

it is the Anglo-Burmese Trade Agreement. Now, they have abolished those preferences, as they could.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether this export of steel and iron was left to private negotiation between private businessmen here and in Burma or was it done at Government level?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes; it was left to private negotiation.

RESEARCH IN SOCIAL PROBLEMS

*1395. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether any programme for research into social problems and fields of social work has been drawn up;

(b) if so, what machinery has been set up for implementing the programme; and

(c) how the provision of Rs. 50 lakhs made in the Plan for research will be spent?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) and (b). Yes. Social problems relating to regional and urban development are included in the programme drawn up by the Research Programmes Committee. A statement of the schemes falling under this head and the grants which have been sanctioned is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 4.]

The investigations will be undertaken through universities, colleges and research institutions. Specific research programmes are approved by the Research Programmes Committee from time to time.

(c) Schemes costing Rs. 11.78 lakhs were sanctioned upto March 15. In this connection attention is invited to the statement laid on the Table of the House in reply to Starred Question No. 1290 on 25th March, 1954.

Shri B. K. Das: There are certain categories of research mentioned in the statement. May I know whether there

are other categories also for research, and if so, what they are?

Shri Nanda: This refers to research affecting social problems. There are other categories of research relating to land, investment etc.

Shri B. K. Das: What are the agencies, universities or other social bodies, taking up research on those categories?

Shri Nanda: The names of the universities and other institutions are given in the statement. They are mostly universities.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: May I know whether the subjects for research are chosen by the Research Programmes Committee or by the universities concerned?

Shri Nanda: The subjects were in the first place categorised by the Research Programmes Committee, on which most of the eminent economists associated with the universities sit. Those subjects were indicated to the universities, but the universities are, of course, free to suggest alternatives.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know what the object of those researches are, and how they are different from the study of social tensions, undertaken by the Education Ministry? May I also know the results that have been derived from the study of these social problems?

Shri Nanda: So far as the first part of the question is concerned, that is a narrow aspect, very important, of course. But the research with which we are here concerned relates to problems of economic development of the country. So far as results are concerned, this programme has been initiated only recently.

Shri Velayudhan: What are the types of social problems for the amelioration of which grants were paid by the Government of India?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All that is given in the statement.

Shri Nanda: Sixteen items have been given in the list.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: For the coming year, a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs has been provided for the work of this Research Programmes Committee. May I know the directions of this research, and the reasons why this increased provision has been thought necessary?

Shri Nanda: There is a total provision of Rs. 50 lakhs made in the Plan. During the first year, only a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs was spent. For the coming year, it will be Rs. 20 lakhs. The remaining amount will be spent during the remaining years of the Plan period.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What happens in case two universities take one and the same subject?

Shri Nanda: In such cases, the Committee asks one of the universities to take up one subject, and the other university is given some other subject.

FIVE YEAR PLAN PUBLICITY

*1397. **Shri Bahadur Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the number of field publicity officers recruited recently for each State to publicise the Five Year Plan in the country?

(b) Were all the appointments made at one time or by stages?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Of the 32 posts of officers sanctioned for field publicity work, 21 have been filled temporarily in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission, by selection by an *ad hoc* Committee, pending final recruitment through Union Public Service Commission. These officers have not been recruited for any particular States but will work in different regions of India comprising various States.

(b) By stages.

Shri Bahadur Singh: May I know the number of persons appointed in the first batch, and the qualifications taken into consideration for their appointment?

Dr. Keskar: The officers are for different sorts of work. For each and every sort of work, the qualifications are different. I would not be able to give here the list of those qualifications, but I might say that all persons even recruited temporarily must possess the minimum qualifications meant for the particular post.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: Advertised for the post.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: May I know, Sir, whether histrionic talent comes within the qualifications, as is evident from a case in Travancore-Cochin State where.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let us not go into argument. The hon. Member may put a question whether histrionic talents are also included, and then let the answer be given.

Dr. Keskar: Histrionic talent is also one of the considerations. I will not be able to say off-hand, but there are jobs where histrionic talents are also required. But I cannot say whether it is in this list.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether all these appointments were made in consultation with the UPSC or whether the UPSC has now advertised for all these posts which are already filled?

Dr. Keskar: The hon. Member has not listened carefully to my reply. The moment the supplementary demand was passed, we went to the UPSC. We had a discussion with them and we explored the possibility whether appointments to these posts could be made within the shortest possible time by the Public Service Commission. They expressed their inability to recruit all these personnel during that short time. They said they would require about 4—6 months, and in view of the fact that within that time the sum that was granted by Parliament would have elapsed, we asked, and they agreed, that a few appointments might be made so that the work might be begun.