

**डा० के० एल० श्रीमाली :** मैं यही मानता हूँ कि शिक्षा का स्तर निरंतर गिरता जा रहा है। यह सही है कि पहले से वह गिरा हुआ है और उसको ऊपर उठाने का सरकार प्रयत्न कर रही है ?

**श्री विभूति मिश्र :** क्या मंत्री महोदय को पता है कि भ्रक्सर प्राइमरी टीचरों को तनखाहें ४, ४ और ६, ६ महीने तक नहीं मिलती हैं और अभी जैसा कि डा० राम सुभग सिंह ने बतलाया कि प्राथमिक शिक्षा का स्तर प्रतिदिन गिरता जा रहा है तो क्या इसका एक कारण यह नहीं है कि चूंकि टीचरों को वक्त पर तनखाह नहीं मिलती इसलिए वे अपने कर्तव्यपालन में ढिलाई बतते हैं ?

**डा० के० एल० श्रीमाली :** यह प्रश्न स्टेट्स गवर्नमेंट्स का है लेकिन अगर माननीय सदस्य इस बारे में मुझे कोई उदाहरण देकर बतलायें तो मैं देखूंगा कि हम उसमें क्या कर सकते हैं।

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** May I know the basic salary that has been laid down?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** Speaking from memory, I think it is Rs. 40 for the untrained teachers and Rs. 50 for the trained matriculate teachers.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** May I know whether this contribution of 50 per cent of the increased cost will be a permanent contribution by the Centre to the States, or only a temporary one?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** It is a temporary measure.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** For how many years?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** I think till the appointment of the next Finance Commission.

**Shri Raghavaiah:** May I know the amount of grant made this year by the Centre to the Andhra Government, and how it compares with that given during last year?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** I require notice to answer that question.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** May I know whether in the case of States which are already paying the basic minimum of Rs. 40 and Rs. 50, the Government

of India's contribution of 50 per cent. will be made available to them for further increasing the salaries of primary school teachers?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** No, that is not the purpose.

**Shri Kasliwal:** Are Government aware that some really very bad conditions are prevalent in a large number of primary schools, such as absence of urinals, absence of places to sit, absence of stools, and so on, which are causing acute discomfort to the students, and which are adversely affecting the expansion of primary education?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** Government are fully aware of it, but this is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments, and the Government of India are doing everything that is possible to improve the conditions of the schools.

**Shri Madiah Gowda:** May I know whether these grants are given to the State Governments for the expansion of the traditional types of primary schools or the basic types of primary schools?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** The Government of India have various schemes under which grants are given. If the hon. Member is interested, I can read out the whole thing. But it is a long list. Grants are given for the setting up of urban basic schools, the conversion of existing elementary schools into basic schools, the introduction of crafts in non-basic schools, the conversion of training institutions into basic institutions, additional teachers' training facilities, post-graduate basic training schools, hostels for basic teachers' training institutions.

**Mr. Speaker:** We have heard enough instances.

EXCISE DUTY ON MOTOR SPIRIT  
sed to state :

**\*2022. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Finance be plea-

(a) whether it is a fact that both the import duty and excise duty on motor spirit would be 15 annas and nine pies per Imperial gallon;

(b) if so, whether the excise duty on motor spirit, *i.e.*, gasoline, produced in the refineries of the Burmah-Shell and the Standard Vacuum in Bombay, will be collected at annas 15 and nine pies per imperial gallon; and

(c) if not, the correct position in regard to the actual amount to be collected as excise duty on motor spirit or gasoline from refineries in view of the assurances of protection given to them by the Government of India?

**The Minister of Revenue and Defence Expenditure (Shri A. C. Guha):**

(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) With effect from the dates of commencement of full scale refinery operations, *viz.* 15-12-54 and 10-9-55 respectively motor spirit produced by the Standard Vacuum Refining Co. of India Limited and Burmah-Shell Refineries Limited, Bombay, is being assessed at a concessional rate of 0-13-9 per Imperial gallon, by virtue of special orders passed by the Central Board of Revenue, in implementation of the assurance given by the Government of India to the Oil Refineries.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know why this preferential treatment is given to the Burmah-Shell and the Standard Vacuum Oil Company? Is it because Government have assured protection to them or because of any other reason?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Government have assured protection not only to these two, but also to the Caltex, which will be coming into operation next year.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know whether there is any identity between import duties and excise duties charged to Burmah-Shell and the Standard Vacuum Oil Company, and if so, the reason for this identity?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I do not know what the hon. Member means by 'identity'. The import duty and the excise duty are equal. But for the

Burmah-Shell and the Standard Vacuum Oil Company and also for the Caltex, whose refinery will be going into production next year, there is a guarantee that at least two annas' protection will be given. But we are not giving the same concession to the other refineries, as far instance, the Assam Oil Company.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** May I know whether in consideration of this special concession, the refineries have agreed to reduction of price of the oil produced by them?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** This protection has been given to them on the estimate arrived at between the refineries and Government that products of these refineries will require some protection not in perpetuity but for ten years, or till 1965, whichever may be earlier. So, no question of reduction of price comes in here.

**Shri C. R. Chowdary:** What is the estimated loss to Government on account of this concession to these two refineries?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I would require notice.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** May I know how this protection has become necessary, and whether the cost in India is greater than the cost of refining oil elsewhere plus transport to India for the purpose of sale, which they were effecting for so long?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** The assumption is that for the first few years the cost of production will be more. Presumably, because the quantity of oil that would be produced will also be small. That is why this protection has been guaranteed for ten years.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** In view of the concession and protection given to them for ten years, have they assured the Government that in the long run they will reduce the price of petrol or gasoline, considering our heavy transport plan during the Second Five Year Plan period?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** As already stated, there is no question of reducing the price, because it has been calculated that the cost for the first few years will be higher. That is why protection has been given to them.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Is it not true that Government have already given heavy concessions in favour of these companies in the shape of the length of the agreement which runs for about 30 years, whereas the agreement does not give any relief to the poor consumer in the shape of reduction of price?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Everything had been taken into consideration when these assurances were given to these companies.

**Shri C. D. Pande:** What are the reasons why petrol is sold in this country at almost four times the price prevalent in England or USA?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** That can hardly come within the purview of this question.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know if the price of petrol is based on the Gulf price of crude oil or it is less than that?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I have nothing to do with the fixation of price of petrol. That question may be directed to the concerned Ministry.

#### ARMY OFFICERS

\*2024. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken or proposed to be taken to re-employ or to rehabilitate Army Officers who will be released in the near future as a result of lowering the age of compulsory retirement; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Emergency Commissioned Officers will be given gratuity of Rs. 750 per completed year of service on retirement?

**The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 12].

**Shri Kamath:** According to the statement laid on the Table of the House, para 1 thereof, the enforcement of the prescribed age limits for the compulsory retirement of these army officers will be done by stages and not all at once. Is the Minister in a position to give the House an idea about the phases or stages of this staggering scheme, that is to say, how many officers will be retired at the end of this year, how many at the end of the next and how many at the end of 1958? I would like to have the figures for every year for the next three years.

**Shri Tyagi:** According to the age limits laid down by rules, as I said on the last occasion when the hon. Member put questions to me, about 815 officers were due to retire on 1-1-56. Their retirement had been phased so as to allow them a few more years.

**Shri Kamath:** How many?

**Shri Tyagi:** The approximate number of army officers who are likely to be released by 31-12-57 during each six-monthly period is as under:

Between 1-1-56 and 30-6-56 :	1 regular officer and 7 non-regular officers;
Between 1-7-56 and 31-12-56 :	11 regular officers and 43 non-regular officers;
Between 1-1-57 and 30-6-57 :	26 regulars and 92 non-regulars; and
Between 1-7-57 and 31-12-57 :	53 regulars and 116 non-regulars.

**Shri Kamath:** Is it a fact that at a meeting of the Defence Committee of the Cabinet held on the 19th January of this year, when the size and composition of the Army were under consideration, the Prime Minister suggested that the services of these army officers who had to retire prematurely under the retiring age scheme should be utilised to the best advantage of the State? If so, what concrete schemes are under consideration for such utilisation of their services?

**Shri Tyagi:** I am glad to acknowledge that my hon. friend keeps himself so well posted with details in the Defence Ministry.

**Shri Kamath:** Yes, Yes. We were together in the same Committee some years ago.

**Shri Tyagi:** In view of the training and experience of these officers and their premature retirement, it has been agreed with the Planning Commission that in any schemes which they have in hand, they will take in some of these young retired officers in various civilian jobs. For that purpose, one liaison officer has been appointed on behalf of the Defence Ministry to deal with various Ministries.

**Shri Kamath:** In part (b) of the statement laid on the Table of the House, it is said that there is one category of Emergency Commissioned Officers who will be given only a terminal gratuity of Rs. 750 per year of completed service, that is to say, it works out to an amazing sum of Rs. 60 per month of a completed year of service, and no pension. Why is this discrimination enforced against this category, when it is said that in the case of others other terms shall apply?

**Shri Tyagi:** This category of officers generally had been volunteers, who were employed on some civilian jobs outside the army, who joined the army mostly during the war. So they had come in an advanced age; they have hardly put in 11, 12 or 13 years. Hence, they are given a lump-sum gratuity, on the basis of a temporary commission, at Rs. 750 per year.....

**Shri Kamath:** No pension.

**Shri Tyagi:** .....after they have served for more than ten years.

**Shri Kamath:** Considering that this category of Emergency Commissioned Officers are being treated in this manner, rather shabbily, I think.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Let us avoid comments.

**Shri Chattopadhyaya:** That is an aside.

**Shri Kamath:** I said—I think, rather shabbily.

**Shri Chattopadhyaya:** The Minister is not supposed to hear it.

**Shri Kamath:** Do Government propose to consider their case for re-employment in civilian jobs or elsewhere more sympathetically than in the case of other officers, provided other things are equal—their qualifications are equal?

**Shri Tyagi:** According to the original terms of the agreement, their gratuity was decided and assessed at Rs. 300 per year. When I took over and the case was put up to me, I had been able to raise it to Rs. 750 per year. These officers had come while they were in an advanced age; they did not come at the young age in which the other regular officers came. Therefore, gratuity was the only method of giving them retirement benefits. Hence, this gratuity has been allowed.

As regards re-employment, I have already said in the statement that attempts are being made to re-employ them as soon as they retire.

**Shri G. S. Singh:** May I know whether the hon. Minister is at all concerned about the fact that he has been receiving inordinate numbers of resignations because of this lowering of the retirement age, from regular officers who are serving for civilian jobs in firms and in the Government of India?

**Shri Tyagi:** May I inform my hon. friend that he is wrongly informed? There is not so much of a crop of such applications. It is hardly one or two. Sometimes when they find some lucrative job, they apply to take the permission of the Army Headquarters to take up such employment. It is not the rule.

**Shri Velayudhan:** Out of these Emergency Commissioned officers, how many will be absorbed in the permanent Regular Commission? Is there any scheme for expanding the permanent Regular Commission?

**Shri Tyagi:** Of late, we were considering the question of adding to the number of permanent Commission holders, because at present there are quite a large number of officers who do not hold permanent Regular Commission. Therefore, the Ministry is considering the widening of the scope