

[Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj]

is not necessary. Why waste 2½ hours unnecessarily?

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : परसों स्टेटमेंट दे दें ।

14.03 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: SERVICE CONDITIONS OF TEACHERS

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): Mr. Speaker. Sir, the Government of India are aware of the various demands of the teachers which relate to their service conditions. The question of having a uniform national pay structure for teachers is the most important one from the point of view of the teachers and such of their organisations as all India Primary Teachers Federation, the All India Secondary Teachers Federation and their affiliates. It is true that pay scales of the teachers are not uniform throughout the country. They are not uniform even for teachers under different managements within the same State. For example, there may be one pay scale for a category of teachers serving under the State Government and another pay scale for the corresponding post under the Local Board or in the schools run by the private organisations.

The question of having uniformity in the pay scales has also received the consideration of the Government of India. Every time the question was examined, it was observed that in the very nature of things it was not possible to have a uniform pay structure for teachers all over the country. The pay scales of teachers in different parts of the country depend on various factors, including the following:—

- (i) availability of personnel;
- (ii) pay scales of corresponding posts in the State Services; and above all on
- (iii) the financial resources of the State.

While there is no uniformity in the scales of pay of teachers throughout India, it is a well known fact that there is no uniformity in the scales of pay of other categories of civil servants employed in the different States and Local Bodies throughout India. This is obviously because the pay scales of civil servants in different parts of the country depend upon various factors, enumerated above in the case of teachers.

The Education Commission, which has gone into the entire field of Education in great detail, has examined the general question of the status of the teaching profession and has made the following general recommendations:

- (1) Intensive and continuous efforts are necessary to raise the economic, social and professional status of teachers and to feed back talented young persons into the profession.

Shri Madhu Limaye (Munghyr): Pious wish!

Shri M. C. Chagla:

- (2) The most urgent need is to upgrading the remuneration of teachers substantially, particularly at the school stage.
- (3) The Government of India should lay down, for the school stage, minimum scales of pay for teachers and assist the States and Union Territories to adopt equivalent or higher scales to suit their conditions.
- (4) Scales of pay of school teachers belonging to the same category but working under different managements such as government, local bodies or private managements should be the same.
- (5) The principle of parity should be adopted as a State policy forthwith in each State but its full implementation may,

if necessary, be phased over a programme of five years.

It has been decided to seek the views of the Central Advisory Board of Education on these and other recommendations of the Education Commission, before finally deciding on the course of action Government should take.

It may be added that the Government of India have all along been of the view that the service conditions of teachers at all stages, as well as their qualifications, should be improved. As a result of the advice given to the State Governments, many have raised the pay scales of their teachers. For instance, the States of Uttar Pradesh, Assam, West Bengal, Kerala, have raised the emoluments of teachers. It will be of interest to note that as against Plan provisions of Rs. 8.34 crores and Rs. 3.03 crores for the improvement of emoluments of elementary and secondary school teachers in the Third Plan, the State Governments incurred an expenditure of about Rs. 22.94 crores and Rs. 14.63 crores for increasing the emoluments of elementary and secondary school teachers respectively.

Some hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: I have got the Call Attention Notice here. I will only call those who are signatories to it.

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya (Serampore): In his statement, the Minister has stated that the States of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, etc. have already increased the pay scales of the secondary school teachers. May I ask from him whether he knows that in West Bengal, although the West Bengal Government announced the upgrading and enhanced pay scales long back, even after the lapse of two years, the enhanced pay scales are not being given to more than 6,000 secondary teachers in West Bengal and, if so, what steps the Central

Government propose to take in this matter so that there may not be further cause of any agitation by the teachers?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I need hardly remind the House that Education is a State subject and it is for the State....

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya: Make it Concurrent.

Shri M. C. Chagla: I cannot make it Concurrent; I wish I could.

As I explained to the House, under the Constitution, it is necessary to carry with me the majority of the States, and so far only Punjab has agreed. Let us face facts. Under the Constitution, it is a State subject. I can guide, I can advise, I can counsel but I cannot force the State. The hon. Member should write to the Government of West Bengal about this. What can I do?

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): The hon. Minister has made a statement and he has also expressed the pious wish that the Government is sympathetic towards the service conditions and the emoluments of the teachers. I would like to know whether it is a fact that some of the State Governments are unable to increase the wages, either of the secondary school teachers or of the primary school teachers, because of their limited resources and that they have appealed to the Centre for some financial aid to better the lot of the teachers and, if so, what amount has been given or is likely to be given to the various States for the specific purpose by the Central Government during the Fourth Plan period.

Mr. Speaker: He is asking so many questions.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It was only a preamble to the question. I would like to know whether the State Governments have made an appeal....

Mr. Speaker: That has already come. And what contributions the Central Government is going to make so that they may be able to pay their teachers adequate salaries?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The increase in the salaries of teachers has not been included in the Fourth Five-Year Plan. We have come to the conclusion that this is a matter which should be tackled by the States.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: They have no resources.

Shri M. C. Chagla: I shall answer that point. Just as they have to pay their civil servants, likewise the responsibility is on them to pay the teachers and include their emoluments....

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Teachers are treated like *Chaprasis*. You should be ashamed of it.

Shri M. C. Chagla: I have every sympathy for the teachers. I have said this so many times in this House. But if the State has the Constitutional responsibility.....

श्री स० बो० बनर्जी : रोटी आटे से बनती है, सिमपथी से नहीं ।

Shri M. C. Chagla: If the State has the Constitutional responsibility, it must face it with regard to both the appointment of teachers and their financial obligations.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri (Berpampur): We have heard the hon. Minister pleading his helplessness. Will he as one of the senior Cabinet Ministers, ask his Government to reconsider the whole position? Education may be a State subject. But the situation has already developed in such a way. Does it not require that the whole thing should be considered anew so that some hopes can be held out to those people about whom the hon. Minister, the whole Government and everybody say that they are the makers of future and all that? So

something could be done for them instead of leaving them in the non-Plan sector or to God's grace or mercy. Should he not do something more concrete?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I have done something concrete, as the House knows, with regard to the salaries of college and university teachers; it was with the greatest difficulty that I persuaded my hon. colleague, the Finance Minister, to undertake liability to the extent of 80 per cent.

The position with regard to primary and secondary school teachers is different. Their lot is worse, I agree, and they require every assistance. But the figures are astronomical. It is not dealing with one State; it is dealing with so many States; it comes to hundreds of crores of rupees. We are in as great a difficulty as the States in regard to resources; I wish I could find the resources. I assure the House that, when we meet in December—the C.A.B. is meeting in December—we shall certainly think as to what should be done to meet the situation.

श्री मधु लिमये : इन्होंने कहा है कि राज्यों के अधीन यह आता है । संवैधानिक दृष्टि से यह बात सही है । लेकिन चतुर्थ पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्दर शिक्षा के लिए इन्होंने जरूर योजना बनाई होगी और विश्वविद्यालयी शिक्षा, प्राथमिक शिक्षा और माध्यमिक शिक्षा के लिए जो आप राज्यों को मदद देते हैं वह चौथी योजना के मातहत भी देंगे । जब ऐसी बात है तो क्या इसके साथ साथ आप यह शर्त नहीं लगा सकते हैं कि अगर केन्द्र से आप मदद पाना चाहते हैं तो ये जो माध्यमिक शिक्षक हैं इनके बारे में भी आप को सोचना पड़ेगा ? इसका एक पहलू यह भी है कि आज माध्यमिक शिक्षा एक व्यापार हो गया है और हजारों हजार माध्यमिक शिक्षक आज अस्थायी हैं, टैम्पोरेरी हैं और नौ-दस महीने के बाद उनको नौकरी से हटा दिया जाता है केवल इसलिए कि छुट्टी की तनख्वाह

उनको न देनी पड़े। यह मेरा प्रश्न तनख्वाह से सम्बन्धित नहीं ऐसा मंत्री महोदय नहीं कह सकते हैं। चौथी योजना के मातहत शिक्षा योजना बनेगी, तब हजारों हजार मध्यमिक शिक्षकों को केवल उनकी छुट्टी की तनख्वाह उनको न मिले, इन्क्रिमेंट उनको न मिले इसलिए उनको जो नौकरी से हटा दिया जाता है, ऐसा न किया जा सके और स्थायी उनको कर दिया जाये, तब क्या इसके बारे में भी कोई व्यवस्था आप करेंगे? क्या इसके सम्बन्ध में भी कोई सिफारिश केन्द्रीय सरकार करेगी और आपकी मदद इन सिफारिशों की स्वीकृति पर निर्भर करेगी?

Shri M. C. Chaglia: The House knows that the Plan is intended for developmental purposes; it is for the purpose of development. The salaries of teachers is not development. It is the elementary....

श्री मधु लिमये : शिक्षा भी तो विकास में आती है। उस के बिना विकास कैसे ?

Shri M. C. Chaglia: I do not know why Mr. Limaye always jumps up before I finish. I have not yet finished.

It is the elementary responsibility of every State, the primary, the elementary and the fundamental responsibility of the State, to see that their teachers are well paid. It has nothing to do with the Plan; it has nothing to do with development. (Interruptions). They have to find the resources. How do they pay their civil servants? That does not come in the Plan. If they can pay their civil servants, I say that they should pay their teachers also. If they want assistance from the Centre, that is a different matter, but it has nothing to do with the Plan. We have taken that view in the Education Ministers' Conference. That has been my strong view and I will justify it. I say that it is in the interest of the teachers themselves that their salaries should not be a part of the Plan. Let it be understood that so long as Education is a State subject,

it is the fundamental responsibility of the State Government to see that their teachers are well paid.

श्री शिव नारायण (बांसी) : यह बहुत इम्पॉर्टन्ट सवाल है। सारे देश से इसका सम्बन्ध है। इस सवाल में नोटिस की बात नहीं उठनी चाहिये। इस बात पर नये सिरे से विचार होना चाहिये। मधु लिमये साहब ने जो बात कही है मिनिस्टर साहब उसका उत्तर नहीं दे सके हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं हर किसी को नहीं बुला सकता हूँ।

We now go to the next item, namely, further discussion of the Supplementary Demands for Grants. Mr. Tyagi is to continue his speech.

Shri Vasudevan Nair (Ambalappuzha): My name was also given.

Mr. Speaker: I do not find it here.

14.18 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (GENERAL), 1966-67—
Contd.

Mr. Speaker: Now we take up further discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1966-67.

Mr. Tyagi is to continue his speech.

Shri Indrajit Gupta (Calcutta South West): How much time has been taken?

Mr. Speaker: Two hours and ten minutes have been taken.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): I would not take much time. I will only enumerate a few points.

One of them is that the supplementary demand of Rs. 218.93 crores is mostly due to the action of devaluation that we have taken because