

about it except this. It is not a question of any of us agreeing or disagreeing with what he said but whether he committed a breach of the law or not as a citizen. The matter had been up before the Election Commission; there had been a similar letter before them and they had decided that that was not a breach of the law.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Am I to understand that the Election Commission has already given its verdict on the reference made by the Government whether that particular circular issued by the said Archbishop was not a breach of the law?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: He did not say anything about that circular. The Election Commissioner dealt with the cases of interference in the election. He said nothing about that circular. What I am saying is that on a previous occasion— not in this election—in the previous election a similar case had come up before the Election Commissioner and on that he gave that decision.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not on this.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Has Government's attention been drawn to this particular circular in which there is the threat of excommunication for all voters who vote for any other party except the Congress?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I have seen that.

SHRI R. U. AGNIBHOJ: Sir, on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am proceeding to the next question.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIAN STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD

*346. KUMARI SHOILA BALA DAS: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance given on loan basis to Indian students

studying abroad during the years 1952-53 and 1953-54; and

(b) how many students have been given such loans and the States to which they belong?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) Rs. 27,970 during 1952-53 and Rs. 54,545 during 1953-54 (up to 28th February 1954.)

(b) Thirty-nine students in 1952-53 and 49 in 1953-54, belonging to States shown in the statement laid on the Table of the Council.

STATEMENT

Number of Indian students granted financial assistance and States to which they belong.

S. No.	State to which they belong.	Number of students granted financial assistance in the form of loan
1952-53		
1.	West Bengal	7
2.	Punjab	1
3.	Bombay	8
4.	Assam	3
5.	Delhi	4
6.	Bihar	5
7.	Hyderabad	2
8.	Travancore-Cochin	3
9.	Uttar Pradesh	4
10.	Rajasthan	1
11.	Orissa	1
TOTAL 1952-53		39
1953-54 (upto 28th February, 1954.)		
1.	Bombay	7
2.	Madras	1
3.	West Bengal	12
4.	Rajasthan	2
5.	Punjab	5
6.	Uttar Pradesh	7
7.	Delhi	5
8.	Hyderabad	2
9.	Bihar	5
10.	Andhra	2
11.	Saurashtra	1
TOTAL 1953-54		49

KUMARI SHOILA BALA DAS: Sir, May I know the procedure which is followed in selecting the students?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: They have to make an application to the Ministry of Education if the students are living in this country but if they are studying abroad, they have to send their applications through our embassies.

KUMARI SHOILA BALA DAS: To what countries are these students sent and for what objects?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The main object of this partial financial assistance scheme is to give loans to students who are in need of loans for studying abroad.

KUMARI SHOILA BALA DAS: How much loan is given by the Government of India to each student?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The loans granted in individual cases have ranged from Rs. 100 to Rs. 5000 during 1952-53 and from Rs. 100 to Rs. 4000 during 1953-54.

KUMARI SHOILA BALA DAS: Are these loans returned by the students when they come back and get jobs?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes. In most of the cases the loans have been returned but there are a few cases where we have not been able to realize these loans. Sometimes a student has gone mad or he was killed in an accident. There have been cases like this where loans have not been recovered and there are some other cases where we are making efforts to realize the loans.

KUMARI SHOILA BALA DAS: Do they get posts when they come back from training?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, but not from Government only. They may go in for Government service or private service.

SHRIMATI SHARD A BHARGAVA: From the reply to part (b) of the question are we to understand that

f from Rajasthan only one student had applied whereas from other States more had applied and hence they have
! got more scholarships?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I cannot say \ how many students applied from Rajasthan. Only one candidate was considered suitable for this.

SHRIMATI SHARD A BHARGAVA: Is it a fact that the difference in the number of candidates from the different States is due to difference in the number of applications?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: We receive applications from the States and after examining the suitability of the candidates, loans are granted.

SHRIMATI SHARDA BHARGAVA:
i How many girl students were there in 1953-54 among those 49 students?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I don't have that information.

DR. P. C. MITRA: Were the loans recovered with interest or without interest?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The loans are with interest.

DR. P. C. MITRA: What is the rate of interest charged?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The usual rate at which Government loans are given.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: In how many ! cases were these applications for loans refused during the last two¹ years?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is: What is the total number of applications? These are the applications which have been granted. Have you that information or not? That is what Shri Mahanty wishes to know.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I have not got it here.