

SHRI ANIL DESAI Sir, it is not directly on the effect of demonetisation.

Sir, public sector banks, apart from their core banking business, are also catering to industries and they also have to involve in various rural sector schemes of the Government where there are responsibilities and no profit is involved. Therefore, their percentage of profit always goes down as far as their core banking activity is concerned. But, private sector banks limit their activities in urban areas where you have cream of business. And, in the absence of a level-playing field, private sector banks are always going ahead of public sector banks and public sector banks are always under pressure. So, I would like to know whether the Government is thinking to rein in private sector banks' profits and whether any level-playing field mechanism proposed to be evolved and enforced accordingly.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, provisions regarding priority sector lending, etc., would be applicable to them. The hon. Member is right and that is how the market economy itself functions. Now, you have various kinds of banking activities which have expanded beyond private sector banks. You have a new category of Payment Banks coming up. You have banks which exclusively deal in digital transactions catering to a section of consumers. So, their activities will be of different kinds. At the moment, there is no proposal to regulate the activities. We have to allow these banking activities to expand. And, I am sure, the private sector banks will eventually play an important role in the industrial and the infrastructure development of the country, considering their size and their profitability.

Discrimination against civilian wards in Army schools

*410. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Army Welfare Education Society (AWES), Delhi Area Headquarter has been violating the rules regarding refusal / delay in replying to letters from Members of Parliament / VIP References in matters relating to admission of civilian wards in Army schools, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether AWES discriminates against civilian wards as compared to Defence wards in Army school which includes higher fees and lack of school bus facility to civilian wards;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) No, Sir. No such instance has come to the notice of this Ministry.

(b) to (d) There is a priority provision for wards of serving defence personnel for admission in the Army Public School. Fee structure has been decided based on rank of the Army personnel / ex-servicemen and the class in which the students are undertaking their study. In terms of Army Instruction free bus facilities (Defence Department Vehicles) are authorized to wards of Officers / JCOs / OR and wards of Ex-servicemen / Defence Civilians only.

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: सभापति जी, आपका बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी को यह बताना चाहती हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में कहा है कि डिफेंस सर्विस वालों के बच्चों को उन स्कूलों में प्राथमिकता दी जाती है। यह बात सत्य भी है। क्या मंत्री जी कृपा करके यह बता सकते हैं कि देश के आर्मी स्कूलों में सिविलियन्स के कितने प्रतिशत बच्चे प्रति वर्ष भर्ती किए जाते हैं और उनकी दो साल की क्या रिपोर्ट तथा आंकड़े हैं?

DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to inform the august House and the hon. Member that the basic purpose behind establishing the Army Welfare Education Society was to augment the educational and technical educational facilities in order to meet the needs of the children of defence personnel, including their widows and Ex-servicemen. There are 137 Army Public Schools and 11 colleges in the country.

So far as the wards of civilians are concerned, there is no fixed quota. However, there is a quota of 10 per cent for the civilians, subject to availability of seats, after admitting the wards of the defence personnel, their widows and defence civilians.

श्री सभापति: आपका कोई दूसरा सवाल है?

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: जी।

महोदय, आपने बताया है कि दस प्रतिशत कोटा रखा जाता है। अगर कोई सांसद किसी गरीब, वंचित, शोषित बच्चे या बच्ची के दाखिले के लिए कोई पत्र लिखता है, तो आपके द्वारा उसको स्वीकार किया जाता है या अस्वीकार किया जाता है, आपने इसका क्या मापदंड रखा है?

DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE: Sir, so far as the VIP references are concerned, I would like to inform the hon. House that in the year 2017-18, the number of VIP references received for admission to various classes was seven. These requests were

forwarded to the concerned command for consideration. However, since these references pertain to the current academic session, for which the admissions are still going on, the outcome of these cases is still awaited. But, if I talk about previous two years, in 2016-17, there were twelve VIP references, out of which four students were admitted in the Army Public School, Pune. Rest of the eight students could not be admitted because of the non-availability of seats in the specific classes. Similarly, in 2015-16, there were 26 VIP references. Four students were admitted in various Army Public Schools. And, rest of the twenty-two students could not be admitted because of the non-availability of seats in the specific classes.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: सभापति जी, कहकशां परवीन जी ने बहुत अच्छा प्रश्न पूछा है। जिस प्रदेश में, जिस जिले में cantonments और आर्मी के स्कूल्स हैं, वहाँ के जो सिविलियन्स हैं, क्या आप उनके बच्चों के लिए कुछ परसेन्टेज तक दाखिला रखने की कोई पॉलिसी बना रहे हैं? आपने कह दिया कि वहाँ उनके दस प्रतिशत तक दाखिले हो सकते हैं, वे भी तब हो सकते हैं, अगर vacancies हैं। जैसे हमारे यहाँ हिमाचल में कई cantonments हैं और आर्मी के स्कूल्स हैं, वहाँ के सिविलियन्स चाहते हैं कि उनके बच्चों को वहाँ दाखिला मिले। मैं आपसे यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या आप इसके लिए कोई पॉलिसी बना रहे हैं या आप कोई फिक्स कोटा रखेंगे, जिससे वहाँ के सिविलियन्स के बच्चे उनमें पढ़ सकें? मेरा यह सवाल है और मैं मंत्री जी से इसका उत्तर जानना चाहती हूँ।

DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE: Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that the basic concept behind the formation of the Army Welfare Education Society was that in the olden days, the cantonments were located in the peripheries of the cities; thus, there was a concern about the education of the wards of the defence personnel. That is why the concept of the Army Welfare Education Society came into being. This is number one. This is not run by the Government. The Ministry of Defence, the Government of India, has no role in funding, functioning and governing of the schools. This is, basically, for the wards of the Army personnel. As far as admission of the wards of civilians is concerned, though I had mentioned it in the previous reply, I would like to repeat. There is no such proposal for the civilians, but if there are vacancies, those vacancies are filled up by the civilian wards.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Shri Panchariya.

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया: सभापति महोदय, हालांकि जो मेरा प्रश्न था, उसका आधा तो उत्तर आ चुका है, लेकिन मैं...

श्री सभापति: तो आप दूसरे को चान्स दीजिए।

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा, जैसा इन्होंने अपने जवाब में लिखा है कि आर्मी पब्लिक स्कूलों में प्रवेश के लिए सेवारत रक्षा कर्मचारियों के

बच्चों को प्राथमिकता का प्रावधान है, तो जिस तरह से केन्द्रीय विद्यालयों में यह प्रावधान किया हुआ है कि उनके कर्मचारियों के साथ-साथ सांसदों के बच्चे, पोता, पोती भी अगर पढ़ना चाहें तो उनके लिए भी प्रवेश में प्राथमिकता होगी, क्या ऐसा कोई प्रावधान इसमें है?

DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE: Sir, this is not related to the main question, still, I would like to clear certain things. Kendriya Vidyalays are run and funded by the Ministry of Defence, the Government of India. But, the Army Welfare Education Society and the schools run by this Society are not run by the Ministry of Defence, nor are they funded by the Government.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, in Army schools, the fee charged is very exorbitant. If you consider the fee charged by the Central Schools, it is very low. Already, the Right to Education has been made a fundamental right. So, I would like to know whether the Government will take an initiative for putting a ceiling on the fee so that the fee charged by the Army schools is regulated.

DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE: Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Member that compared to the other private schools, take for example, any city, it is much less. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: I am talking about Central schools and not private schools.

DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE: I am coming to that. It is much lesser than that of the other private schools. It is based on the rank structure and the category of the student. For example, as per the fee structure, there is one-time fee, monthly fee, and annual fee. I would like to inform the hon. Member that annual registration fee and admission fee for the wards of the officers is ₹ 1,500/-. But, for the children of the Junior Commissioned Officers, it is ₹ 900/-, and for other ranks, it is only ₹ 700/-. As far as the wards of civilians are concerned, their fee structure is different, and it is compared to the other schools in that area. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. It is over. Question No. 411.

***411. The questioner was absent.**

State-of-the-art sports arenas in smart cities

***411. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY:** Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate fund allocation has been made to provide state-of-the-art sports arenas and recreation facilities for the youth in the smart city projects; and