

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 28th November, 1952

The House met at a Quarter to
Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INDIAN NAVAL SQUADRON

*783. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether the annual summer cruise of the Indian Naval Squadron has taken place this year?

(b) If so, what were the ports visited by our ships?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes.

(b) The following ports were visited by the ships of the Indian Navy during June/July 1952:—

(i) *Indonesia.*

Tandjoeng Priok (DJAKARTA)
Soerabaya, Bali.

(ii) *Malaya.*

Singapore, Penang, Port Dickson
and Port Sweetenham.

(iii) *Thailand.*

Bangkok.

(iv) *Ceylon.*

Trincomalee.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Did our ships visit these countries on our own initiative or were any of them invited by some of these countries?

Sardar Majithia: What normally happens is this, that every year we have a cruise and our ships go out visiting other countries. Thus they not only carry out certain exercises, which makes them more efficient in the work that they have got to do, but they also visit the Indians in those countries and establish contacts.

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Sardar Hukam Singh: Could we know what exercises they have carried out during these months?

Sardar Majithia: I am afraid it would not be in the public interest to disclose the exercises, but I may mention that it is in furtherance of their training.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Were the exercises carried out in conjunction with our Air Force or the Royal Air Force?

Sardar Majithia: Not in these.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any mine-sweeping flotilla was formed during this period?

Sardar Majithia: No, Sir.

Shri Punnoose: May I know how much these exercises cost us in terms of money?

Sardar Majithia: As I said, these exercises take place in the normal routine.

Shri Punnoose: I want to know the expenditure we had to bear in addition—the additional expenditure we had to bear.

Sardar Majithia: There is no additional expenditure, as I said. It takes place in the normal routine of their work.

DEPARTMENTAL PROMOTION COMMITTEE

*784. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any posts specified in each Ministry to which promotion is to be made by selection; and

(b) whether each Ministry has one Departmental Promotion Committee to decide the cases of promotion by selection?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes. Posts in grades above the grade of Assistants in Min-

istries of the Government of India and Departments under them, which are of a supervisory and administrative character and involve the exercise of a high degree of responsibility and considerable discretion and initiative have been classified as selection posts to which appointment is made by selection of the best persons available on the basis of merit.

(b) Special Boards have been set up for advising on selection for appointment to selection posts in regular organised services, e.g. the Foreign Service Board for the Indian Foreign Service, the Central Establishment Board for appointments to posts of and above the rank of Under Secretaries to the Government of India and certain important non-Secretariat posts, and the Central Secretariat Service Selection Board for appointments to posts in Grades II and III of the Central Secretariat Service. Appointments to such posts are made on the advice of the Board concerned. For appointment to other posts to which promotions are made by selection on the basis of merit, one or more Departmental Promotion Committees have been set up in Ministries of the Government of India and Departments under them, to advise the appointing authorities concerned in the selection of officers for promotion. The number of Committees to be established and their composition is left to the Ministries or Departments concerned to decide in the light of their own needs. A member of the Union Public Service Commission is usually associated with such Departmental Promotion Committees.

Shri Frank Anthony: May I know the procedure with regard to selection—is it confined to promotion from cadre to cadre or is it also applied to promotion from grade to grade?

Shri Datar: It is both from cadre to cadre and from grade to grade.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know the number of cases where the Departmental Committee arrived at their findings not by interviews or discussions but by mere circulation of papers?

Shri Datar: I should like to have notice of this question.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether there is any ratio between promotion by virtue of seniority and promotion on so-called grounds of efficiency?

Shri Datar: It is no question of ratio. The two are entirely different. The one is selection posts based entirely on merit; the other is non-selection posts promoted on the ground of seniority.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What is the part played by the member of the Public Service Commission when he is associated with these Departmental Committees—is he only an advisory individual or does his judgment prevail?

Shri Datar: He is a regular member of the Promotion Committees, and he takes an effective part in the selection of the officers.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether they hold any interviews before they finish the selection?

Shri Datar: In certain cases interviews are held.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: Is it a fact that after the interviews the selection goes to friends, favourites and relations?

Shri Frank Anthony: Am I to understand that promotion from grade to grade in the same cadre is also done by selection?

Shri Datar: Yes.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: Is there any specification of the merit necessary for selection?

Shri Datar: Merit is merit, and merit is different from seniority.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: Is it something nebulous—can it not be defined and specified?

Shri Datar: 'Merit' is fairly well understandable.

Shri T. N. Singh: Besides the Union Public Service Commission representative, may I know if the Home and Finance Ministries also are represented on these Promotion Committees?

Shri Datar: No, unless the particular selection is with regard to either the Home or the Finance Ministry.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Are there any cases where the member of the Union Public Service Commission has differed from the other members, and may I know what was the after-effect of that?

Shri Datar: The proceedings are confidential and it will not be in the public interest to disclose them; but I may point out that generally his recommendations always prevail.

Shri Nambiar: What avenue is left to an employee if the Selection Board's selection is not satisfactory to the employee? Can he appeal?

Shri Datar: He can approach the Government of India directly.

Shri Nambiar: Is there a channel of appeal allowed against the decision of the Selection Board?

Shri Datar: There is no question of appeal. But such cases, whenever they are represented, are reviewed.

Shri Nambiar: How can he go to the Government if there is no appeal allowed against these decisions of the Selection Board?

Shri Datar: He can ask for a review in proper cases.

Shri Frank Anthony: Is it a fact that the Ministry has received numerous complaints against the methods of selection employed on the Railways?

Shri Datar: No.

Shri Veeraswamy: May I know whether the principle of giving promotion according to seniority has been completely given up, and whether the Central Government servants have to appear before the Union Public Service Commission at every stage for promotion?

Shri Datar: Promotion by seniority in respect of non-selection posts is not given up; in fact it is the principal guiding factor.

AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS SECTION

*785. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 1410 given on the 2nd July, 1952 and state whether any progress has since been made by the Audio-Visual Aids Section in various spheres of its activities?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): The Audio-Visual Aids Section has further developed as a clearing house for inquiries regarding audio-visual aids to education. A number of new schemes relating to the production of audio-visual aids suited to Indian condition are also under consideration. A Training Course in the production and use of audio-visual aids and equipment has already commenced in Delhi from the 24th November 1952.

Government have also decided to set up a National Committee on Audio-Visual Education.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether there is any separate Unit with this Ministry for production of these film-strips and for duplication of these negatives from foreign countries?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir, a Unit has been established under the

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether there is any co-operation between this Unit and the Films Division of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This Unit is actually functioning under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What is the total stock of films, charts and posters in the library attached to this Unit?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The Film-strip Unit is equipped to produce about 300 film-strips and turn out a large number of copies of them.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the UNESCO has by now agreed to our request for lending the services of Mr. Green for this education?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir. Mr. Green has not been sent here by UNESCO, but the UNESCO had sent two people to help us in this scheme.

Sardar Hukam Singh: We made a particular request for the services of this expert. I want to know whether that has not been granted or whether it is still pending.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: He could not be made available to us.

HONORARIUM FOR HIGH COURT JUDGES

*786. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to my unstarred question No. 231 asked on the 12th September, 1951 regarding honorarium for High Court Judges and state:

(a) whether, and if so, what decision has since been taken in the matter; and

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the State Governments have expressed their opinion against the measure?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). Instructions were issued in January last to ensure that no honorarium or remuneration be paid to any High Court Judge for performing additional functions outside his normal duties. There was a proposal to promote legislation for this purpose. Some State Governments were not in favour and, on further consideration, it was decided to drop the proposal.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know the names of the States which expressed their opinion against the measures, and what are their arguments?