

seniority of Part B States staff have not yet been finalised'. May I know why it has not been finalised and what exactly is the difficulty?

Shri M. C. Shah: It is being considered by the Home Ministry and will soon be finalised.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Having regard to the fact that many of these complaints with regard to categorisation order and other things are common to the State employees of the Accountant-General's Office and the Anchal employees, will Government consider the desirability of instituting an enquiry into the whole set of complaints?

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know, Sir, whether Government is aware that two orders have been passed contradicting each other and the inspectors are being victimised owing to these contradicting orders?

Shri M. C. Shah: No, Sir. It is not so.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether any, and if so, how many, cases are still pending in which the incumbents have heart-burning on account of the categorisation and consequent equation?

Shri M. C. Shah: As I said they have already been finalised. There is no question of heart-burning now.

Mr. Chairman: Next question.

Shri V. P. Nayar: We never had any satisfactory answers.

Shri Punnoose: May I point out that it is the practice for the Member who has tabled a question to be given a final chance.

Mr. Chairman: Not the final chance; he is given the first chance. In fact the hon. Member was given two or three chances to put supplementaries.

ARMED FORCES IN PEPSU

*717. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the strength and composition of the armed forces of the various prin-

cely states of PEPSU before their merger?

(b) What parts of these forces were incorporated in the armies of the Central Government?

(c) What was done with regard to those who were not taken into the service of the Central Government?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 2.]

(c) The personnel of ex-States Forces who were not absorbed in the Regular Army were dealt with as follows:

(i) Those unwilling to serve with the Regular Army were discharged under their existing State Forces terms and conditions of service.

(ii) Those who volunteered to serve with the Indian Army but were considered unsuitable for retention were released with mustering out concessions.

Various measures have been taken by the Central Government as well as the PEPSU Government to resettle the personnel who were not absorbed in the Indian Army; for example:

(i) A certain percentage of vacancies has been reserved by the PEPSU Government for released ex-servicemen.

(ii) Arrangements have been made for imparting vocational and technical training in certain institutions.

(iii) A large number would be resettled on land.

(iv) A Motor Transport Society of ex-servicemen has been formed. Other societies for dairy and poultry farming, flour mills, etc., are being organised.

(v) Loans are being granted to ex-servicemen for intensive cultivation.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: In answer to part (c) of my question, the hon. Minister has given certain categories of benefits which will accrue to those persons who have not been absorbed.

May I know, Sir, how many of these persons have received the benefit so far and how many are there whose cases are still pending?

Sardar Majithia: About 50 per cent. have already been absorbed in the Indian Army; the others have not been absorbed. About 368 personnel have been absorbed into the Government service. The scheme is already there to settle another 4,000 ex-servicemen on land and that practically accounts for the whole lot.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know how the question of seniority and terms of period of service of these persons has been settled. Has the Government received representations from some persons that they have been treated unjustly on these two scores?

Sardar Majithia: Excepting for one or two cases no other representation has been received and in their cases I can categorically say that full justice has been done to them.

Shri Punnoose: Can I know the total number of persons who have been done away with either because they were unwilling to join the Indian Army or because they were found unsuitable for the Army?

Sardar Majithia: It is very difficult for the Government to keep figures of people who do not want to serve the Government and those who are unsuitable; we forget all about them.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो फौजी विस्थापित लोग हैं पेट्सू में और जिन के लिये प्रबन्ध किया गया था, उसी तरह बाक़ी रियासतों में भी किया गया था और इसी के साथ यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इन को फिर से बसाने का कोई प्रबन्ध किया गया है ?

Mr. Chairman: The question relates to P.E.P.S.U. and the scope cannot be allowed to be widened.

Shri Punnoose: May I know the percentage of men absorbed in the Indian Army and the percentage of those who have been released?

Sardar Majithia: I have already stated it to be about 50 per cent. If the hon. Member wants exact figures they are already given in the statement laid on the Table of the House but for the information of the hon. Member I will repeat them: "Out of 8,942 people 4,200 have already been absorbed".

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, if the Patiala State army which had a distinctive character of its own has been permitted to retain that character? For instance it had some cavalry; has that cavalry been maintained?

Sardar Majithia: I have not followed the question, Sir. The character is a thing which cannot be changed by any person but if the hon. Member wants to know whether the Units have been kept as they were, well naturally on integration a certain amount of changing had to take place and other people were got to form that Unit and naturally the composition of that Unit is not the same as it used to be when they were entirely under the Patiala State Government.

EXEMPTION OF RULERS OF MERGED STATES FROM TAXES

*718. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) the kinds of taxes (including local taxes) from which the Darbari as well as private properties of the Rulers of merged States are exempted; and

(b) the reasons for granting these exemptions?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). The following categories of private property of the Rulers have been exempted from income-tax-

(i) the privy purse of the Ruler;