

U. P. S. C.

*299. **Th. Lakshman Singh Charak:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether the rules for regulating the service conditions of the persons working in the Union Public Service Commission have been finalised?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): Under article 372(1) of the Constitution, the regulations formerly framed under Section 265(2) of the Government of India Act, 1935, and then known as the Federal Public Service Commission (Conditions of Service) Regulations, were continued in force. Certain adaptations and amendments have been made in those regulations after the commencement of the Constitution. The question of making some further amendments is under consideration.

कुम्भ मेला

*३००. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कुम्भ मेले के सम्बन्ध में रक्षा मंत्रालय द्वारा कितना व्यय किया गया है; तथा

(ख) उस अवसर पर कितने सैनिक अधिकारियों द्वारा अन्य सैनिक कर्मचारियों ने सेवा की है ?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) Approximately 10 lakh rupees.

(b) Officers	27
Junior Commissioned Officers.	20
Other ranks.	887

SPIRITUOUS DRUGS

28. **Dr. Amin:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) when the Bill for achieving uniformity in excise rules and regulations governing the manufacture, possession and sale of spirituous drugs will be introduced; and

(b) whether it is a fact that a draft Bill has been circulated to State Governments for their comments?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) A draft of the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duty) Bill providing for uniform rates of excise duty on medicinal and toilet preparations containing spirit, and for a uniform procedure for collection thereof and regulation of ancillary matters, has been prepared and the Government of India are at present engaged in the examination of certain substantive provisions made in the draft, with reference to the provisions of the Constitution. The Bill will be introduced in Parliament as soon as this examination has been completed.

(b) Yes, Sir. The comments of the State Governments have been received and have been carefully considered by the Government of India.

EXPERT COMMITTEE (EXCISE)

29. **Dr. Amin:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Expert Committee (Excise) has recommended the abolition of vend-fee on spirit used for industrial purposes; and

(b) if so, at what stage is the recommendation?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) and (b). The Expert Committee (Excise) have recommended that no vend fee or pass fee should be levied on denatured spirit or spirit specially denatured for industrial purposes.

The views of some of the State Governments on the recommendations of the Expert Committee (Excise) have already been obtained, and those of others are awaited. Meanwhile, certain points affecting the constitutional position in regard to the levy of such fees are under the active consideration of the Government of India.