

## WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES

\*480. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the amount so far spent out of Rupees four crores set apart for the welfare of Scheduled Castes by the Central Government under the Five Year Plan; and

(b) for what purposes it has been spent?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) The sum of Rupees four Crores set apart by the Central Government is intended for the amelioration of the Backward Classes including the Scheduled Castes and ex-Criminal Tribes but excluding the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled areas for which provision has been made under Article 275 of the Constitution. Out of these four crores a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs has been earmarked during the year 1953-54 to be given as grants in aid to State Government to supplement the amounts expended by them on the welfare of Scheduled Castes. The Government are also considering the question of placing some funds directly at the disposal of certain All India organizations for intensive propaganda for the abolition of untouchability specially in the rural areas of the country.

(b) Except in a very few cases, the State Governments and the Organisations who have been asked to formulate schemes showing how the funds will be expended by them have not yet submitted the schemes.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know whether any amount out of this will be spent for resettlement of landless agricultural people?

**Shri Datar:** Mostly the amount will be spent for propaganda in connection with the removal of untouchability. But in the case of Part B and Part C States it would be used also for housing schemes and for digging of wells.

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**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know what portion of this Rs. 50 lakhs so earmarked has actually been spent so far?

**Shri Datar:** It has not yet been spent.

**Shri C. R. Chowdary:** May I know whether there is any control on the expenditure of these amounts allotted to various institutions?

**Shri Datar:** The State Governments will exercise due control, and there will be proper auditing of the accounts also.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** May I know the names of the all-India organisations which have come forward to take up the work of abolishing untouchability in the rural areas?

**Shri Datar:** I gave the names only the other day in this very House.

**Shri M. D. Ramasami:** May I know what portion of this amount will be spent for the education of backward classes?

**Shri Datar:** This has nothing to do with backward classes; this is for Scheduled Castes. For backward classes Rs. 20 lakhs has been separately set apart.

## EXCISE CIRCLE FOR ANDHRA

\*481. **Shri Nanadas:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state how many Central Excise Circle offices are there in the Andhra State?

(b) Is there any proposal to have a separate Central Excise Collectorate for the Andhra State?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha):** (a) There are at present 23 Central Excise Circle Offices in Andhra State.

(b) No Sir.

## TREND OF PRICES

\*482. **Shri Nanadas:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the price movement is showing an upward trend?