

viewed the candidates himself, and having interviewed them, he came to certain conclusions and selected some people and appointed them.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Is it a fact that since the application of that order the Patiala Municipality Act has been superseded and an Executive Officer appointed from outside? I want to know whether applications were invited or a notice was given in the paper or candidates were interviewed by any Public Service Commission.

**Dr. Katju:** I want notice of that particular question.

#### P. T. O. CONCESSION

\*596. **Shri Punnoose:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether any decision has been arrived at in the matter of granting P.T.O. concessions to Government of India employees?

(b) If so, what is the decision?

(c) If not, when will a decision be taken and what is the delay due to?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) to (c). It has been decided that P.T.O. Concession should remain in abeyance for the present.

**Shri C. E. Narasimhan:** What is the recommendation of the Pay Commission on the matter? I believe that they have recommended giving of this concession.

**Shri Datar:** On account of financial difficulties and other implications, it has not been found possible to revive this concession.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know, Sir, how long this matter has been pending with the Government now?

**Shri Datar:** This matter is pending for some time—for two or three years. For a period of 21 months this was in vogue. Then it was withdrawn. It has not now been possible to restore it.

**Shri N. M. Lingam:** In view of the progressive reduction in the dearness allowance paid to the Government

employees, will Government reopen the question at an early date?

**Shri Datar:** It has not been possible to give any such assurance.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the assurance given by the Railway Minister on the floor of this House in answer to the Budget discussion that the entire question will be re-examined and, if so, what has been the result.

**Shri Datar:** The question was re-examined but in view of the present conditions, it has not been found possible to give effect to it.

**Shri Muniswamy:** May I know whether any memorandum has been received from the P. and T. Department regarding the P.T.O. concession and have Government taken that into consideration?

**Shri Datar:** I should like to have notice.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know whether any categories of officers are entitled to the P.T.O. concession at present?

**Shri Datar:** No class of officers is entitled to this concession.

**Shri Velayudhan:** Is Government aware that by stopping this concession mostly employees from South India are affected? Is it because of that that the Government have not considered this matter very seriously?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I won't allow this insinuation.

**Shri Punnoose:** May I know whether Government have received complaints and petitions in this regard from vast sections of the employees?

**Shri Datar:** Government have been receiving representations from various sections.

**Shri Punnoose:** May I know also whether Government have examined the financial burden that Government will have to bear on this if this is conceded?

**Shri Datar:** Not only the financial implications were considered but also the

question of accommodation in railway trains was taken into consideration but unfortunately Government have come to the conclusion that they have to keep this thing pending.

**Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** May I know under what circumstances the P.T.O. concession was put in abeyance and in which year?

**Shri Datar:** The P.T.O. concession was put in abeyance from September, 1949.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Have the Railways got similar concession?

**Shri Datar:** I am not aware of that but I think they do give.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know the average number of Government officials who took advantage of it every year before it was held in abeyance?

**Shri Datar:** I have no figures.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know, Sir, apart from financial considerations whether Government have taken into consideration the psychological effect the abolition of P.T.O. will have on Government servants.

**Shri Datar:** Government have taken into consideration the psychological, financial and all other aspects and have very regretfully come to the conclusion that it has to be kept in abeyance.

**Shri N. P. Damodaran:** May I know whether the persons who are worst affected by this are people from South India and that many of the Government servants belonging to the South are unable to visit their homes for the last four or five years?

**Shri Datar:** It is quite likely that Government employees from the South may find it a hardship but that hardship is not confined only to those from South India but to those from all parts of India.

#### NATIONAL CADET CORPS

\*597. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the total strength of the National Cadet Corps (Junior and Senior Branches) as it stood on the 31st July, 1953; and

(b) what further steps are being taken to develop it?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) The strength of the National Cadet Corps on 31st July 1953 in various divisions was as follows:

	Officers	Cadets	Total
Senior Division	675	26,790	27,465
Junior Division	1,612	53,079	54,691
Girls Division	18	540	558
TOTAL	2,305	80,409	82,714

(b) The expansion of the N.C.C. is being carried out on a year to year basis according to the availability of funds. To supplement the National Cadet Corps, steps are being taken to develop the Auxiliary Cadet Corps which is designed to provide training in mass drill and physical exercises etc. at a much lower cost.

**Prof. D. C. Sharma:** May I know whether some States have expressed their disinclination to continue the Junior Cadet Corps?

**Shri Datar:** There has been, I think, one State, which did express that opinion but on the other hand there are the States of Manipur, Jammu and Kashmir, Bhopal and Bilaspur where the cadet corps has not yet been started due to various difficulties.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know, Sir, whether this new training is going to be meant for the same age group of students or for different ones and by how much the cost of this training is going to be less than that of training of cadets?

**Sardar Majithia:** The difference in the Auxiliary Cadet Corps and the National Cadet Corps is in the training. One is more exhaustive than the other; for instance in the National