

proper price is given to raw jute cultivators?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** We want always to give proper prices to cultivators.

#### ELECTION CONTEST BY EXTRA-DEPARTMENTAL STAFF

\*413. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the question of allowing the extra-departmental staff of the postal department to contest the village panchayat and other elections; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** What type of Government servants are they and by what rules are they governed?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** They are not whole-time Government servants. They are not governed by the Classification, Control and Appeal Rules, nor by the Subordinate Services Rules nor by the Government Servants Conduct Rules, but this matter is essentially one within the scope and functions of the Ministries of Home Affairs and of Law, to which, I think, the question should be referred.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** By what time will the matter be considered?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** No positive date can be rigidly fixed.

#### REPRESENTATION BY NELLORE DISTRICT PASSENGERS' ASSOCIATION

\*414. **Shri Nanadas:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether any representation has been made by the Secretary, Nellore District Railway Passengers' Association for (i) extending train No. 33 running between Kakinada and Bitragunta upto Gudur, and (ii) to change the timings of trains Nos. 27 and 28?

(b) If so, what action has been taken in the matter?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) The suggestions made were duly examined but it has not been found feasible to implement them.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know, Sir, the difficulties involved in extending train No. 33 up to Gudur?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** The main difficulty is operational difficulty, and so it is exceedingly difficult to extend the train from Bitragunta to Gudur. There are no terminal facilities e.g. for turning round the engines.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know whether in view of the passing traffic there, there is no justification for making Gudur the terminal station for train No. 33?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** It depends upon the convenience of the section which the trains are serving at present. The timings at present are convenient, but if it is extended upto Gudur, then it will become inconvenient to the other sections.

**Mr. Speaker:** We need not go into details here.

#### PALM GUR INDUSTRY

\*415. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what are the facilities provided by the Central Government to the palm gur industry?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 64.]

**Shri Nanadas:** The statement says that the Government of India incur 50 per cent. of the expenditure on the schemes of the State Governments regarding the Palm Gur industry. May I know, Sir, how this 50 per cent. is incurred and through what agency?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** State Governments are asked to submit their scheme to encourage the Palm Gur industry and all these schemes will be considered and then an estimated scheme will be sanctioned, out of which the Government of India meet 50 per cent. and the State Governments 50 per cent.

**Shri Nanndas:** May I know, Sir, the steps taken by the Government to publicise the nutritive value of palm gur in this country and in the importing countries also?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** We have got a magazine called the "Tad Gur Khabar" and every month we write articles about palm gur in order to publicise its nutritive value.

**Shri Thimmaiah:** Do Government give or will they give any financial aid to the States to develop the Palm Gur industry?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Yes, we have given. The figures are—

In 1949	...	Rs. 52,000
1949-50	...	Rs. 3,44,000
1950-51	...	Rs. 5,52,000
1951-52	...	Rs. 41,43,000
1952-53	...	Rs. 5,30,000

These amounts were given to the various States for developing the Palm Gur industry.

**Shri Nanadas:** I wanted to know how the nutritive value of palm gur is publicised in the importing countries. We are exporting our palm gur to other countries and I want to know how its nutritive value is publicised there.

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** I think the Editor of the "Tad Gur Khabar", while inviting articles, will invite from outside countries also.

**Mr. Speaker:** Do we first of all export palm gur?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** I have no information, Sir.

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#### RECRUITMENT OF CLERKS IN P. & T. DEPARTMENT

\*418. **Shri Manikswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1198 and the supplementaries thereon asked on 10th September, 1953 and state whether Government have issued orders doing away with the recruitment examination for appointment as clerks in the P. & T. Department?

(b) If so, by what means selection to such appointments will be made in future?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes.

(b) Selection of candidates in each Circle will be made by a Board on the basis of marks obtained by the candidates in the Matriculation or its equivalent examination. Some weightage in marks will be given to candidates with higher qualifications.

**Shri Manikswamy:** May I know, Sir, when that circular was issued and whether it was issued to the State Governments?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The circular was not issued to the State Governments. It was issued on the 20th September 1953 to the heads of the postal circles.

**Shri Thimmaiah:** May I know, Sir, whether the P. & T. Department has observed strictly the Home Ministry order in the matter of reservation of appointments for the Scheduled Castes and Tribes?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I am afraid, we have not been able to do so.

**Shri Kelappan:** May I know, Sir, if recruitment is made direct to the Upper Division?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Yes, Sir, Upper Division posts are filled by direct recruitment also.

**Shri Manikswamy:** May I know, Sir, whether those people who are already acting as clerks will be retained as clerks or reverted to their old posts?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** That is a separate question and for that rules exist.