

jection to allow the hon. Minister to make a statement if he thinks it necessary to explain. The first hour is intended for non-official work. The rest of the time is for official work. If the hon. Minister wants to use his own time, I have no objection. It is his own time that he is taking.

Shri Tyagi: I wanted to remove one misunderstanding. My hon. colleague pleaded that the figure with regard to the money spent on the repairs of forts has to be collected for which he wanted time. The other question to which I replied was with regard to the number of forts. That was another supplementary.

Short Notice Question and Answer

TRANSFER OF CLERKS OF INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENT

Shri P. T. Chacko: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state: (a) whether it is a fact that forty-six lower division clerks of the Income-tax Department, who are ex-State employees have recently been transferred to States, Saurashtra and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) If so, the reasons for this transfer; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the question of their categorization is still pending before Government?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) The correct position is that out of 54 ex-State clerks found surplus to the requirements of the Income-tax Department, Travancore-Cochin, orders have been issued for the transfer of 16 to the Mysore unit of the Mysore-Travancore-Cochin charge, 23 to the Madras charge and 3 to the Madhya Pradesh-Bhopal charge; the particulars of the remaining 12 were to be circulated to other Central Government offices so that they may be absorbed, if possible, in these offices. No order has been issued by the Government of India for the transfer of any of these clerks to Saurashtra. But it is likely that in respect of the 12 clerks referred to above, posts have been found for a few in some Central Government office in Saurashtra, including that of the Commissioner of Income-tax of that area.

(b) The reason for their transfer is to save the staff from being retrenched for want of an adequate number of posts in the Income-tax Department within the geographical limits of the Travancore-Cochin State.

(c) No. The question of their categorization has been finalised.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, the salary of these clerks who were transferred?

Shri M. C. Shah: These 132 clerks in the Travancore-Cochin State were getting from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100. Now, they will be placed in the Rs. 55—130 grade.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that under the existing rules only Class I officers are liable to be transferred from State to State and these transfers were effected in contravention of that rule?

Shri M. C. Shah: No, Sir; there is no such rule. If necessary, these clerks are also transferable from one charge to another.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, whether this surplus is a result of taking over a majority of the personnel of the former Income-tax Department in Travancore-Cochin in a disproportionate manner, which consisted of the Sales Tax Department and the Agricultural Income-Tax Department, instead of allotting a proportionate number of personnel to the Sales Tax Department and also to the Income-tax Department?

Shri M. C. Shah: Yes, it is a fact that the surplus is because of the Sales Tax and Agricultural Income-Tax all being combined there in the Travancore-Cochin State previously.

Shri P. T. Chacko: If that be so, will the Government consult the Travancore-Cochin Government to absorb a number of these personnel which have now become surplus in the Income-tax Department?

Shri M. C. Shah: That question was considered at a Conference held in December 1952, when the Member in charge of Excise was there with the Chief Minister and the Finance Minister of the Travancore-Cochin Government. But the Travancore-Cochin Government was not prepared to accept this position.

Shri N. Sreekantam Nair: May I know, whether during the integration of services, the Central Government gave an assurance to these lower-grade Government employees that they would not be transferred from the State?

Shri M. C. Shah: No, Sir; no such assurance was given.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that Mr. Mahavir Tyagi when he was Finance Minister gave an assurance that ordinarily no such transfer will

be made and the staff should be prepared to accept the transfer with all concomitant advantages of promotion? What has the hon. Minister to say about it, Sir?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): All these questions seem to be mis-conceived. The basic fact is that on a review of our requirements, we found that these clerks were surplus to the requirements and there is no rule which prevents Government from retrenching Government Servants whose services are no longer required. It was only out of consideration to them that we have made attempts to find them posts and have offered these posts to them which are now regarded as transfers by the hon. Members.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I enquire whether further recruitments are being made in the Accountant-General's office in Travancore-Cochin?

Shri M. C. Shah: The Accountant-General's office is different from the Income-tax Department. Sir, we have already tried but we have been unsuccessful in getting them absorbed in the Audit Department etc.

Shri P. T. Chacko: In view of the fact that it is practically impossible for these clerks with meagre pay to go to such distant places and live there, has the Government taken into consideration the possibility of absorbing them in the Central Government departments in Travancore-Cochin, where there are some vacancies?

Shri M. C. Shah: We have already considered that question but it is difficult. Out of the 132 of the lower division, only 31 are required for the Income-tax offices. So, there were 101 who were surplus and it is not possible to absorb them there. Otherwise, we would have gladly absorbed them in other Central departments.

Shri V. P. Nayar: In view of what the hon. Minister said are the Government aware that in the case of persons who were originally considered to be surplus and transferred outside the State, subsequently recruitment was made through the Employment Exchange for these 12 posts, and may I know whether Government are in a position to assure us that this will not be repeated in the case of clerks?

Shri M. C. Shah: This is information that is being supplied and not a question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will proceed to the next business.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SETTLEMENT OF DISPLACED TENANTS

*837. { **Sardar Hukam Singh:**
Shri Ajit Singh:

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced tenants settled in the Punjab and PEPSU (separately) as tenants-at-will upto the 31st December, 1952; and

(b) whether there is any security for tenure of these tenants over and above what is guaranteed to an ordinary tenant-at-will?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Government have settled approximately 3,000 displaced tenants in PEPSU and 30,000 in Punjab as tenants-at-will.

(b) No.

DISPLACED PERSONS OF PUNJAB

*838. { **Sardar Hukam Singh:**
Shri Ajit Singh:

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced persons of Punjabi extraction who were initially allotted lands outside Punjab and PEPSU, but whose allotments were subsequently cancelled; and

(b) whether those displaced persons of Punjabi extraction, who still have allotments in Rajasthan, will be allowed to stay on?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) In case of persons allotted land under the quasi-permanent allotment system in the Punjab and PEPSU, the question of allowing them to retain the allotment outside Punjab and PEPSU can arise only after they have surrendered or finally renounced their allotment in the Punjab and PEPSU.

USE OF THE WORD "NATIONAL"

*845. **Shri Madhao Reddi:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the States were instructed not to use the word "National" without the concurrence of the Centre?

(b) What is the object of issuing such instruction?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) and (b).