

Dr. Katju: The complaint was that their attitude was anti-Indian and they were publishing very anti-Indian articles in the foreign press, and other anti-Indian activities.

Shri Frank Anthony: Is it a fact, apart from their anti-Indian activity, that in many States the missionaries are both persecuted and also falsely prosecuted?

Dr. Katju: No, no.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That does not arise out of this.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know from which source the complaints came—from private persons, from the Central Government's Intelligence or from the State Government?

Dr. Katju: We received complaints. I cannot say whether they were private complaints: probably from Indian Christians. Many complaints have been received—Mr. Anthony may know—from Indian Christians.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: In consideration of the fact that there are complaints of this nature from various areas in India, are Government taking any steps to watch before any complaints come?

Dr. Katju: I do not quite understand this. How do you watch before complaints come? When complaints come they are investigated.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: I mean, inasmuch as there are complaints from Cochin, and previously from Assam, is it the intention of Government to set an Enquiry Committee to enquire into these allegations if they are true and to take any steps necessary?

Dr. Katju: May I just say, Sir, that it is my duty to watch all persons, all groups and organisations!

Shri Matthen: Does the Madras Government confirm these allegations about the Italian missionaries?

Dr. Katju: Sir, I do not think it will be desirable to disclose the contents of that report till we have finally considered it.

Shri Frank Anthony: Will Government take steps to see that any witch-hunting does not stampede into a policy of interfering with the valuable education given by Missionaries?

Dr. Katju: My hon. friend may be quite certain that there will be no witch-hunting and justice will be administered to everybody—missionaries included.

CASES OF ILLEGAL GRATIFICATIONS

*917. **Shri Radha Raman:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state how many cases of illegal gratification were detected during the year 1952-53 from the various Government departments?

(b) What was the action taken against them?

(c) Has there been any decrease in such cases compared to those in the last two years 1951 and 1952?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) 142.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House; the number of cases detected is lower than in 1950-51 and higher than in 1951-52. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 50.]

Shri Radha Raman: May I know what is the number of officers involved in this?

Shri Datar: The number of officers is very little, hardly 15.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know how many of these cases went to the Public Service Commission for opinion and advice?

Shri Datar: I have no information regarding this at present.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has recommended that officials who have no reputation for honesty should not be appointed to posts where there is considerable scope for discrimination and whether the Government has prepared a list of such officers?

Shri Datar: The Government have commended investigation and a ques-

tion on the very subject was answered only a few days ago.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: In view of the fact that under the present law it is difficult to get conviction for illegal gratification, will the Government simplify the law?

Shri Datar: Sir, the procedure is already simple and it cannot be made more simple. It would then be at the cost of justice.

Shri Gidwani: Is it a fact that the Home Minister, replying to a question in the Council of States, stated that some cases of corruption against high officers were hanging fire for three to five years as the papers regarding action to be taken against them had to be finally sent to the Union Public Service Commission and the Government could not dictate to them that they must send their opinion before such and such a date? If so, will the Government let us know whether the opinion of the Commission on the action to be against the former Industries Secretary will take five years?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): My hon. friend has quoted an answer which I gave in the Council of States. But, I do not know what exactly is the question that he has put to me now.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. May I know from the hon. Member whether he is quoting from past debates or from answers that have been given during the current session?

Shri Gidwani: During the current session, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not allow that. We cannot have cross-examination here on the answers that have been given in the Council of States. The hon. Members there are quite alive and take interest and are alert along with the Members of this House. I will not allow these questions to be put on the floor of this House. Such a practice is allowed nowhere, neither in the House of Commons or anywhere else.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Were not the bribe-givers also brought to book in these cases?

Shri Datar: Sir, in some cases the bribe-givers are also proceeded against.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Were the officers, against whom enquiries were made, found to have possessed property beyond their means or beyond what they could have gained by lawful means?

Shri Datar: I have not got the facts of the different cases. But I will make enquiries.

लाला अचिन्त राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री बतलायेंगे कि गवर्नमेंट के मुहकमों में से कौन सा मुहकमा अब्बल दर्जे पर रहा जहाँ ऐसे केसेज पाये गये ?

Dr. Katju: इसमें बड़ी मुश्किल है... You should not have a competition among the departments in this.

लाला अचिन्त राम : जो मुहकमे आप की गिनती में हैं उन में से कौन अब्बल रहा ?

Shri T. N. Singh: The hon. Deputy Minister stated that the procedure is simple. May I know how much time is ordinarily taken in enquiring into these cases and bringing the guilty persons to book?

Shri Datar: The average period would be less than a year.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know in which department the cases are more?

Shri Datar: It is not proper to make a discrimination.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it not a fact that only two sessions ago, the hon. Minister for Home Affairs was of the view that the procedure needs modification and change with a view to speedy action?

Shri Datar: Sir, the procedure did require some changes and those changes are being effected, but still the procedure is fairly simple