

nor do they propose to do so now. In order, however, to avoid hardship to permanent displaced Government servants who superannuate after appointment to a post under the Government of India, it has been proposed that an interim pension should be sanctioned in such cases on a provisional basis. The intention is that the provisional pension should represent a percentage of the full pension which would be admissible to these officers, if account is taken of their entire service including service in Pakistan. Consideration of this proposal has been completed and a decision is likely to be reached and announced very shortly.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are any negotiations still being carried on with Pakistan Government in order to come to a decision about these pensions?

Dr. Katju: Several times.

Sardar Hukam Singh: When was the latest communication addressed?

Dr. Katju: That I could not tell you. No satisfactory solution has yet been reached.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Nothing extraordinary in that, but could I know whether this matter is still being pursued?

Dr. Katju: The matter is being pursued, but how long it will take I really cannot say.

Shri Kelappan: Is the Government meeting its pensionary liabilities in regard to persons who have served here and settled in Pakistan?

Dr. Katju: The point is this, that in cases where provinces were divided, then option was given and liability was taken. But in cases where whole provinces fell either in Pakistan or in India, no liability was taken at all.

Shri Damodara Menon: The hon. Minister said that compensatory pension was being paid to those persons who were employed in Sind and N.W.F.P. by the Government of India. Now, will this be treated as a loan to the Pakistan Government from this Government, because the hon. Minister said that it was a liability of the Pakistan Government to pay the pensions?

Dr. Katju: There is no question of a loan to Pakistan Government. It is being paid or will be paid as a matter of relief. But when the whole question is decided, then the question of allocation will also be discussed.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: On what basis is this compensatory pension fixed?

Dr. Katju: I cannot tell you present. This is a matter under discussion between the Home Ministry and the Finance Ministry and the results would be announced within a very short time.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Where the provinces have been divided, is Pakistan discharging its liability to pay the pensions of those persons?

Dr. Katju: I should like to have notice. It does not arise out of this.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are we discharging our liability towards payment of such pensions to those who have gone over there?

Dr. Katju: I should like to be accurate and, therefore, require notice.

EXTRA DEPARTMENTAL AGENTS

*1724. **Shri Ajit Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned revised rates of pay to extra departmental agents;

(b) how far it has been carried into effect;

(c) whether the revised rate of pay was sanctioned from 1st March, 1948; and

(d) how many extra departmental agents in Orissa in different categories have got the benefit of it?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Government have sanctioned revised rates of allowances to Extra-Departmental Agents. They get no pay being part-time employees.

(b) The orders have been given effect to, except in a few cases in Bihar which are still under examination. In some cases the orders were given effect to from a date after 1st March, 1948. Instructions have been issued for implementing the orders fully before the end of next September.

(c) Yes.

(d) Information has been called for and it will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

Shri Ajit Singh: Is any office rent or contingency allowance given to these office employees?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No office rent is given; some contingency allowance is there.

Shri Dabhi: What are the revised rates?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The revised rates are:

For extra-departmental sub-post-masters and extra-departmental sorters—upto Rs. 40, dearness allowance Rs. 25;

For extra-departmental branch post-masters Rs. 10 to Rs. 25, and dearness allowance Rs. 10;

For extra-departmental Delivery Agents upto Rs. 25, D. A. Rs. 10;

For Extra-departmental stamp vendors upto Rs. 35, D. A. Rs. 10;

For extra-departmental mail carriers and other extra agents upto Rs. 30, dearness allowance Rs. 10.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Has any representation for leave—casual or other—been ever considered by the Government?

Shri Raj Bahadur: As a matter of fact, they are governed by their own rules which are framed by the D.G. of P. and T.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Have the Government any idea to incorporate these into the regular line, Sir?

Shri Raj Bahadur: These agents are taken to give the rural areas a better service on a more economic basis. These people are employed on a part-time basis and this practice obtains almost in all countries.

Shri Nana Das: May I know, Sir, whether any minimum qualifications have been fixed for them, what are their service conditions and whether they are liable to transfer?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I do not think any minimum qualifications have been fixed. But we usually find suitable persons for this work from out of school masters, station masters, retired government officials, shopkeepers and so on and so forth, we take them.

F. A. O.'s PROGRAMME OF SCIENTIFIC PROPAGANDA

*1726. **Shri C. N. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state F.A.O.'s programme of Scientific propaganda and how India is benefited by it?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The F.A.O. organises international Conferences for exchange of scientific knowledge. It issues technical publications containing facts and figures

and scientific information on food, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, nutrition, commodity problems, etc. For the purpose of scientific propaganda it has established Regional Information Centres and the Regional Centre for Southern Asia is located in New Delhi. This centre is publishing two monthly papers, one in English known as 'Memo' and the other in Hindi called 'Patrika' containing agricultural information of interest to member countries. All these benefit Indian scientific and research workers.

Shri C. N. P. Sinha: May I know, Sir, whether there are any scientific experts working in India on behalf of F.A.O. and if so, how many?

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, as I said, there is the Regional Information Centre, but regarding the number of scientific experts actually working in India on behalf of F.A.O., I should like to have notice.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether the benefits under these organisations are derived only by the research scholars or they can be derived by the agriculturists themselves?

Shri Karmarkar: As my friend very obviously knows, in the first instance the expert information is collected by expert scholars and later on it is disseminated to the agriculturists proper by the countries concerned.

IMPHAL TOWN

*1727. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred question No. 682 asked on the 10th June, 1952 and state the exact size of area and population of the Imphal Town?

(b) What is the population of Manipuris and non-Manipuris living within the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Imphal?

(c) Is the water supply (piped water) extended outside the Municipal limits?

(d) If so, what is the number of pipes erected outside the said areas?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) According to the 1951 census the population of Imphal Town is 1,32,947; the area of Imphal Town under the Town Committee is half square mile but of Imphal itself is nine square miles.

(b) Figures showing break-up of population into Manipuris and Non-Manipuris are not yet available.