Mechanic, Machinist, Telecommunication Mechanic, Vehicle Mechanic,

Sardar Hukam Singh: After straining could all these trainees be absorbed in the corps or would they be left to find out jobs for themselves?

Shri Satish Chandra: All the trainees could not be absorbed as there were not enough vacancies. That is why no fresh apprentices are being recruited.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is the scheme designed to train more civilians or only this batch will be completed?

Shri Satish Chandra: More of these people will be taken in if there are vacancies and, if we could athose already trained. As it is, we are finding it difficult to absorb those already trained.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is the whole of the expenditure to be borne by Government or is it shared by the trainees as well?

Shri Satish Chandra: So far they have been trained at the cost of Govrnment.

राष्ट्रीय रक्षा अकादमी

*१५०८ सेठ गोविन्व बास : क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि १९५३ के अन्त में राष्ट्रीय रक्षा अकादमी में कितने केडट (छात्र) थे और उन में कितने अनुसचित जातियों के थे?

The Minister of Defence Organization (Shri Tyagi): 1512 cadets were undergoing training at the National Defence Dehra Dun, on the Academy. November 1953. As we do not ask the .cadets to indicate their castes, it is not possible to give information regarding the number of cadets who belonged to the Scheduled Castes without making a reference to each cadet indiwidually.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: १९५३ में जितने अञ्चाच वहां पर थे क्या उनकी संख्या १९५२

से अधिक थी, भीर क्या अब १९५३ के बाद भौर बढ़ रही है ?

श्री त्यागी : ठीक-ठीक संस्थाओं का ब्यौरा इस वक्त मेरे गास नहीं है। लेकिन मेरा ख्याल यह है कि संख्या पहले से बढ़ रही है।

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether it is the practice that when applications are invited, caste names are included there, and may I know whether Government does not ascertain whether Scheduled Castes are included there or not?

Shri Tyagi: There is such a practice. With a view to receiving less fee from Scheduled Caste candidates who offer to compete, their caste is inquired into. but all those who have applied are not taken. Selection is made on merit and only those who are selected are taken.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Apart from the unwillingness of the Government to find out the caste of the candidates. may I know what steps are being taken to see that all the deserving candidates from Scheduled Castes who apply are given the chance to join?

Shri Tyagi: I am afraid I am not in a position to say what the Public Ser-Commission could do in this matter. It is a case where candidates apply and are selected on the basis of merit by the UPSC.

भी घुलेकर: सिलेक्शन के वक्त तो यह नहीं देखा जाता कि यह शिब्युल्ड कास्ट है या कोई भौर है, लेकिन मौजूदा हालात में क्या मिनिस्टर महोदय बतला सकते हैं कि कितन केंडीडेट शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट के हैं?

भी त्यागी: में ने अर्ज किया कि दफ्तर के अन्दर इस किस्म का कोई रिकार्ड नहीं है। धगर मेम्बर साहब इसकी जरूरी समझते हैं तो उसकी इत्तला हासिल की जा सकती है।

Shri N. L. Joshi: May I know how many candidates were refused admission during the year 1953?

Shri Tyagi: I require notice.

Shri Velayudhan: In view of the fact that there are divisions like Mahars and Mahrattas, will Government consider the caste of the Scheduled Castes also and give them a chance in this Academy?

Oral Answers

Shri Tyagi: Not in the case of officers. In the case of other ranks, Scheduled Castes are being encouraged, whenever recruitment is made on the basis not of competition but of selection, by Recruiting Officers etc. They have been directed to encourage enrolment of Scheduled Castes.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Am I to understand by this that so far no Scheduled Caste candidates have been taken?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

*1509. Shri S. N. Das: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and names of the educational institutions, established under any endowment or trust, which requires that religious instruction shall be imparted in such institutions and the administration of which has been taken over by the Central Government; and
- (b) the nature of religious instruction that is imparted in these institutions?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):
(a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

VISIT OF THE FRENCH SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AIR

*1516. Shri Raghuramaiah: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the purpose of the visit of the French Secretary of State for Air, to India?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawahar-lal Nehru): The French Secretary of State for Air was invited by the Government of India to visit Delhi to discuss the further purchase of French aircraft for the Indian Air Force.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know whether we have any French aircraft in our Air Force and whether they have been considered satisfactory compared to other makes?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We purchased some last year and they are considered very satisfactory.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Has this mission been successful so far as we are concerned?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The new purchase?

Shri Jaipal Singh: The visit of the French Secretary of State for Air. Has his visit been successful as far as we are concerned?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The matter has not been finalised thus far. Yet, it has been successful so far.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: May I know whether there are any French nationals in our Air Force and, if so, what is their number?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have not come across anyone or heard of anyone.

Shri Joachim Alva: Do the French Military planes pass over India on their way to Indo-Chin. for bombing, and did the French Air Secretary ask for permission to pass over India?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It has nothing to do with this question.

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

*1511. Shri Katham: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state what amount has been asked for by the West Bengal Government under Article 275 of the Constitution for the development of the Scheduled Tribes for 1954-55, and how much has been granted?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The West Bengal Government have not asked for any amount so far. A sum of Rs. 12:50 lakhs has, however, been provisionally allotted to that Government.