

Allowances to the Central Government employees has been taken by Government; and

(b) if so, which are those cities?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). Cities having a population of 50,000 and above but below 1 lakh have also been classified as 'C' class cities from 1-7-65. Earlier two other cities were also upgraded—Chandigarh to 'C' class from 1-9-64 and Poona from 'B-2' to 'B-1' class from 1-12-64.

Industrial Relations

***337. Shrimati Vimla Devi:
Dr. Ranen Sen:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:**

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study group of the Labour Panel of the Planning Commission on Industrial Relations has favoured ballot among workers for determining the representative character of the trade unions; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Planning (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) This is one of the suggestions made by the Study Group.

(b) The suggestions made by different Study Groups constituted by the Panel on Labour are being processed and will be placed before the Panel for final recommendations.

Disparities in Income

***338. Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study in changes in income distribution among individuals assessed to income tax between 1953-54 and 1962-63 shows that there has been a significant reduction in income disparities; and

(b) if so, how far the disparities have been removed?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) Yes, Sir. An analysis based on Income-tax Revenue Statistics for the years 1953-54 and 1962-63 shows that there has been a reduction in income disparity among individuals assessed to income-tax.

(b) The analysis shows that while the relative shares of the bottom 70 per cent and middle 20 per cent of income-tax paying individuals in the total income had increased, the share of the top 10 per cent had come down during that period. A statement giving details is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5668/66].

Inter-State River Water Disputes

***339. Shri Himatsingka:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Linga Reddy:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved any formula for the settlement of inter-State River Water disputes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such disputes so far settled under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed): (a) to (e). There is no specific formula for settlement of inter-State River Disputes. The Act envisages the setting up of a Tribunal for adjudication only when the Central Government is of the opinion that the water dispute cannot be settled by negotiations. So far the policy of negotiations has succeeded and there has been no occasion for the Government to have recourse to the Act for setting up of a Tribunal.