

in approved forms and not diverted to other uses has been engaging my attention for some time.

(b) The matter is still under consideration.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: May I know whether in considering these proposals, there is any idea of workers being represented in the management of any proposed trust?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That, I think, is rather premature. We are now trying to find out how to bring the various provident funds together. The private provident fund amounts, excluding Government and Railway provident funds, are of the order of about Rs. 40 crores, and we are thinking of expanding the provident fund benefits to other people also. The type of trust that will be brought into being, the people who will be on the trust are all matters to be examined, after our scheme for bringing all these provident funds under one umbrella is finalized.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: Is there any intention to consult the various official and non-official organisations with regard to running this trust?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Again, I think, we have to apply our minds to the problem a little later. Maybe, it cannot be a purely official organisation; maybe some non-officials might have to be associated with it. There might have to be even regional organisations. It cannot be a central organisation excepting, perhaps, there might be some kind of central control. These are matters which, at the present moment, I am afraid, is a little premature.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether any sub-committee has been set up to go into this question or is it being departmentally examined?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We are trying to collect all this information. After the information is collected, if it appears to us that the information

is such that further scrutiny is necessary, maybe, the procedure which the hon. Member has envisaged might be adopted or if it looks that the problem is quite simple, then, a Bill might be drafted and placed before this House for its consideration. The House, I think, would be competent, either by itself or through a Select Committee to consider the provisions.

Working of New Coal Mines

***470. Shri Matin:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the number of applications received by the Coal Board for permission to work new coal mines since publication of the Industrial Policy Resolution on the 30th April, 1956;

(b) the number of applicants granted permission in the Private Sector; and

(c) the number of applications granted to the Public Sector?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) 21.

(b) 7.

(c) 2.

Gandhi Mahapurana

***471. Shri Sanaganna:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 142 on the 27th July, 1955 regarding Gandhi Mahapurana and state:

(a) whether any final decision has since been arrived at; and

(b) if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request for grant was not acceded to.

Shri Supakar: May I know whether we have to discover a Vyasamuni to undertake this task?