

Government as a whole decided this date.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether one or two of the States have suggested to the Central Government that in regard to the IAS and IPS cadre of services superannuation can be considered year by year, that is, after the age of 55 they would consider whether to extend it by one year and by that they might consider the question of raising it to 58?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: No, Sir; it would not be advisable for the officers to be kept in suspense. Year by year extension, to my mind, will have a demoralising effect.

Prohibition

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- *431. { **Shri Maheswar Naik:**
- Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
- Shri P. Kunhan:**
- Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**
- Shri Bhakt Darshan:**
- Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:**
- Shri P. C. Borooah:**
- Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:**
- Shri Ram Ratan Gupta:**
- Shri D. J. Anik:**
- Shri Mantri:**
- Shri Yashpal Singh:**
- Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as nine State Governments have requested the Union Government to bear the expenses of extension of prohibition in their States as also the loss of revenue arising therefrom; and

(b) if so, what is the attitude of Government of India in that regard?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes.

(b) The whole question was considered at an informal meeting of the Chief Ministers held at New Delhi on the 18th and 19th January, 1963. A copy of the press note indicating

the conclusion reached is laid on the Table of the House.

Prohibition Policy.—The Chief Ministers of States met informally yesterday (18th January, 1963) and today to discuss various aspects of prohibition as affecting different States. It was agreed that the various suggestions made for the purpose of securing more effective implementation of prohibition and dealing with the defects that have arisen should be further explored. In view of this, the unanimous conclusion was that no change or relaxation should be made in the existing system and policy of prohibition in the States.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether Government have any idea as to the extent of the loss of revenue and the cost of extension of prohibition in the various States?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): I cannot give the exact figure, but what has appeared in the press about the loss is rather on the high side. Some papers have even said that the loss amounts to Rs. 200 crores to Rs. 300 crores. That figure seems to be rather very much on the high side, as I said. The Planning Commission, I am told, is looking into the matter. They are still verifying it, but they have said that the loss is not more than or is between Rs. 35 crores to Rs. 45 crores on excise.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether in the conference which the Home Minister had with the Chief Ministers recently any final decision has been taken as to the scrapping up of the prohibition policy or its revision?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: No, Sir. In fact, it has been agreed that the policy of prohibition cannot be abandoned. But greater stress was laid on the fact that the scheme should be implemented in a way which does not lead to corruption or harassment to the people. So, we are considering as

to how better to implement it and what steps should be taken in that regard.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Is it not a fact that a number of States where partial prohibition is in force have suggested the lifting of prohibition?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: There is difference of opinion on that matter between States and States. There are States, like the one near to the State of my hon. friend, Madras, which strongly believes that prohibition must continue and otherwise it would very much economically affect the people of that area.

श्री भक्त दर्शन: जहां तक मुझे ज्ञात है इस बैठक में यह निर्णय किया गया था कि वर्तमान स्थिति को कुछ दिनों तक जारी रखा जाये। तो क्या कारण है कि कुछ राज्य सरकारों ने बगैर केन्द्रीय सरकार से परामर्श किये या स्वीकृति लिए अपने आप नये कार्यक्रम शुरू कर दिये हैं। जैसे कि उत्तर प्रदेश में ११ जिलों में मद्य निषेध को समाप्त कर दिया गया। इस के बारे में केन्द्रीय सरकार की क्या राय है ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री: कई चीजों में माननीय सदस्य का प्रदेश आगे रहता है, मेरे खयाल में इस में भी उन्होंने नेतृत्व किया है।

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Is it not a fact that it was generally agreed that the prohibition policy and programme should not be extended during the period of the emergency?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Yes, that is so far sometime.

श्री यशपाल सिंह: क्या सरकार ने कभी यह खयाल किया है कि चरित्र का मूल्य इस टक्स से और इस आमदनी से ज्यादा है, और जहां के हमारे गृह मंत्री जी निवासी हैं, जहां से वे चुन कर आये हैं अर्थात् इलाहाबाद, और हरिद्वार को दुबारा भ्रष्ट करने की

कोशिश की जा रही है ? क्या इसके बारे में सरकार कुछ कहेगी ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय: आप जाती हमला तो न करें।

श्री यशपाल सिंह: मेरा और मंत्री जी का प्रदेश तो एक ही है।

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know whether it is not a fact that the unsuccessful working of prohibition in some States is not due to lack of public response but due to some of the administrative lapses and the policies of the State Governments? If so, in the conference that has been held recently has any discussion been held over the correct and right implementation of this policy?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Yes, Sir. As I said before, in fact most of the time we talked how better to implement the programme. I agree that there are administrative faults. We have to look into every aspect of this problem.

Fair Price Shops for Kerosene

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*432. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether fair price shops ensuring a regular supply of kerosene oil to consumers which were proposed to be opened in the important cities of the country have been opened; and

(b) if so, how far they have succeeded in their purpose?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajarnavis): (a) Fair price shops for the sale of Kerosene have been opened in the State of Maharashtra and Union Territory Administrations of Himachal Pradesh, Manipur and Tripura. Most of the remaining States and Union Territories have reported that fair price shops for distribution of Kerosene have not been opened, because of the fact that normal supplies are being maintained.