

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) They were arrested and released on bail.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether it is a fact that proceedings against certain number of accused were dropped at the very start?

Shri Hathi: I have no information that the proceedings against any of the officers were dropped.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether this is the only case, or a few others have also been detected?

Shri Hathi: In all eleven officers are involved in the various cases.

Shri L. N. Mishra: What is the amount that is alleged to have been misappropriated?

Shri Hathi: All cases are not of misappropriation. One is a case of illegal gratification involving an amount of Rs. 20,000. Another is a case of overpayment involving an amount of Rs. 60,000.

INDIAN CITIZENSHIP

*672. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have received during the last few months large numbers of applications for Indian citizenship from African-born Indians in the British East African States of Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika and Zanzibar; and

(b) if so, (i) the total number of such applications; and (ii) the decision of Government regarding these applications?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) 3669.

(ii) From a scrutiny of the information furnished by these applicants, it was found that they were covered by Article 5 of the Constitution of

India and accordingly letters declaring them to be Indian citizens were issued to them by the Commissioner for the Government of India in British East Africa.

Dr. M. M. Das: I could not follow the second part of the answer to my question, part (b).

Some Hon. Members: A little more loudly.

Mr. Speaker: I find several hon. Members talking slowly, according to them.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Nobody is talking here.

Mr. Speaker: I am disturbed by talks here and there.

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: From a scrutiny of the information furnished by these applicants, it was found that they were covered by Article 5 of the Constitution of India and accordingly letters declaring them to be Indian citizens were issued to them by the Commissioner for the Government of India in British East Africa.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any steps have been taken to find out the number of applicants who have voluntarily acquired African citizenship so that our Constitution does not allow their coming over to India as Indian citizens?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defence (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): There is no such thing as African citizenship. There are British Subjects in this colony. There is no separate African citizenship. As regards the hon. Member's referring to how many are British subjects and how many are Indian nationals, there has been no clarity about that, for the simple reason that we have not specifically laid down any nationality law as required. Something has been said in the Constitution and we act accordingly. There are some uncertainties in the case of certain groups and classes.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether Government have been finding any difficulty due to absence of detailed legislation which is provided in our Constitution for dealing with individual cases?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes. There is difficulty in the sense that some applicants want to be citizens of India and we are not able to make him or her such a citizen.

STATE ELECTRICITY BOARDS

*673. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) how many State Electricity Boards, have been constituted since the passing of the Electricity Supply Act, 1948;

(b) the work done so far by the Central Electricity Authority; and

(c) whether the Advisory Board set up by Government for suggesting amendments to the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 will also review the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Two. (in Delhi and Madhya Pradesh)

(b) The Central Electricity Authority have approved the Regulations framed by the Delhi and Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Boards under the Electricity (Supply) Act of 1948. They have also arbitrated in the dispute between the Government of Bombay and the Godhra Electricity Supply Co. Ltd.

(c) No, Sir.

Shri Nanadas: May I know why the rest of the States have not followed this?

Shri Hathi: The States are finding it difficult. They find several difficulties coming in their way, financial difficulties, finding suitable personnel, etc.

APPRENTICES IN GOVERNMENT PRESSES

*674. **Shri Nanadas:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the answer given to part (d) of unstarred question No. 1051 answered on 15th April, 1953 and state the action taken to enhance the rate of monthly subsistence allowance paid to the apprentices in the Government of India Presses?

(b) What are the enhanced rates?

(c) From which date will the new rates be given effect to?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply Sardar Swaran Singh: (a) and (b). They will now be eligible to draw dearness allowance, as admissible to others, drawing equivalent pay. Under the general orders governing the grant of dearness allowance, they will get Rs. 40/- per month.

(c) As from 1st December 1953.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether they are eligible for house rent allowances also?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Not possibly, Sir. I am not sure.

Shri Nanadas: May I know how many apprentices have been there in the Government presses since 1951?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I have not got that information at the present moment.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether there is any possibility of giving retrospective effect to this decision?

Sardar Swaran Singh: We have examined this case with considerable care. This is the maximum up to which we can go.

DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT FACILITIES

*676. **Shri Buchhikotaiah:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact, that all State Governments were asked by the