

श्री ह्या० नं० विद्य : जी हा, पूर्ण रूपेण उन के विचारों पर ध्यान दिया जायेगा। उन को हम डेलीगेशन में रखने का मकसद ही यही था कि उन के विचारों में लाभ उठाया जाये।

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether Government is considering to send a copy of this report to the State Governments and obtain their views on the matter?

**Shri S. N. Mishra:** In fact, the State Governments are responsible for the development of activities of this kind, and we shall certainly send to them our conclusions also emerging from the consideration of this report

#### Vinay Nagar Colony

\*645. { **Shri Sanganna:**  
**Shri Damar:**

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the news published on page 12, Column 4 of the "The Statesman" dated New Delhi the 15th May, 1957 in respect of the Government flats at the Vinay Nagar Colony and state whether any immediate action is proposed to be taken by Government to improve the condition of these flats?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy):** The matter is under investigation. Meanwhile action has been taken to remedy the defects that have been noticed

**Shri Sanganna:** May I know it is a fact that the water rate for those drawing a salary between Rs 250 and Rs. 500 is Rs. 7 and that the water rate for those drawing a salary between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000 is Rs. 5 and, if so, why is this discrepancy?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** I am sorry I cannot go into the details now. As I have said, the matter is under investigation. I would like to assure the

hon. Member that as soon as investigation is completed, I would be willing to place a statement on the Table of the House.

**Shri Sanganna:** May I know whether it is a fact that amenities such as lawns and children's parks, marketing facilities, schools, etc., are not provided in Vinay Nagar colony?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** I said the matter is under investigation. Unless the investigation is completed, I am afraid I cannot give any details.

**Shri Sanganna:** May I know when the investigation will be completed—whether it will be one month, two months or three months?

**Mr. Speaker:** How long will the investigation take to complete?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** There has been a sample survey recently and we have received a technical report. On the basis of the sample survey in that report, we have asked for a detailed investigation. It may take three or four weeks, I should think.

#### N.E.F.A.

\*646. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in March, 1957 a memorandum on behalf of the people of the Lohit Frontier Division of North East Frontier Agency was submitted to the Governor of Assam when he visited the area;

(b) whether it is a fact that the local people have demanded the retention of the Assamese language as their medium of instruction upto the Matriculation stage; and

(c) if so, the action taken on the memorandum?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):**

(a) and (b). So far as Government are aware, no such memorandum was submitted to the Governor of Assam.

A request was however received from Pasighat to the effect that Assamese language should be used as the medium of instruction.

The general policy of the Government regarding education in NEFA is that at the primary stage the medium of instruction should be the language of the local people. Where this is not possible, Hindi has been introduced. Facilities for teaching Assamese are also available.

(c) Does not arise.

**Shri L. Achaw Singh:** May I know what is the total number of teachers working in the different schools in NEFA from U.P., Delhi and Punjab, and how many from the local areas?

**Mr. Speaker:** How does it arise?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** The total number of teachers in NEFA is about 387. Out of this number, 70 are Tribal teachers from the same area, 262 from Assam, and 55 from outside the area.

**Shri Hem Barua:** In view of the fact that the people inhabiting the NEFA area have submitted more than one memorandum, the last of which being on the 21st of this month, to the Governor of Assam, demanding that Assamese, which is the natural *lingua franca* of these people who speak their own dialects—when they have to speak among themselves they do so in their own Tribal language, it is not Assamese—demanding that Assamese should be the medium of teaching and learning in the schools after the Fourth Standard, together with the Tribal dialects, may I know what steps Government are going to take in this regard?

**Shrimati Lakshmi Menon:** There are as many as 21 local dialects in that area, and primary education is given in the local dialect. The purpose of educational development in that area is to bring the area into line with the rest of India, and, naturally, Hindi, instead of Assamese, is taught from the First Class as a

compulsory language over and above that local dialect, so that after they finish the Primary School they could be switched on to Hindi. There are facilities for those who want to learn Assamese. But it is as much an Indian language as Hindi.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Is the Government aware of the fact that Assamese was taught in the schools and the demand today of the tribal people is that Hindi should be taught from the Fourth Standard of the Middle English School, and because of this demand—my information is this and may I know if this is the information of the Government also—that Assamese which was taught in the schools as a medium of learning up to 1953 has been withdrawn now and in spite of the demand of the Tribal people, Hindi is super-imposed?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** May I say this is a matter not of any rigid rule anywhere, but, as the hon Member said, largely fitting in with the demands of the people concerned? As a matter of fact, reference has been made to the demand for Assamese in this question, we have received demands from other places for Hindi. But really, the question is of education being given in the Tribal language in the primary stage. That is the important thing. As for other languages, we adapt them to the circumstances and to the wishes of the people.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question: Shrimati Renu Chakravarty.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know ...

**Mr. Speaker:** I have called the next question.

#### Development of Sunderbans

\*647. **Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether any allocation has been made in Second Five Year Plan for improvement of the Sunderbans area of West Bengal;