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Shri Tyagi: Wherefrom?

Dr. M. M. Das: In West Bengal.

Shri Tyagi: Well, I have no information.

Shri Nambiar: In view of the fact that a large number of the employees are still to be confirmed, will the Government enquire into the matter and see that these men are confirmed as early as possible?

I have Tyagi: As assured the House, such of them as are deserving of confirmation will soon be

Shri Nambiar: That is very vague, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR-GENERAL

*401. Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the fact that continuation of the offices of Comptroller and Auditor General under one person holding charge of the audit and account Departments at the same time is not considered appropriate Govern-ment have decided to separate the two: and

(b) if so, since when this is likely to take effect?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Separation of accounts from audit is already in force in the case of Defence and Railways. Separation in other spheres is beset with difficulties at present as it involves considerable change in the existing organisation and will entail expansion of staff and extra expenditure.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know how long it will take to achieve this separation?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is a difficult question. An experiment was tried as early as 1931 in one State and it had to be abandoned. The shortage of manpower is a chief obstacle, apart from expenditure. And the incidence of expenditure is also likely to shift from the Centre to the States. It is very difficult to give a categorical answer to this question. The desirability of some sort of separation has been accepted in principle, and for the rest we must wait.

TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS

*402. Shri M. R. Krishna: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state how many technical institutions have been started in the country Statewise between 1950 and 1952?

The Minister of Communications (Shrl Jagjivan Ram): The number of Engineering and Technical Institutions awarding degrees and diplomas and started during 1950 and 1952 was one each in Punjab, U.P., Rajasthan and Saurashtra: 2 each in West Bengal. West Bengal. Bihar and Madras and three in Mysore. Information about institutions awarding certificates is not available.

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know how many persons have so far been trained in these institutions, and how many of them are engineers and engineering scientists?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It is very difficult to give all the details about them. I have not got the information.

सेठ अचल सिहं: क्या मंत्री महोदय बताने की कुग करेंगे कि उत्तर प्रदेश में भी कोई ऐपा इंस्टीटयशन खोला गया है ?

[Seth Achal Singh: Will the hon. Minister please state whether any such institution has been set up in Pradesh also?1

श्री जगजीवन रामः हाँ, मैंने बताया तो कि उत्तर प्रदेश में भी एक खोला गया है।

Shri Jagiivan Ram: As I have said already, one has been opened in Uttar Pradesh also?].

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether all the institutions are of the same standard?

Shri Jagiiyan Ram: Some of them give degrees, some award diplomas. They are not of the same standard.

Shri Barrow: How many of these are State-aided and how many are purely Government institutions?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Some are entirely State-owned; others are owned by private bodies. I am not sure whether State-aid is given to all by Government or not.

CANTONMENT BOARDS

*403. Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) when the elections in the different cantonments of India were last held:

- (b) the steps so far taken for the preparation of electoral rolls on the basis of adult franchise in the various cantonments in India and by which date new Cantonment Boards on the basis of adult franchise are likely to be constituted; and
- (c) the reason for delay in forming new cantonments on the basis of adult franchise?
- The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Elections were last held in 29 Cantonments in 1946 and in the remaining 26 in 1951.
- (b) The Cantonments Electoral Rules, 1945 were amended in April, 1950 so as to provide for the preparation of Electoral Rolls on the basis of adult franchise.

Elections on the basis of adult franchise have already been held in 26 Cantonments. Electoral Rolls have also been prepared on this basis in the remaining 29 Cantonments.

New Cantonment Boards will be constituted shortly.

(c) Elections in 29 Cantonments, which are due, had to be postponed in deference to the general desire of the residents of Cantonments for the revival of the ward system.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the Government had appointed a Committee to take up the revision of the Cantonment Act, and if so, what were the recommendations of that Committee and has the Government any intention to implement the recommendations of that Committee?

Shri Gopalaswami: I have not the information definitely. I should not like to be inaccurate. If the hon. Member will put down a question, I will tell him in what stage that matter is.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Is it the intention of the Government to separate the civil population areas and to bring them under the jurisdiction of the Municipal Act?

Shri Gopalaswami: At present, so far as the Defence Ministry is concerned, there is no such intention.

सेठ अचल सिंह: क्या मंत्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि एलेकटोरल रोलस का काम कब तक समाप्त हो जायगा?

[Seth Achal Singh: Will the hon. Minister please state by when will the work of preparing Electoral Rolls be completed?]

Shri Gopalaswami: It is expected that they will be completed before the end of the year.

CANTONMENT OF NASIRABAD

- *404. Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state.
- (a) what progress has so far been made in the implementation of the water supply scheme in the cantonment of Nasirabad;
- (b) what amount was sanctioned by the Government of India for the purpose; and
- (c) by which date the scheme is likely to materialise?
- The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) and (b). The water supply installation has been completed. A grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,31,000 was sanctioned by Government therefor.
- (c) The scheme is already in operation but the two supply wells of 60 ft. depth provided in the scheme could not be dug deeper than 23 and 40 ft., respectively, due to rocky strata at these levels. As it is the expert opinion that further deepening will not yield additional water, the question as to whether the present yield will meet expected requirements is being examined.

Bidi LICENCES

- *405. Shri N. S. Nair: (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the Central Government introduced A-Class and B-Class licences for Bidi manufacturers and later on withdrew the same in 1951?
- (b) If so, have Government refunded the deposits?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): (a) When an excise on bidis was proposed in the Finance Bill, 1951, and was brought into immediate effect from the 1st March 1951, by a declaration made in the Bill under the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act, 1931, bidi manufacturers were required to take out a licence in Form L-4 under the Central Excise Rules, 1944, on payment of a fee of Rs. 50 per year. Since, however, the tax was introduced in the middle of the year, the smallest class of bidi manufacturers were asked to pay the concessional rate of Rs. 37/8/- for the year 1951.

When the Finance Bill, 1951, was passed into an Act about two months later (i.e., on the 27th April 1951), the excise duty which had been provisionally introduced on bidi was