

details are still under examination of Government.

**Pension for District Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen Board Employees**

\*1085. **Shri A. V. Raghavan:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring the employees of the State Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen Boards and District Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen Boards under the pensionary scheme; and

(b) the benefits to which the above employees are eligible on retirement under the present service conditions?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) There is no specific proposal regarding pensionary rights of the employees of these Boards. There is however a proposal to make these organisations permanent under the State Governments.

(b) The employees of the State Boards who are State Government employees are eligible for such retirement benefits as are provided in the respective State Government rules. The employees of District Boards, after five years of continuous service are eligible, on retirement for a gratuity equal to half a month's pay for each completed year of service subject to a maximum of 9 months' pay.

**Shri Bhakt Darshan:** May I know what is the real obstacle in the way of the acceptance of this most reasonable demand?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon):** There is no obstacle. There are two matters, one the State Boards and the other the District Boards. State Boards are State organisations and we can only give them advice. District Boards are under the Government of India, but these men are recruited without the ordinary privileges available for Government servants. After a long series of negotiations, we have come to the stage where we may be able to get some satisfactory settlement of this question. We are proposing that various

alterations should be made in regard to the District Board officials which will bring them under a better financial situation, and we must get the consent of the State Governments.

**Shri Bhakt Darshan:** May I know by what time at the latest a final and favourable decision may be expected?

**Mr. Speaker:** Final and favourable also?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** Decision favourable to the hon. Member is very difficult. He has all the advantages and amenities to the ex-Servicemen in his constituency.

**Shri Hem Raj:** May I know by what time it will be finalised and to whom and for what period of service pensionary rights will be granted to these employees?

**Mr. Speaker:** If it has been already considered and a decision has been arrived at, it must have been announced here. It is under consideration.

**Shri Hem Raj:** My question was to which employees of these Boards these pensionary rights will be granted.

**Shri Krishna Menon:** On the last occasion, this matter was raised in this House at the end of March and it is very near finalisation now at the end of May. It is not very slow, having regard to Governmental procedure, considering that we have to have consultations with the State Governments, consider the repercussions with the Home Ministry about other employees and go to the Adjutant General's branch. I think it ought to be finalised sometime in the next two weeks.

**Shri A. V. Raghavan:** In view of the fact that this department was started as early as 1919, may I know why it has not been made permanent yet in the year 1962?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** There are perhaps departments in Government started earlier than 1919, which are still temporary.

**Shri Warrior:** That is no reason for this.

**Shri Krishna Menon:** That is no reason, but it is a justification.

श्री वृ० बि० मेहरोत्रा : जो सिविलियन इन बोर्ड्स में काम कर रहे हैं, उनको परमानेंट करने की बात भी क्या सरकार सोच रही है ?

**Mr. Speaker:** Is Government considering the question of making permanent the civilians in these Boards?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** They are all civilians, but preference is given to ex-Servicemen. This is not a military organisation. The answer to the previous question was they were recruited more or less as temporary labour. But once having got in, they naturally want to claim more rights and we try to meet them as best as we can.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** In reply to a supplementary, the Deputy Minister stated that in regard to employees of District Boards, gratuity would be on the basis of 15 days' salary for each completed year of service, subject to a maximum of 9 months' pay. Now that quantum of gratuity has been increased from 9 months' pay to 15 months' pay in other departments. May I know whether this increase will be considered for the employees of District Boards also?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** That would not be possible at the present moment. This is the result of a very long period of negotiations. What the hon. Member is referring to is regarding regular Government servants. These are not regular Government servants; they are in between non-Government servants and regular Government servants.

**Shri A. V. Raghavan:** May I know whether in the year 1959 there was an Ex-Servicemen's Conference at New Delhi where Shri Raghuramaiah had declared that the department would be made permanent?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** I do not think Shri Raghuramaiah said anything of that kind. In the Conference he might have said that we would make the best efforts we can to improve the conditions. That is all.

#### Oil Pipelines

**\*1081. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme for laying pipelines for oil and gas and the extent to which it will give relief to Railways for transport; and

(b) what is the phased programme?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmaiah):** (a) The following proposals are under consideration:

- (i) a product pipeline Calcutta-Barauni-Delhi for carrying initially 1.5 million tonnes of white products;
- (ii) a product pipeline: Gauhati-Siliguri for carrying initially about 500,000 tonnes of white products;
- (iii) a product pipeline from the proposed Gujarat Refinery to Ahmedabad for carrying initially about 600,000 tonnes of products annually.
- (iv) two crude oil pipelines from Ankleshwar and Kalol oil field to the Gujarat Refinery site for carrying initially about 1 million tonnes each annually.
- (v) Three gas lines namely: Ankleshwar-Uttran, Cambay-Dhuvaran, and Kalol-Ahmedabad for carrying initially about 1 million c.m. of gas daily.

The technical, economic and other aspects of these schemes which have a bearing on rail transport as also what relief will be provided to the Railways in consequence, are being studied.