

nature of the cuts that would have to be imposed, if necessary, in regard to foreign exchange expenditure. I am afraid, the answer would not be available for some time to come.

Administration of Union Territories

***532. Shri H. C. Mathur:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have undertaken the re-organisation of the administration and services of the Union Territories;

(b) if so, what are the present arrangements and what steps, if any, have been taken in the direction of reorganisation; and

(c) what are the recommendations in the interim reports, if any, received?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). The Government of India are giving their attention to the two-fold question:

(i) on what lines the administrative set of Union territories needs rationalisation; and

(ii) how best posts in various Departments in the Union territories can be manned.

A senior officer has been appointed to go into the existing arrangements and suggest measures for improvement. The officer is engaged in a study of the question.

Shri H. C. Mathur: May I know whether the integration of the services is also being effected at the same time?

Shri Datar: Integration of services is being effected and Government will be consulted in due time.

Shri Brahm Prakash: May I know whether after abolition of the States some economy could be effected in the Union Territories?

Shri Datar: That is a larger question which I cannot answer now.

Counting of Votes in West Bengal

***533. Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission had directed counting of votes to be held as soon as possible after polling in a constituency;

(b) whether counting in West Bengal took place in the same order of priority as the dates of polling;

(c) if not, on what other basis counting was held; and

(d) the reason for following an order of counting different from the order of polling?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The information asked for is not yet available with the Election Commission which is collecting it. I understand, however, that there was no general direction of the Commission to the effect that counting in any constituency or in all constituencies should take place in the same order as the dates of polling.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether it is not a fact that in West Bengal counting had often taken place between 16 days to three weeks or more after the date of polling and, if so, what is reason for it?

Shri A. K. Sen: Unless specific instances are given, it is very difficult to answer that question. But the fact is that the Election Commission had given a general direction to all Returning Officers that counting should be started as soon as possible after the polling was over, and our information is that that direction had been adhered to and followed as best as possible and as best as circumstances could permit.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Is it not a fact that in all the constituencies in the suburbs of Calcutta which went to the polls on 1st March, counting took place, with one exception, about 16 days to three weeks or more after the date of polling and, if so, what is the reason for it?

Shri A. K. Sen: That should be better put as a separate question. I should like to have notice of that.

Dr. K. B. Menon: May I know whether the Government have studied the effects of the announcement of election results in constituencies where the polling begins first and the effect of such announcement on other constituencies where the polling starts after the announcement of results?

Shri A. K. Sen: It is difficult to speculate about the psychology of voters of other areas, but so far as the Election Commission is concerned, as you are aware, Sir, they make their own arrangements and they try to estimate the public feeling and psychology as best as they can consistent with the smooth running of the election machinery. Our information is that in every constituency, the best efforts are made to start counting as soon as possible after the election is over.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: May I know whether the Government have considered the undesirability of announcing the results of certain constituencies while voting in other constituencies in the same State is going on and whether the Government have sent any advice to the Election Commission not to do so in future?

Shri A. K. Sen: The Government cannot issue any directions to the Election Commission which is an independent statutory body. We can only make the views of this House felt if there be any views expressed in the form of a resolution or in any other form. If the House feels that any particular step should be taken by the Election Commission, we shall be very glad to forward the same to the Election Commission.

German Scientific Research Expedition

*534. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether the German Scientific Research Expedition sponsored by

Hamburg University has completed its investigation; and

(b) if so, the main features of the investigation?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : इस एक्सपिडिशन के सदस्यों के नाम क्या हैं और इनको क्या क्या सहायता दी जा रही है।

Shri M. M. Das: The names of the Members of this expedition are as follows: Mr. Gustav Adolf Alexander Voimiln....

Mr. Speaker: What is the object of reading out the names of German scientists? Are we in a position to recognise them?

Shri Raghunath Singh: I wanted to know those names.

Mr. Speaker: It is rather strange—these German names. Are we able to distinguish one from the other? Next question.

नेपाल के लिए विशेषज्ञ

*५३६. { श्री भवत दर्शना :
श्रीमती इला पास चौधरी :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नेपाल सरकार ने अपनी विकास योजनाओं को कार्यान्वित करने के लिये भारत सरकार में बड़ी संख्या में विशेषज्ञों व अभिगाधिकारियों की मांग की है.

(ख) यदि हां, तो किस किस काम के लिये कितने अधिकारियों की मांग की गयी है ;

(ग) किस-किस कार्य के लिये वहाँ अभी तक कितने अधिकारी भेजे जा चुके हैं और निकट भविष्य में कितने भेजे जावे वाले हैं; और