

Shri Namblar: May I know, Sir, whether the All India MES Workers' Union which applied for recognition ever since 1948 is not yet recognised and if so, why?

Sardar Majithia: Not to my knowledge.

Shri Namblar: May I know, Sir, whether the grievances of the MES Workers are not redressed because the Kalyanwala Committee's Report is not accepted by the Government?

Sardar Majithia: As I said, Sir, the grievances are redressed wherever necessary.

Shri Namblar: May I know, Sir, whether the Government are going to act on the recommendations of the Kalyanwala Committee because it is said the grievances are.....

Mr. Speaker: That may be a very good reason, but I am afraid the Hon. Minister is not in a position to answer that. It is remotely related to the question.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: What is meant by 'necessary'? He says the grievances are removed where necessary. I should think they should be removed when they are justified.

Shri Tushar Chatterjee: May I know, Sir, to what extent the Government have recognised the *bona-fides* of the Union that is duly registered but has not yet got formal recognition?

Sardar Majithia: About *bona fides*, Sir, every case is considered on its merits and necessary action taken.

EXCISE OFFICES IN WEAVING MILLS

*653. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state how many weaving mills are there in Madras State?

(b) Is an Excise Office located in each mill?

(c) What is the cost of such establishment?

(d) Should each mill provide for quarters as well for the excise staff?

(e) What proportion does the cost of such establishment bear to the excise revenue from each mill?

(f) Have the State Governments any establishment in each mill to collect their Sales Tax?

The Minister of Revenue and Expenditure (Shri Tyagi): (a) There are 21 weaving mills in the Madras State.

(b) An Excise Inspector assisted by a small staff has been posted to each mill.

(c) The cost of an average excise establishment at each mill is Rs. 7,500 approximately per year.

(d) The Central Excise Rules, 1944, require a manufacturer of excisable goods to provide suitable residential accommodation for the excise officer in attendance at the factory at a rent not exceeding ten per cent. of the pay of the officer.

(e) The proportion of the cost of excise establishment varies from mill to mill, and depends on the quality and quantity of the cloth sold by the mill.

(f) The Government of India have no information on the subject.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Can this not be based upon the sum realised as sales tax from each mill?

Shri Tyagi: Does my hon. friend mean to suggest that the strength of the staff should be based on the sales tax collected? The staff does not collect the sales tax; it is the Central Excise staff.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PRISON REFORMS

*632. **Shri U. C. Patnaik:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have requisitioned the services of Dr. Walter C. Reckless to advise the State Governments on the subject of prison reforms;

(b) if so, whether Dr. Reckless has submitted any report on the subject; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to place a copy of the same on the Table of the House?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to my reply to question No. 626 of to-day.

CIVIL DEFENCE ORGANIZATION

*633. **Shri U. C. Patnaik:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that

there was a regular Civil Defence Organization throughout the country during the last war?

(b) When was the organisation abolished?

(c) Has the question of the revival of the organisation been considered?

(d) If so, when is the new organization likely to come into force?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) In the year 1945.

(c) and (d). Government do not consider that such an organization is necessary at present.

CLASS I AND CLASS II POSTS

*647. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the total number of class I and class II posts sanctioned and actually held in the Government of India Secretariat during 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52?

(b) How many of each are temporary, quasi-permanent and permanent?

(c) What new departments were opened or closed during the years referred to above?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information required is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 8]

(c) In the year 1949-50, the Department of Parliamentary Affairs was created. No Department was closed during the year.

During the year 1950-51, the Ministries of (i) Commerce & Industry, (ii) Works, Production and Supply and (iii) Natural Resources & Scientific Research were constituted in the place of the Ministries of (i) Industry & Supply, (ii) Commerce (iii) Works, Mines & Power and (iv) the Department of Scientific Research. During the same year the Ministries of Food and Agriculture were combined in one Ministry of Food & Agriculture.

During the year 1951-52, no Ministry or Department was opened or closed.

PETROLEUM IN IMPHAL

*654. **Shri L. J. Singh:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that petroleum has been found underground

while digging a tube-well somewhere in the Imphal town, in the month of October 1952;

(b) if so, what kind of petroleum it is and what the potentialities of the find are; and

(c) whether the Government have done anything to survey the area and locate the oil field?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No information regarding the occurrence of oil in Imphal town is available either with the Geological Survey of India or with the Government of Manipur.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

FLOODS IN MANIPUR

*655. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether the Government of India have made any attempts to find out real causes of floods in Manipur?

(b) What are the measures taken so far and which will be taken up in the near future to prevent recurrences of floods in Manipur?

(c) Will there be any remission of revenue and taxes for the flood affected people during the current year?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Yes. An officer of the Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission (now Central Water and Power Commission) was deputed by the Government of India in 1947 to explore the possibility of flood protection, reclamation, power generation and irrigation in Manipur. The State was also recently visited by another officer of the Commission.

(b) A sum of Rs. 30,000/- was sanctioned last year for repairing embankments along the three important rivers in the Manipur valley, viz., Imphal, Iril and Nambal. A sum of Rs. 40,000/- will be incurred in the current year on these repairs.

(c) Yes. Remission of land revenue is given in respect of fields, the crops of which are destroyed by flood.

HILL PEOPLES REGULATION OF 1947

*656. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether Government have received any representation duly signed by the leading tribal organisations of Manipur for effecting immediate repeal of the Hill Peoples Regulation of 1947?

(b) If so, have Government taken any action to repeal it?