

lective fine of Rs. 35/- per family on several villages there without any exception on account of the activities of some anti-social elements in 1951 and 1952; and

(b) if so, how many villages and houses (families) were affected and what the collection of the fine amounted to?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) No; the amount of fine varied from Rs. 30/- to Re. 1/- and the fines were imposed in 1951 and not in 1952.

(b) 20 villages and 1522 families were affected. The total amount collected was Rs. 22,633/-.

Shri Rishang Keishing: What was the basis of selection of the victims of punitive fine?

Dr. Katju: A collective fine is imposed, and that means that the collective authority goes into the villages, assesses the paying capacity or, what I may call, the incriminatory capacity of every single family, and imposes a fine. There is no question of any particular basis.

*** Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** May I know if before imposing the fines full enquiry was made about the complicity of each family in the village?

Dr. Katju: I think so. This is 1951, hon. Members will see.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether punitive fines were imposed in any other village in India, in any other place?

Dr. Katju: I think collective fines are becoming a common feature now.

Shri Rishang Keishing: What was the reason which necessitated the imposition of this punitive fine on these villagers?

Dr. Katju: Anti-social activities and, I believe, activities of a subversive kind. I may add that afterwards Rs. 1,468 were refunded in suitable cases.

Shri Rishang Keishing: Is it not a fact that these punitive fines were imposed on the villagers because the villagers could not give information of the whereabouts of the absconding Communist leaders?

Dr. Katju: I think the other way of putting it is that probably these people

were charged with harbouring offenders—I am not using the word Communists.

Shri N. R. M. Swamy: Were there any protests by any of the families that they would not pay the collective fines?

Dr. Katju: I do not know.

Shri Rishang Keishing: In view of the fact that an overwhelming majority of these villagers have nothing to do with the activities of the anti-social elements, which has been proved by the results of the last election, will he consider the returning of the fines?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is all this? Are we debating this matter? Asking the withdrawal of the fines is another chapter.

Next question.

GRADE II POSTS

***2194. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether 300 permanent posts of Grade II of the Central Secretariat service were sanctioned in its initial constitution;

(b) whether all have been filled up far;

(c) if not, what is the number of posts lying vacant and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Cabinet issued directions in 1948 that the initial constitution of Grade I and II should be completed very soon; and

(e) whether there are any cases that have remained under consideration for the last two or three years?

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

(b) to (e). A statement explaining the position is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 12.]

Sardar Hukam Singh: Was any examination undertaken since 1948 to find out the necessity of continuing all these 300 posts?

Shri Datar: The object was to continue all of them, and the examination had to pass through various stages and therefore there was this delay.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it now proposed to fill all these remaining vacancies with permanent people?

Shri Datar: All the posts have already been filled.

TRIBAL POPULATION IN TRIPURA

***2195. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of Tribal population has gone down in Tripura from 77 per cent. to 30 per cent. during the last 20 years; and

(b) if so, what are the causes of it?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). It is not possible to compare the percentages for 1931, and 1951 since 30 'Primitive Tribes' were included in the Census of 1931 while only 18 Schedule Tribes were shown in the Census for 1951. The increase in non-tribal population was due to the heavy influx of displaced persons from East Pakistan.

Shri S. C. Deb: May I know whether Government are aware that due to jhum cultivation, some people left the State of Tripura and went to Assam and they have again come back to Tripura and many of them died in the way?

Dr. Katju: May I ask the hon. Member how does it concern the population?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If people die, there will be a decrease in population.

Dr. Katju: I will give the figures. As a matter of fact there has been no decrease in population. The House would take note of two facts. In 1931 the enumeration authorities included 30 primitive tribes. In 1951, 20 years later, the census authorities only included 18 scheduled tribes. It is not a question of percentage. The tribal population of 30 primitive tribes in 1931 was 1,92,324 and in 1951, it was 1,96,273 of 18 scheduled tribes. The percentage has fallen because the population of Tripura has increased from 3,82,000 in 1931 to 6,43,000 in 1951 due to influx of refugees from East Pakistan. The number of tribal people of 18 scheduled tribes is as much of the 30 primitive tribes in 1931.

Shri S. C. Deb: May I know whether Tripura tribes had been included in this schedule?

Dr. Katju: Of course 18 of them have been included.

HILL TRIBES OF TRIPURA

***2196. Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the hill tribes in Tripura and their present population Tribe-wise;

(b) the amount of loan sanctioned by the Government by way of agricultural loan and the number of tribal population which has received the loan so far;

(c) the population of the landless roving tribes who have been settled and the acreage of lands thereby involved since the integration of the State till February, 1953;

(d) what percentage of the budget of Tripura for the year 1952-53 has been earmarked for the administration and development of the tribal people; and

(e) whether special schemes have been drawn up for the development of the tribal people in Tripura during the next three years and if so, what they are?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) A statement showing the names and the present population of hill tribes in Tripura is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 13.]

(b) Amount of loan Rs. 2,07,167/-

Number of tribal families who received the loan, 1,885.

(c) Population of roving tribes, settled, 7,800.

Acreage of lands, 1,015.

(d) On an average 5 per cent. of the budget estimates of Tripura for 1952-53 has been utilised for the development of the tribal people.

(e) Special schemes for 1953-54 for Productive Irrigation, Medical Relief, Water Supply, Education and Road Construction are being finalised by the Chief Commissioner.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know whether there are still some hill tribes who have not been classified as scheduled tribes by the Government?

Dr. Katju: I said just now that they were considered to be primitive tribes and only 18 have been classified as scheduled tribes. I do not know about 12.