Was this question discussed in the Education Ministers' Conference held only yesterday?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: So far as I am aware, this was not discussed, and this was not on the agenda also.

COMMITTEE ON SOUTH WEST AFRICA

*511. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries whose representatives serve on the committee on South West Africa;

(b) the terms of reference given to this committee; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the United Nations General Assembly has been asked to re-examine closely the unanimously approved report of the committee regarding the condition of the native population and the deteriorating situation of the South West Africa under the apartheid policy of the Union Government?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Thailand, Mexico, Brazil, Pakistan, Syria, U.S.A. and Uruguay.

(b) Broadly, the terms of reference of the Committee on South West Africa are to "Examine, within the scope of the Questionnaire adopted by the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations in 1926, such information and documentation as may be available in respect of the Territory of South West Africa" and to "transmit to the General Assembly a report concerning conditions in the Territory taking into account, as far as possible, the scope of the reports of the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations."

(c) According to the press reports, the Committee has made such a recommendation in its report to the United Nations General Assembly. The Government of India have not yet received a copy of this report.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether the United Nations has been given powers, by amending its own constitution, to enforce its decisions on the South West African Government in case the South West African Government persistently defies the resolutions of the United Nations and its Committees?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: She wants amendment of the Charter.

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: The position in South West Africa is this: It was a German colony and was taken over by the Allies after the First World War and came under the mandatory system. When the League of Nations wound up, all the other metropolitan countries placed the Mandated Territories under the new form of Trusteeship. Under the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreements, this action of placing them under trusteeship is normal and voluntary. South Africa alone declined. The United Nations, exerted a considerable degree of pressure, initiated by us, and submitted this matter to the World Court for an Advisory Opinion. Its Advisory Opinion is not absolutely conclusive, but it points at any rate to the moral duty of South Africa to carry out all the obligations resting on her under the mandate. The United Nations continues to press her to place the territory under the Trusteeship System. Each year it receives petitions from the original inhabitants of South West Africa, and the Committee appointed by the U. N. is trying to bring before world opinion

the facts and position of the Union Government which refuses to accede to the wishes of the U. N. There is nothing under the Charter of the United Nations which can be used to compel the South African Government in this matter. It cannot exercise any sanctions in this matter but can only mobilise world opinion. That effort continues, and the Government of India has taken a considerable part in it.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Is it a fact that the coloured people in Johannesburg are being harassed?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is another question.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Then another question. May I know how many coloured people have been punished because they were opposed to this apartheid policy of the Union Government?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question relates to South West Africa. Now, you are switching on to the South African Government and its apartheid policy. The two are entirely different.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Has the United Nations succeeded in having a reassuring reply apart from the parrot song of the South African Union Government that it was a domestic matter and no interference could be tolerated?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have got three Members here, and each thinks that the other will reply.

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: I am afraid the position is that each one of us has not understood what the question is.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know whether there is any proposal by the United Nations to enforce the advisory opinion of the World Court and to see that the Union Government obeys these orders?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: The definition of 'advisory opinion' is that it is an advisory opinion. There is no machinery for enforcing any decisions of the World Court.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: But is there any proposal to do it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There can be no enforcement.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What effect has the recommendation of the United Nations produced on the Government concerned? That is the point Shrimati Savitri Nigam raised.

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: The South African Government is not amenable to the opinions of the United Nations. For the last eight or nine years, resolutions have been passed by the United Nations by overwhelming majorities. In the majority of cases South Africa alone dissented. If a country will not respond to world opinion, there is nothing in the way of enforcement that can take place. It can only be continuous pressure. That is what we are doing.

AGREEMENT FOR SUPPLY OF STEEL FROM JAPAN

*512. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have entered into an agreement with the Government of Japan for the import of steel from the country; and

(b) if so, what are the terms of the agreement?

THE MINISTER FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI M. M. SHAH):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

INTRODUCTION OF POWER-LOOMS IN 1956-57

*513. SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of power-looms to be introduced in the various States during 1956-57 (the answer may be given State-wise);

(b) whether the Central Government propose to give any financial assistance to the weavers who will use these power-looms; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the handloom industry expressed fears in introducing power-looms?

THE MINISTER FOR CONSUMER INDUSTRIES (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) The Government of India have decided

to introduce 35,000 power-looms during the course of two years 1956-58, out of which it is proposed to introduce 15,000 power-looms in the year 1956-57. State-wise distribution has not yet been finalised.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Some representations have been received.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know what is the help given to the weavers?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Number one is, the power-looms will be allotted to co-operative societies only and the societies will get at the rate of total loan of Rs. 31 lakhs for share capital, on the basis of Rs. 1,000 per power-loom and 50 per cent. of the expenditure on preparatory and processing plants. Grants will be confined only to 50 per cent. of the expenditure on preparatory and processing plants and also recurring expenditure in connection with servicing.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know whether any States have objected to the introduction of these power-looms?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know whether the Handloom Board objected to the introduction of these power-looms in the States?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Most of the non-official Members objected to it, not the Board as such.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: What is the output of power-looms as compared with the handlooms and how many handlooms will go out of action when these power-looms are permitted?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Under the scheme which has been placed before the other House, there is no likelihood of any handlooms going out of production because the additional allotment for handloom is 1,000 million yards and the allotment for the power-looms in the co-operative sector is only 200 million yards. As regards the comparative rates of production, the average rate of production on handlooms—I underline the word 'average'—is 6 yards per day and on power-looms it is round about 24 yards.