

है, उन का एडवरटाइजमेंट मद्रास, बम्बई और मध्य प्रदेश में होता है। और २०० रुपये से कम जिन की तनखाह है उन का लोकल प्रेस में एडवरटाइजमेंट होता है।

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I seek a clarification on a ruling you gave a few seconds back? Some hon. Members asked something in regard to Mysoreans, on which you said you would not permit questions on communal lines.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That does not apply to Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I want a very clear ruling from you, Sir. Since according to the Constitution we have a right to demand information as to how many Scheduled Castes, how many scheduled tribes or how many backward classes are employed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is begging the question. I have already said that in so far as the Constitution makes provision for the special welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I have always allowed such questions and the Speaker has also been allowing them. But it has not been the practice to allow questions on a religious, communal or territorial basis. That is all my point.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ मंत्री महोदय से कि वहाँ सिड्काल्ड कास्ट के कितने अफसर मुकर्रर किये गये हैं? ठीक से बताइये।

श्री राज बहादुर : इस की सूचना मेरे पास नहीं है।

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether the appointments are made on the basis of selection by an independent body like the Public Service Commission?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That information is contained in the statement that I have placed on the Table of the

House. I may repeat for the information of the hon. Member that selections to posts carrying a salary of more than Rs. 300 per month are made by the Board of Directors, Staff Sub-Committee and those below by the Managing Director with the assistance of a Staff Selection Committee.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : प्रभा माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने पिछले एक पूरक प्रश्न के उत्तर में यह बताया कि कुछ जगहों का हिन्दुस्तान भर में एडवरटाइजमेंट होता है, कुछ का बंगलौर के आसपास होता है और कुछ का स्थानीय जगहों पर होता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब यह टैलीफोन फैक्टरी पूरे भारतवर्ष के लिये है तो क्यों नहीं सब जगहों के लिये हिन्दुस्तान भर में एडवरटाइजमेंट किया जाता है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : मैं ने जो उत्तर दिया था उस का आधार यह है कि जो छोटी जगहें हैं, जिन की तनखाह २०० से कम है, उन के बारे में हम यह आशा नहीं करते कि दूर के लोग साउथ में जावेंगे। इसलिये वर्तमान में उन का विज्ञापन केवल आसपास की जगहों में किया जाता है। १०० रुपये या ६० रुपये की तनखाह पाने वाले व्यक्ति वहाँ ही मिल जाते हैं और वे सस्ते रहते हैं, उन को ट्रांसफर भत्ता बरीरह देने में किफायत हो जाती है।

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I again seek another clarification? Just now you were pleased to say that you would not admit questions for territory-wise information. I humbly submit we have a right to know whether in a Government factory or service there is an even break-up. Supposing I want to elicit information about a particular factory, as to whether there is in it an overall distribution among the different provinces in the services? Will you permit that question or will you rule it out?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right, I will consider that matter.

COMPENSATION TO AIRCREW

*989. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:**

(a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether the Airways (India) Ltd., has paid compensation to the aircrew killed in the Dakota freighter which crashed in Khasi Hills on the 14th April, 1953?

(b) Is this the established practice in such cases also to pay the gratuity and provident fund due to the victims to their families?

(c) Is it a fact that payment of compensation was withheld temporarily on the plea of impending nationalisation?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir. The three members of the crew viz. pilot, co-pilot and Radio Officer, were insured in accordance with the rules of the air Company for Rs. 20,000, Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 7,500 respectively, and the amounts due have been paid to the nominees of the Pilot and the Radio Officer. The insurance amount in respect of the Co-pilot was not yet been paid, as there are two claimants to the amount. The Company has also made an *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 3,500 each to the widow of the Co-pilot and of the Radio Officer from whom requests for assistance had been received by the Company.

(b) Membership of the Provident fund in the Company was not compulsory and in the case of death of a member, the amount standing in his account was payable to the person who was shown in the nomination form of the member. The rules of the Company did not provide for any gratuity.

(c) No, Sir.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know whether the claim was paid before nationalisation or after nationalisation of the company?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I cannot say exactly whether it was before nationalisation or after nationalisation, but

it has been paid. In regard to the amount of Rs. 3,500, for a while the company hesitated and wanted some instruction from Government. Then, we permitted them to pay and that has been paid.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is a short notice question in the name of Shri A. P. Sinha, Shri S. N. Das, Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha, Shri L. N. Mishra and Acharya Kripalani, on floods in Bihar. Mr. A. P. Sinha may put the question. The other hon. Members will have an opportunity of putting supplementary questions.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

FLOODS IN BIHAR

L. Shri A. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large area of north Bihar involving a population of over 10 millions has experienced an abnormally high flood this year;

(b) if so, the quantum of damages caused to the food products of the area, particularly to maize and paddy;

(c) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Bihar have approached the Central Government for some aid to meet the situation arising out of the damages caused to the food production of the area;

(d) if so, the nature of the aid sought by the State Government particularly in the shape of gratuitous relief, allotment of coarse and other kinds of cheap grains and subsidy in selling food grains to the affected population; and

(e) the aid that the Union Government have extended or propose to extend to the State Government?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). A copy of report received from the State Government on 1-9-1953 is laid on the

Table of the House which gives detailed information about the recent floods in North Bihar and the damage caused by them. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 14.]

(c) Yes.

(d) The State Government have requested the Government of India to sanction a grant equal to 50 per cent. of the total expenditure to be incurred on relief measures.

(e) As the request was received only on the 1st of this month the question of the extent of Central assistance to Bihar is under consideration.

Shri A. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that according to the estimates of the Bihar Government the damages to the Bha-dai and paddy crops and to houses and house-hold property amount to Rs. 21,03,73,600 and that the actual damage may exceed this figure when full facts are ascertained?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That is the statement made by the State Government in their report which they have submitted.

Shri A. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that the allotment made by the State Government over various heads of relief operations amounts to Rs. 1,16,31,230?

An Hon. Member: How many annas?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That is also given in the penultimate paragraph of the report submitted by the State Government.

Shri A. P. Sinha: In view of the finances of the State Government having been very greatly strained on account of the large scale expenditure on scarcity relief during 1950-53 when the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 12 crores,.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is giving more information than eliciting any. If he does not know any of these things he may elicit answers, and not give information in terms of rupees, annas, pies.

Shri A. P. Sinha:and in view of the sudden calamity of these unprecedented floods having accentuated the budgetary position of the State Government, will the Government of India give full consideration to these factors in providing adequate financial aid to the State?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We will do our very best.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether it is a fact that a demand made by the Bihar Government for subsidy for the sale of foodgrains has been turned down by the Government of India while at the same time it has been extended to other States? If so, may I know the reason for this discrimination?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Sir, I would require notice of this question.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether it is a fact that the price of rice in Bihar was the highest in India even before the floods and still no adequate quantity of rice was allotted to it, and do Government propose to allot additional quantities of rice to the State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): The report from the Bihar Government was received only on 1st September, that is two days ago. Government will study it and take a decision.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether it has been conveyed to the Government of India by the Bihar Government that the damage to crops and property by the recent floods is almost of the same extent or even greater than the Damage as in the 1934 earthquake?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: They have not made any comparison, but the specific figure of the assessment of the loss has already been given by the hon. Member.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: May I know what steps the Government propose to take to prevent large scale de-

damage to crops which occurs frequently in that area?

Shri Kidwai: When there are floods or scarcity of rains or excessive rains.....

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: We are talking of floods here.

Shri Kidwai: When there is flood or when there is scarcity of rain or excess of rain, damage to crop is bound to happen. I understand that the Bihar Government is trying to devise methods to prevent these floods.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: How long will it take?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is a general problem.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : क्या मंत्री महोदय को यह मालूम है कि नार्य बिहार में बाढ़ आयी है इस से क्या शुगरकेन में क्षति हुई है और अगर हुई है तो उस हालत में क्या सरकार शुगरकेन की प्राइस बढ़ाने की इच्छा रखती है ?

श्री किडवाई : नार्य बिहार में जो फ्लड आया है उस में अगर कोई क्राप बच गयी है तो वह शुगरकेन की क्राप ही बच गयी है ।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : मैं ने यह पूछा था कि शुगरकेन को क्षति हुई है या नहीं और वह कहते हैं कि वह क्राप बच गयी है । मैं तो यह पूछता हूँ कि क्षति हुई है या नहीं ।

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether deaths due to starvation have been reported and, if so, has any enquiry been made and what is the report?

Shri Kidwai: We have just heard how generously the Bihar Government is giving relief to the people, and I hope they will do all that is possible. And whatever help we can give, we will consider.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Sir, there is no report of starvation deaths.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether deaths due to floods and starvation

have been reported, whether any enquiry has been made and what is the result of the enquiry?

Shri Kidwai: There must have been some deaths due to floods, but there is no report about deaths due to starvation. But if the hon. Member has any information we will forward it.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is a report of the death of only four human beings on account of the floods, from the Report. But none of them is due to starvation.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether, due to the total destruction of the Bhadai crop and to a very large area of paddy fields having remained untransplanted, there are indications for a severe famine in the area? If so, may I know what steps are being taken?

Shri Kidwai: I have said that the report has been received only on the first of this month and has just been laid on the Table. The Bihar Government is doing its best to give relief, and whatever help they require in the matter of supply of food will be done.

Shri Bhagwat Jha: Is it not a fact that over and above the various grains that have been distributed, the need of the hour is to provide employment to the affected people; and if so, what measures do Government propose to take to provide employment to these affected people?

Shri Kidwai: I will forward this question to the Bihar Government.

Shri Bhagwat Jha: What is your contribution? Bihar Government will do its work.

Shri Kidwai: It is a matter for the Bihar Government.

Shri K. K. Basu: Pending final decision do Government propose to give some help to the Bihar Government in the shape of money or foodgrains?

Shri Kidwai: If the hon. Member reads the report he will find what sort of help they want and what sort of help we can give.