

(b) the reaction of the Government of India upon this; and

(c) whether the Government of India propose to implement the same?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Government have seen a press report of the Resolution about the Tribal Areas specified in Part B of the Table appended to paragraph 20 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution. They have not received this resolution in any other way.

(b) and (c). The North East Frontier (Assam) Tribal and Excluded Areas Sub-Committee, set up by the Constituent Assembly, recommended that "the Central Government should continue to administer the Frontier Tracts and Tribal Area with the Government of Assam as its agent until administration has been satisfactorily established over a sufficiently wide area. Areas over which administration has been satisfactorily established may be taken over by the Provincial Government with the approval of the Federal Government." In the Constitution, as finally adopted, this general principle was accepted, but the Governor was substituted for the Assam State. The present position is, therefore, that the Governor of Assam, acting on behalf of the President, is responsible for the administration of these areas. The ultimate responsibility is of the Central Government.

These provisions in the Constitution were decided upon after careful consideration because it was thought that these areas required the special attention and assistance of the Central Government. The conditions then prevailing have not changed and are not likely to change for some time to come. Government, therefore, see no reason for making any change in the arrangements laid down in the Constitution.

It is desirable that there should be cooperation between the Governor, acting as the agent of the President, and the Assam Government in regard to the administration of the tribal areas in Assam specified in Part B of the Sixth Schedule. The Governor has been advised to keep in touch with the Assam Government in this respect. But the conditions in these tribal areas are so different and require such special care and treatment, that Government consider it necessary that the administration of these areas should be kept apart and should be under the direct control of the Central Government. The first consideration before Government is the welfare and advancement of the people of these tribal areas.

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WAR INJURIES COMPENSATION INSURANCE FUND

***1692. Shri S. N. Das**: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the Fund to which the amount of outstanding balances under the War Injuries Compensation Insurance Fund which has ceased to function has been transferred;

(b) what are the purposes and scope of the new fund; and

(c) what is the total amount that has been so transferred?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) The War Injuries Compensation Insurance Fund is still functioning. The question of transferring the total amount from this fund to a new fund to be constituted for financing the two schemes formulated, with the amount that is available, is under consideration.

(b) There are two schemes. Under the first scheme, financial assistance will be given to selected skilled workmen for further training in the following subjects with a view to enable them to qualify for promotion as supervisory staff:—

1. Engineering;
2. Wool Technology;
3. Leather Technology, and
4. Chemical Engineering and Technology.

Under the second, a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs will be spent by Central and State Governments for ameliorating the lot of workers by providing libraries and other recreational facilities.

(c) The War Injuries Compensation Insurance Fund has a balance of Rs. 4 lakhs, which will be transferred to the new fund as soon as it is constituted.

COAL PRODUCTION FUND

***1693. Shri S. N. Das**: Will the Minister of Production be pleased to refer to the reply given to my Starred Question No. 882 on the 7th September, 1951 and state:

(a) whether the accounts of Coal Production Fund which has ceased to function have since been finalised;

(b) if so, what is the amount outstanding; and

(c) how is this amount proposed to be spent?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.