

the Scholarships offered by the Federation of British Industries Scholarships; and

(b) if so, what criteria were followed in the matter of this selection?

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

(b) The Selection Committee appointed by the Minister of Education, after interviewing the candidates recommended nine persons to the Federation of British Industries for the final selection of six.

Shri Bahadur Singh: May I know whether there is any Selection Board constituted for making selections?

Dr. M. M. Das: Yes. There is a Selection Board constituted by the hon. Minister of Education.

Shri Bahadur Singh: May I know the nature of the practical training in industries that is imparted to the trainees?

Dr. M. M. Das: The usual training as is received by engineers in the industrial factories of the Britishers.

Shri Bahadur Singh: May I know whether the persons who got training in the previous batches were absorbed by Government or they had to seek jobs on their own account?

Dr. M. M. Das: Those candidates who have been selected had all worked for a period of time in big industrial concerns of this country. But, I cannot say whether they will be employed afterwards. I shall require notice.

EVASION OF INCOME-TAX

*1276. **Shri Ramananda Das:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with a view to avoid paying income-tax and other taxes, many people have been depositing money, gold and jewellery in safe deposit vaults;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any action to find out the actual

value of such money, jewellery and coins in terms of Rupees; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the steps taken to realise income-tax from them?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) Government have heard rumours to that effect.

(b) and (c). No Sir. It is not possible to find out the actual value of such money since at present the Income-tax Officer has no power to enter premises or to carry out search or to require any person maintaining a safe deposit vault to furnish particulars of locker-holders. In a case where definite information comes into the possession of an Income-tax Officer that there is a possible concealment of income, he calls for a statement of total wealth and takes such other action as the law empowers him to take.

Shri Ramananda Das: Is it a fact that Government employees deposit in these safe deposit vaults in order to evade income-tax?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: I want to know whether it is a fact that in order to evade income-tax, certain persons use strange devices such as bringing into existence newspapers and then closing them up soon, as such causing unemployment?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that this question can arise out of this.

Shri Ramananda Das: May I know the total number of safe deposit vaults in the country?

Mr. Speaker: I do not know whether it would be a reasonable question to ask.

Shri T. N. Singh: I want to know whether in these safe deposit vaults even account books and account papers and other confidential papers of businessmen are kept and whether Government have any knowledge of this?

Shri M. C. Shah: Government have no knowledge of that because it has no power to search these vaults.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION

*1277. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government except in a few special cases, generally exclude those of the Christians who are converted from among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from the list of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) if so, what is the Government's policy towards those Christians in the matter of reservation of posts?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The Scheduled Castes have been defined and listed in the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, and the Constitution [Scheduled Castes (Part C States)] Order, 1951. According to these definitions no person who professes a religion different from Hinduism shall be deemed to be a member of Scheduled Castes. The only exception made in the Orders is with regard to members of certain castes resident in Punjab or PEPSU who would be regarded as members of Scheduled Castes whether they profess the Hindu or the Sikh religion.

The position with regard to the Scheduled Tribes which is governed by the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution [Scheduled Tribes (Part C States)] Order, 1951, is different. The definition of Scheduled Tribes in these Orders is irrespective of the religion professed by the members of the Tribes.

(b) There is no reservation of posts for Christians other than those who are members of Scheduled Tribes.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know whether Government have received

any report, complaint or representation from the tribals that they have not been treated as Scheduled Tribes after they have become Christians and that they have been denied all the rights and concessions guaranteed by the Constitution?

Shri Datar: I am not aware of any representations having been received from the Scheduled Tribes.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I enquire whether the Central and State Governments are following the same policy towards the Christians converted from the Scheduled Tribes?

Shri Datar: Sir, the policy is the same.

Shri Madhao Reddi: May I know whether any representation was received from Travancore-Cochin that the untouchables, even after conversion, mostly remain untouchables and that they should not be excluded from the Scheduled Castes?

Shri Datar: That cannot be helped; the President's Order makes it very clear.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: Will the Government be pleased to state what is the total number of Christians today who have been converted from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

Shri Datar: I am not in a position to give the figures just now.

पर्वतारोहण संस्था

*१२७९. श्री भक्त वर्जन : क्या रक्षा मंत्री २३ फरवरी, १९५४ को पूछे गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २६२ के उत्तर में सम्बन्ध में यह बतान की कृपा करें कि दार्जिलिंग में एक पर्वतारोहण संस्था की स्थापना के बारे में क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): Pending the registration of the Constitution of the Institute, an *ad hoc* Board has been set up under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The Board will be