

DR. P. C. MITRA: May I know, Sir, whether the Government of Bihar got the consent from the President?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: They used to levy sales-tax on food grains and if they discontinued it, they would be faced with a big deficit.

DR. P. C. MITRA: Without the consent of the President, they "cannot do it. Did they get the consent."

SHRI M. C. SHAH: As I said, that Act was prospective and not retrospective.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Bihar Act was passed before the Central Act was passed.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Two years ago the President consented to a Bill.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: It was only for the extension of the Act. The tax was levied before and they came forward and if we had not agreed there would have been a deficit of several lakhs of rupees. That question was considered.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know, Sir, from the hon. Finance Minister whether there is any multiple point sales tax levied on food grains in any of those three States mentioned by him?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Sir, the question was with regard to the sales tax on food grains. So, I think it is beyond the scope of the question.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: I will put it in a simpler way. I would like to know whether any sales tax over sales tax on the sale of food grains is levied in any of those three States mentioned.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: I want notice.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He wants notice. Next question.

JAN ON THE ENTRY OF THE BOOK 'DISCOVERY OF INDIA' INTO MANIPUR STATE

*125. SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA (ON BEHALF OF SHRI S. N. DWIVEDI): Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Manipur State authorities have banned the entry of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru's book "Discovery of India" into the jails of that State; and

(b) the number of prisoners in that State who wanted this book inside the jail?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR):

(a) No.

(b) Only one, so far as the Government of India are aware.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: May I know, Sir, whether the book has been supplied?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I could not hear.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Has that person been supplied with the book?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: That book has been supplied to him and it is still with him.

BASIC SCHOOLS IN INDIA

*127 SHRI M. VALIULLA (ON BEHALF OF MOULANA M. FARUQI): Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of basic schools that exist in India at present; and

(b) whether Government have appointed or propose to appoint a committee of experts to advise them on the question of basic education?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMATI): (a) The information is not yet available.

(b) Yes.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Have the Government appointed or propose to appoint the Committee?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The Committee has already been appointed.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: Who are the members of the Committee?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: There are two Committees:-

(1) Members of the Standing Committee of the Central Advisory Board of Education for Basic Education:-

Dr. Zakir Husain
Shri E. W. Aryanayakam
Shri T. 9. Avinashilingam Chettiar,
Acharyya Badrinath Varma
Shri J. K. Modi
Shri S. N. Agarwal
Shri G. R. Ramachandran
Shri A. N. Basu
Miss S. Panandikar

A representative from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

(2) Members of the Assessment Committee on Basic Education:

Shri G. R. Ramachandran

(An hon. Member: Not G. R. but Shri G. Ramachandran)

Shri E. W. Franklin Shri
Saeed Ansari Shri R. S.
Upadhya Shri J. C. Bose.

SHRIMATI SHARDA BHARGAVA: Is there no necessity for including any "woman in these?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: We do not make any distinction. We select persons who have experience.

SHRIMATI SHARDA BHARGAVA: Don't you get any lady member for these?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: This is a Committee of specialists and if we do come across any specialist lady, we shall consider her.

PROF. G. RANGA: Is my hon. friend¹ aware of the existence of Mrs. Aryanayakam, who is supposed to be a 'specialist in this line?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Mr. Aryanayakam is already on the Committee.

PROF. G. RANGA: I mean Mrs. Asha Devi Aryanayakam.

SHRI D. NARAYANA: Are there any basic schools run by the Government of India anywhere in India?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The Government of India do not run any basic schools directly.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: Model schools, I mean.

(No reply.)

SYLLABUS OF GANDHI'S TEACHINGS FOR USE in SCHOOLS

•128. SHRI M. VALIULLA (ON BEHALF OF MOULANA M. FARUQI) / Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to appoint a committee of experts to prepare a syllabus of Gandhiji's teachings for the use of educational institutions throughout India; and

(b) if so, whether this syllabus will be for use only in primary classes or it will cover a course for students of higher classes also?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) Yes.

(b) The syllabus will only cover the High School and University classes.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: When do they intend to constitute the Committee, Sir?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Shortly.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is meant by 'shortly'?