

Mr. Speaker: So, gratuity is not included.

Question Hour is over.

Bombay State

Shri Yajnik: I request that Question No. 1471 standing in my name may be answered.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon Minister agreeable to answer.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): If you desire.

*1471. **Shri Yajnik:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Bombay Government has divided the whole State into several divisions for which they are about to set up Divisional Development Boards;

(b) whether Government are aware that Surat District has been excluded from the Guj. at Division in contravention of Article 371(2)(a) of the Constitution of India which provides for Development Board for "the rest of Guj. at"; and

(c) whether these steps are being taken in pursuance of the directives of the Central Government under Article 371(2) and whether Government have authorised the Bombay State to take any steps as are being taken and contemplated by it in this matter?

Shri Datar: (a) The Bombay Government have divided the State into six divisions for administrative convenience, in conformity with the decision taken by the Inter-State Committee of Ministers in 1956. They have also decided to set up Divisional Development Councils in order to advise the Government in all matters affecting developmental activities and to co-ordinate these activities in the various Districts;

(b) The Surat district has been included in the Bombay division. As no

order has been made under Article 371(2) of the Constitution, the question of contravening provisions of that Article does not arise.

(c) No directive has been issued under Article 371(2). The Bombay Government are competent to take the steps they have taken.

Shri Yajnik: May I know if the cutting and chopping of the different parts of the Bombay State is not in contravention, if not of the letter, of the spirit of article 371, clause 2(a)? Even if the Bombay State was to have been divided, this should have been kept in mind.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is not allowed to make a speech. Further, hon. Members will kindly bear in mind that the question of interpretation of a statute can not be the subject matter of a question. There may be differences of opinion. What is the fact that the hon. Member wants to elicit?

Shri Yajnik: I want to ask whether the chipping and chopping of the Bombay State would not be in contravention of a specific provision of the Constitution, at least the spirit of that article which specifically lays down that Bombay State would be only divided into Vidarbha, Marathwada, and the rest of Maharashtra, Saurashtra, Kutch and the rest of Guj. at, because it is on these lines that the development councils are sought to be established under the article.

Mr. Speaker: Hon Members put the question in such a manner that it is difficult for the Ministers to answer. If the hon Member instead of using the expressions "chipping, chopping", cutting, sizing and scissoring, had only asked whether such sub-divisions are or are not in the spirit of the general direction given, or that a larger zonal area should have been created or kept independently according to the existing territories, it could have been answered. What is the answer of the hon. Minister.

Shri Datar: It is only for the purpose of administrative convenience

that the State has been divided into six Divisions. So far as Surat is concerned, it has been included in the Bombay Division, because in this division there is a large concentration of tribal population.

Shri Yajnik: In the same way Colaba and Ratnagiri have also been excluded from Maharashtra. Is it a fact?

Shri Datar: They have been included in the Bombay division because of the same reasons.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Abolition of Dual System in High Courts

*1338. **Shri Naushir Bharucha:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of abolishing the dual system of counsel and solicitor now prevailing on the original sides of the Bombay and the Calcutta High Courts is under consideration of Government;

(b) whether Government have received representations from Bar Associations in Bombay or Calcutta; and

(c) if so, the decision of Government in this regard?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) and (c). The All India Bar Committee which reported in 1953 were not agreed in their recommendation on this question. While the majority of the Committee considered that no case had been made out for abolition of the dual system in Calcutta or Bombay, two members were of the view that the system should be made optional. All the recommendations of the Committee, including this, are under active consideration, but no decision has been reached.

(b) Government have not received any representations on this question from the Bar Associations in Calcutta or Bombay.

Defence Ministry Purchases

*1446. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the amount spent in various purchases by the Defence Ministry in the last two years;

(b) the percentage of purchased goods utilised during the same period;

(c) the value in terms of money of goods purchased but not utilised;

(d) how much of the unutilised goods have been disposed of; and

(e) the loss incurred in the disposal of unutilised goods?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramiah): (a) The value of stores purchased during the years 1955-56 and 1956-57 is Rs. 6,358.81 lakhs and Rs. 8,302.99 lakhs respectively. The latter figure represents the expenditure compiled upto March 1957.

(b) and (c). The stores purchased in any particular year are merged with existing stocks and it is not possible to estimate how much of the fresh purchases have been used in that year.

(d) No separate statistics are maintained about the value of unutilised stores alone.

(e) Does not arise.

Teaching of Foreign Languages in Universities

*1454. **Shri Daman:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Universities in India which provide for the teaching of one foreign language among other subjects; and

(b) the attitude of Government towards teaching of foreign languages in the Indian Universities, specially, at the graduate and post-graduate level?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Apart