

### Election in Patiala Constituency

\*75. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in election to Patiala city constituency in May 1958 polling was postponed suddenly from the 11th to 25th May due to the non-printing of the ballot papers despite earlier announcement that such polling would take place on the 11th May; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made into the causes of this postponement resulting in the extreme inconvenience to the candidates and also to the electorate?

**The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hazarnavis):** (a) Polling at this bye-election had to be postponed because of unforeseen difficulties in getting the ballot papers printed in time.

(b) No enquiry was necessary as the postponement was due to compelling circumstances which were known to the Election Commission.

**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** May I know whether the printers were given any time-limit before which they were to supply the ballot papers?

**Shri Hazarnavis:** I have no precise information on this point. But, if the hon. Member requires specific dates, he might give me notice.

**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Is it not a fact that there has been inefficiency or slackness somewhere, for the ballot papers were not printed in time and the election had to be postponed?

**The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen):** No. The Election Commission is satisfied that there was no laxity. The reasons in short are as follows. These ballot papers had to bear the marks necessary for allowing the new system of voting to be practised in this particular bye-election. They were sent in time to the printers. When they came back with proofs, it was found that there were various

alterations made compared to the original designs prepared by the Punjab Government. So, they were sent back to them, and they came back on the 5th May, whereas polling was fixed on the 11th May. The time was too short. Moreover, out of twelve candidates, in the meantime, all had dropped excepting four. So the ballot papers had to be reprinted with the names of four candidates remaining in the field. The postponement, therefore, was made only from the 11th of May till the 25th of May, a very short postponement; and we are satisfied that it did not inconvenience anyone.

**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** May I know whether the time factor was kept in view when the examination of the proofs was going on?

**Shri A. K. Sen:** It is always kept in view.

### Engineering Graduates

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\*76. { **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**  
**Shri Muhammed Elias:**  
**Shri Ram Krishan:**  
**Shri Hem Barua:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state what consideration and shape has been given to the Prime Minister's suggestion to the National Development Council that Engineering graduates, till they are permanently employed, be taken on rolls and paid Rs. 350/- a month?

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant):** It has been decided to create a pool for temporary placement of highly qualified Indian scientists and technologists returning from abroad. Persons with outstanding academic records and high post-graduate qualifications in science or engineering from Indian universities will also be eligible for the pool.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know the nature of the suggestion made by the Prime Minister in the

National Development Council regarding the engineering graduates who are coming out from the universities here, in order to provide them with jobs or to take them on the rolls before they could find a permanent employment?

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** I have just stated that a pool is being formed in which persons of outstanding merit will find a place.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** I have followed the answer that a pool is to be formed for the outstanding persons. But may I know whether there was any suggestion made or not?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now, the purpose will be served.

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** Of course, suggestions were made by the Prime Minister....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question suggested that they may be temporarily employed and not remain without a job. It has been answered that a pool is being formed, and, therefore, they would not be out of job. And highly qualified engineers would be taken on that.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** It is entirely a different class of engineers for whom the pool is being formed. I just wanted to know whether it is only exclusively for the eminent scientists from outside and whether this specific figure of Rs. 350 mentioned was in relation to those scientists who are of great eminence and who may be employed outside, and for whom there are no specific jobs here but who are wanted to join here in the pool or whether it was intended for the engineering graduates passing out from the universities here who are not finding a job, so that in the meanwhile they could be taken on the rolls and paid something. That is the clarification which I seek. Was it Rs. 350, or else, what was the salary which was contemplated?

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** The engineers here will not remain unemployed, so

fas as I am aware. But this pool is meant primarily for persons who are being trained outside and who possess special qualifications. But there will be room also for scientists or engineers of outstanding merit.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** That was not my question....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Perhaps, the hon. Member has in mind that in the National Development Council, perhaps, a suggestion was made that every engineering graduate would be given Rs. 350 till he was permanently employed. This is the suggestion that was made in the National Development Council. Now, the answer that has been given by the Home Minister is that highly qualified scientists and engineers would be put in the pool and they would have that advantage.

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** I do not think I ever mentioned any figure or said anything about every engineer. What I had said was this. I was thinking chiefly of the newcomers who were coming here as also those who had recently passed through and were well qualified; they should be put on some kind of a roll; even though they might not get posts immediately, they can be kept employed in some way or the other. I was thinking rather more of the Indians in foreign countries who come back very well qualified and who for some time cannot get employed. So, they may immediately be given some assurance of employment; and till they get posts, they are nevertheless being used and paid something. But that applies to people here too, provided, as my hon. friend has said, they are of outstanding merit. But, as a matter of fact, by and large, engineers are employed; they are not among the unemployed in this country.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know the nature of the scheme regarding the constitution of the pool

and what sort of salaries are contemplated?

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** Every person who is selected for the pool will be given an initial salary between Rs. 300 and Rs. 600 normally; it will depend on his merits and on his qualifications. In special cases, even persons who are already employed elsewhere may be selected for the pool on special terms.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know what steps have already been taken to implement this scheme?

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** The register has been prepared, and selections will, I hope, be made in due course.

**Shri P. C. Bose:** There are different varieties of engineering. Apart from the ordinary mechanical, electrical and other engineers, there are also mining, chemical and even agricultural engineers. What is the preference that Government are proposing to give to all those categories?

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** There are engineers of various types. That is true.

**Shri Tyagi:** May I know the total estimated annual expenditure allotted for this purpose?

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** No allotment has as yet been made. We are in the initial preparatory stage now, and when the scheme has been finalised, that will be done.

**Shri Tyagi:** May I know whether before the Prime Minister committed himself to such a scheme, he did not consult Government and the Finance Minister or the exchequer as to whether they would be prepared to shoulder the burden?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There is no presumption here. The answer that has been given is that no commitment has been made.

**Shri Tyagi:** The scheme involves money, and this money is to be paid to persons who are not employed. I, therefore, want to know the estimate

which the Finance Ministry has sanctioned.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It has been said that it is still in the preliminary stages, and nothing has been decided and no budget sanction has been made.

**Shri Tyagi:** How could he commit then?

**Dr. Sushila Nayar:** May I know whether it is contemplated to give this facility to engineers only or other professional people also will be included in this scheme?

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** I think all experts possessing outstanding merits and qualifications will be admissible.

**Shri Dasappa rose—**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Enough has been said about it. Let us go to the next question now.

#### Defence Production Planning Committee

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\*77. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri Bhakt Darshan:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri S. M. Banerjee:**  
**Shri Tangamani:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 104 on the 13th February, 1958, and state:

(a) whether the Defence Production Planning Committee has since submitted its final report;

(b) if so, what are its recommendations;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the approximate date by which the report is expected?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Baghuramiah):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The preparation of the final report involves production of a three