

Shri G. S. Bharati: What are the main terms of the Agreement?

Shri Satish Chandra: The Agreement is current for five years. Under the Agreement the company will provide, besides expert advice, technicians and supervisory staff for services at Chittaranjan, to be ultimately replaced by Indian technicians, trained in locomotive manufacturing works in Great Britain. We are required to place orders with the company for at least 200 locomotives during these five years.

Shri G. S. Bharati: Is it compulsory to purchase all the locomotives that are contracted for?

Shri Satish Chandra: According to the Agreement, a minimum order of 40 locomotives has to be placed each year.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What types of engines are imported—broad gauge or metre gauge?

Shri Satish Chandra: Both. I think.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it permissible to terminate the Agreement earlier and if so, have the authorities explored the possibilities of an earlier termination?

Shri Satish Chandra: An earlier termination will not be beneficial to us. Our technicians are being trained there and our aim is to manufacture cent. per cent. locomotive parts by 1954.

Shri K. K. Basu: Out of the 180 locomotives contracted for, how many have so far been imported?

Shri Satish Chandra: 27 have already arrived and the delivery of another 100 against our second order will commence this month.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

KHADRALA YOUTH CAMP,
HIMACHAL PRADESH

*1731. **Shri Buchhikotaiah:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state the amount granted by the Central Government to the Khadralla Youth Camp in Himachal Pradesh?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): Nothing whatever.

Shri Buchhikotaiah: May I know whether there has been any request made by the organisers of this youth camp for funds?

Dr. Katju: Not to my knowledge.

FRUIT PRESERVATION

*1732. **Shri Achuthan:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any scheme for the preservation of different varieties of fruits grown in different parts of the country in different seasons for the purpose of internal marketing and for export?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): No, except such fruit preservation as is undertaken by private enterprise.

Shri Achuthan: May I know whether there is any data regarding the total quantity of fruits grown in our country?

Shri Karmarkar: I have no ready information on the point now.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any help is being rendered to these firms?

Shri Karmarkar: All possible help is being rendered.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Have Government any scheme for starting fruit preservation factories of their own?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Have Government any idea of the quantity of fruits wasted by rotting and decaying due to lack of facilities for canning and preservation?

Shri Karmarkar: Notice.

Shri Achuthan: What is the quantity of fruits imported into India?

Shri Karmarkar: Notice.

BURMESE MEDICAL MISSION IN INDIA

*1733. **Shri C. R. Chowdary:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Burmese Medical Mission is touring the country recruiting medical officers for service in the Union of Burma;

(b) if so, whether it is under an agreement at Government level; and

(c) the terms of the agreement?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) A copy of the terms of agreement offered by the Government of Burma to Indian doctors willing to serve in Burma is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 25.]

This has the approval of the Government of India.

Shri C. R. Chowdary: Is it to solve the unemployment problem in India that this recruitment is allowed?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No, Sir. A request came from the Burma Government that because they have a shortage of doctors they would be obliged if the Government of India would allow some Indian doctors who were willing to do so to go to Burma. We agreed.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know if this does not show that there is a large number of doctors unemployed in India?

Mr. Speaker: That is based on inference.

Shri K. K. Basu: The hon. Minister said that the Burma Government wanted these medical men due to the shortage there. Are we to infer from this that there is no shortage of medical men here?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is it a fact that the Burma Government wanted Indian doctors and the Government of India are trying to oblige them?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

BACKWARD CLASSES

*1734. **Shri Achuthan:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether a list has been prepared of all sections, classes and communities coming under the backward classes from all States of India after the Constitution has come into force and if so, what is their total population;

(b) the criterion adopted for determination of the backward classes;

(c) the total population of the backward classes in Travancore-Cochin and what sections or communities come under it and their names; and

(d) whether the Travancore-Cochin Government had been consulted before listing the backward classes of that state and if not, why not?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a), (c) and (d). No comprehensive list of all Backward Classes has been prepared. Scheduled Castes and Schedule Tribes which are

two important constituents of Backward Classes have been notified by the President under articles 341(1) and 342(1), after consultation with the Governors and Rajpramukhs of the States concerned. In connection with the 1951 Census certain State Governments drew up provisional lists of other Backward Classes. The position about these lists is fully explained in the Memorandum dated the 6th December, 1950 prepared by the Registrar General, India on the subject. Copies of this Memorandum are already placed in the Library of the House. As tabulation for the 1951 Census has not yet been completed, population figures are not yet available.

(b) So far as Scheduled Castes are concerned the basic criterion has been that the caste in question should not only be educationally and economically backward but should also be subject to tangible social disabilities based on the custom of untouchability. As regards Scheduled Tribes all the primitive tribes which were considered by the State Government concerned as fit for inclusion in the Schedule were scheduled.

Shri Achuthan: Have the Government any intention of asking the proposed Commission that will be appointed to enquire into the condition of the backward communities in the different States?

Dr. Katju: That will be one of the terms of reference.

Shri Brohmo-Choudhury: Which communities have been classified as backward classes in Assam, and what is their total population?

Dr. Katju: I cannot say straight off.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Are Indian Christians included among backward classes?

Dr. Katju: They will take it as an insult.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether apart from the Scheduled Castes and Tribes there are other backward classes who are getting similar concessions regarding education etc. from Government?

Mr. Speaker: I do not know how it really arises.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The Madras State has a list of backward classes. Will the Central Government also adopt the same list?

Dr. Katju: I shall send for the list and look into it.