

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether there is any fixed programme under which a certain number of apprentices are sent abroad or is it that they are sent as and when the need for trained personnel arises?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: So far as the Ministries are concerned, we have got a scheme under which every alternate year we send eighty students for practical training and 50 students for post-graduate training.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether the subject for which these apprentices are sent is also fixed?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: They are not apprentices in the strict sense of the term. They are engineers, who after their Bachelor's degree in engineering, go out for practical training or for post-graduate training.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Is it a fact that some matriculates and persons who had passed the Intermediate examination in Arts have been sent to Germany for practical training? He said that Engineers are sent but I want to know whether what I have stated is correct or not.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: So far as students being trained in Germany are concerned, there are two groups; one is Government sponsored which consists of 101 students at present and the other group consists of private students, students who have gone there at their own expense and this group is 299 in number. So far as the Government-sponsored group is concerned, no one with the qualifications mentioned by the hon. Member has been sent.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: My question did not relate to the students who have not been sponsored by the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He said that so far as the Government-sponsored students were concerned, all were graduates. That is what he says.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: I want to know about the students sponsored by the Rourkela Steel Plant which he referred to earlier.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: I think, Sir, that this question may profitably be put to the Minister for Iron and Steel.

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: What is the basis on which these selections are made?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: We invite applications prescribing the minimum qualifications. When the applications come in, the selection is made by a selection committee.

SHRI ABHIMANYU RATH: How many students have been sent so far from Orissa State?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: That question is very important no doubt but the hon. Member may kindly know that it will mean a little more trouble for me. I have to collect that information.

OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIPS TO SCHEDULED CASTES, SCHEDULED TRIBES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

***558. SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO:** Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the expenditure incurred on candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes who were awarded Overseas Scholarships during the First Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether any of them have returned after completing their studies; and

(c) if so, whether any of them have been employed by Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. MONO MOHAN DAS): (a) Rs. 1,59,111.

(b) Four have returned after completing their studies.

(c) Two are at present employed under Government and one under the Patna University.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know the number of students at present studying abroad?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: There are at present 14 studying in the United Kingdom and U.S.A. under the Scholarship Scheme for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know the average expenditure on these scholars?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: During the first Five Year Plan period, 18 students were sent and the total expenditure up till now, has been Rs. 1,28,910.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know the basis on which allotments are made for students coming from these Classes?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: We invite applications from all over India and the candidates are selected purely on merits by the Union Public Service Commission.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Sir, I want to know whether the number that we send every year is fixed and on that basis allocations are made or is it that an outright sum is allocated and then, to suit that amount, the scholars are selected?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: The scheme for foreign scholarships to be given to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes was introduced in the year 1954-55. In the first year, two scholars of each of these three groups, altogether six, two for the Scheduled Castes, two for the Scheduled Tribes and two for the other Backward Classes, were sent. From the next year onwards, this number was doubled, that is, now, we take four from the Scheduled Castes, four from the Scheduled Tribes and four from other Backward Classes.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know whether the State Governments are consulted before these scholarships are given?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: No, Sir.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes has made any suggestions in this regard and also whether he is consulted in the matter of fixing these allocations?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: Sir, it depends on the money which will be available. It will be better perhaps if we could send more students but due to financial stringency, it was thought that four of each group should be sent.

LICENSED TRADERS IN NICOBAR ISLANDS

*559 SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Car Nicobar and the Islands of the Nicobars have been opened for trade purposes to benefit traders with licences;

(b) if so, what are the terms and conditions laid down by Government for the prospective businessmen in this connection; and

(c) whether it is a fact that a motor boat has been purchased by Government to link up Nicobars with the Andamans and the mainland; if so, when this route is likely to come into operation, and whether the rates for cargo and passengers will be reduced in comparison to those of the "S.S. Maharaja"?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): (a) No licence is at present required for trade purposes in Car Nicobar and other Islands of the Nicobars.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) Recently M.V. "Al-Halal" has been purchased and renamed as M.V. 'Nicobar' for India/Andamans service. The rates for cargo and passengers on this vessel will be the same as those of S.S. "Maharaja".

A motor boat S.S. "Cholunga" has been purchased for the inter-islands service, and it will be commissioned as soon as arrangements for manning it are complete. The rates, to begin with, will be the same as of S.S. "Maharaja" and will ultimately depend on the cost of working as well as the income of this vessel.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know what facilities are provided for private entrepreneurs for establishing some industries in Andamans?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: All that I said was that no licence is required. It is a free trade, so far as India is concerned.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Is it a fact that there is great scope for cashew-nut, cocoanut and rubber plantations and is it also a fact that there are conditions suitable for the establishment of industries connected with the above-mentioned commodities?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, Government are considering all these questions.