

(b) if so, whether the retrenched employees are likely to be absorbed?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) No, Sir. According to figures available now, the volume of civil work done in Ordnance Factories has decreased in 1956-57 as compared to 1955-56.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the reason for this decrease?

Shri Raghuramaiah: The reason is that there is less demand from the civil trade for some of the articles that are produced here.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether there is a proposal to run these ordnance factories on a corporational basis and appoint certain industrialist as its Chairman?

Shri Raghuramaiah: I am not aware of any such proposal.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether memoranda suggesting full utilisation of the surplus manufacturing capacity of these ordnance factories have been submitted by various unions and, if so, what action has been taken on these memoranda?

Shri Raghuramaiah: I am not aware of this particular memorandum, but I might say that Government is constantly considering the question of how best to put these factories to the maximum use.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Is the hon. Minister aware that the General Secretary of the Cordite Factory Labour Union, Aravangad, was discharged from service because he submitted a memorandum to all Members of Parliament stating how more items could be manufactured and retrenchment averted? If so, is this case deserving the sympathy and consideration of the Minister?

Shri Raghuramaiah: I am not personally aware of this particular case. But if there is any such case, it is open to the hon. Member to bring it

to the notice of Government, and we shall then certainly look into it.

Advisory Council for Andaman Islands

*1337. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation for constituting an elected Advisory Council for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under examination.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: By what time will it be possible to constitute an elected Advisory Council?

Shri Datar: The Government are immediately establishing a Municipal Board for the Port Blair area, and under the regulation a certain amount of elected element is already introduced. The working of this will be watched and as soon as other difficulties are over, the other question also will be considered.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: How will the Municipal Board in the Port Blair area be able to cater for the requirements of the entire islands?

Shri Datar: Most of the population is round about Port Blair; in other places the population is not so much.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Are Government contemplating giving proper and adequate representation in the Advisory Council for refugees who have settled in the islands?

Shri Datar: We have already got an Advisory Council though it is nominated. The question relates to the consideration as to whether it should be elected.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: I want to know whether refugees who have settled in the islands will be given

proper representation in the Advisory Council?

Shri Datar: Their interests would be taken into account.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know if this Municipal Council, which is going to be set up near Port Blair, is going to be an elected Council?

Shri Datar: It is elected to a very large extent.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: What is the number of nomination and what is the number of election?

Shri Datar: I believe the regulation has already been placed on the Table.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: Is it a fact that the present Council has on it two liquor licensees and another big businessman, all having dealings with the Government?

Shri Datar: No, Sir. This particular Advisory Council consists of representatives of all different interests

Shri Tangamani: A Municipal Council is no substitute for the Advisory Council. In view of the importance of the islands and in view of the fact that the number of inhabitants of the island is on the increase, may I know whether the question of constituting the Advisory Council as contemplated in the representation made to the Minister will be taken into consideration as soon as possible.

Shri Datar: All these things will be taken into account.

Criterion of Grants to Educational Institutions

*1339. **Shri E. V. K. Sampath:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the criterion adopted by the Centre in giving grants, both of recurring and non-recurring nature, to the various educational institutions in the country; and

(b) the amount of grant, given so far to Shri Avinashlingam Chettiar

Trust, both of recurring and non-recurring nature?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) The grant-in-aid depends on the merits of each case but, except for autonomous organisations set up by the Government of India and some *ad-hoc* schemes, the entire expenditure on which, is borne by the Central Government, generally the Central grant vary between 33½ to 75 per cent. of the expenditure

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 2.]

Shri E. V. K. Sampath: Are these grants being given according to the recommendations of the University Grants Commission?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Yes, the Universities get their grants according to the recommendations of the visiting committees which visit them, and the grants are disbursed by the Commission.

Shri Nanjappa: Are the grants meant only for high schools?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The Ministry has a number of schemes under which grants are given right from pre-school to the University stage

Shri Tangamani: From the statement I find that nearly Rs. 2 lakhs in three instalments is granted for building a science high school for girls. May I know whether regular recurring grants are paid to the Avinashlingam Trust?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The statement refers to non-recurring grants. Some recurring grants may have been given; but I do not have that information with me just now.

Shri Dasappa: Is it a matching grant?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Most of our grants are on matching basis.