

ernment to the workers concerned to the provident fund scheme and provided also that he is not entitled to any gratuity under any other scheme sanctioned by the Government for the same period of service.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** Were any of the strikers victimised?

**Dr. Keskar:** I do not think so.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know, Sir, whether employment has been given to all those people who were served with notice?

**Dr. Keskar:** I have said that quite a number of them have been immediately offered alternative jobs.

**Shri Punnoose:** The hon. Minister stated that a number of demands were put forward by the workers. May I know when these demands were first put forward and what steps were taken by Government to negotiate matters, before taking the whole thing to a crisis—before the strike broke out?

**Dr. Keskar:** I would not be able to give the dates when the demands were put forward or the periods for which the demands were pending. I read out all the demands just now. There were in all five demands.

**Mr. Speaker:** His point seems to be whether action on the demands was delayed by Government which led to the strike. So he wants to know the period. If he has got the information the hon. Minister may give it.

**Dr. Keskar:** I would require notice of that question.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether the grievances which are not yet redressed will be looked into by Government, so as to avoid another crisis or strike?

**Dr. Keskar:** All legitimate grievances will be looked into.

#### PORTUGUESE BANKS

\*232. **Shri Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ordered the closing down of the Portuguese Banks in India; and

(b) if so, how many Banks have been affected?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 22 of the Banking Companies Act, 1949,

served on the Banco Nacional Ultramarino of Bombay, the only Portuguese bank functioning in India, a notice withholding the licence to carry on banking business in India with effect from the 8th September, 1952.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know whether the Government of India had any consultation with the Portuguese Government regarding this matter before closing down this bank?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** Yes, Sir, since 1947 the question was agitated. There were exchange difficulties and the monopoly of the exchange transactions vested with this bank. Therefore, the Indian Consul-General at Goa took up the question with them. At first they wanted to have a branch of the Imperial Bank, which was not however pursued. But another bank asked for permission. That permission was not granted. Negotiations were carried on first through the British Embassy at Lisbon and thereafter through our Legation at Lisbon.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know what steps the Government of India had taken to safeguard the interests of our people who have deposited money in this bank?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** According to our information and on the enquiries made, the Indian nationals do not suffer at all.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know if the Portuguese Government also has taken any action on any Indian bank functioning or proposing to function in Goa and, if so, what is their number?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** There is no Indian bank in Goa. Permission was not granted by them to open a branch, and that is the reason why we had to take action. The Reserve Bank was constrained to take action because there was discriminatory action taken by the Portuguese Government.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** May I know whether it is the policy of the Government not to allow foreign banks to function in India?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** No, no. Under section 22(3) (e) of the Act, if there is any discriminatory action taken by any Government then the Reserve Bank refuses licences.

#### EDUCATION THROUGH RADIO

\*235. **Shri M. E. Krishna:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that educating the rural population through

Radio is more economical than through regular schools; and

(b) if so, whether attempts are being made to provide radios for this purpose?

**The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) No and in any case Radios cannot be a substitute for schools.

(b) This is the concern of the State Governments.

**Shri M. R. Krishna:** May I know whether any attempt has been made to find out easy and economic means to educate the rural population?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Sir, Government is giving all consideration to such problems.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is really a concern of the State Governments.

#### SURVEY OF ROCKS OF BENGAL ALLUVIUM

\*236. **Shri M. R. Krishna:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state what are the results of the survey conducted by the Standard Oil Company in the rocks of Bengal alluvium?

**The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** The data collected during the aero-magnetic survey carried out by the Standard Vacuum Oil Company indicates possibilities of favourable results, but this forms only the first part of an extended investigation and further ground survey work and boring for oil will be necessary before it can be said with authority that anything positive will ensue. The Standard Vacuum Oil Company have submitted proposals for carrying out this work. The matter is under Government's consideration.

**Shri M. R. Krishna:** What were the special reasons that led the Government to leave the survey work to the Standard Oil Company alone?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** It is a highly specialized work. Very few people come forward to undertake such work.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** May I know whether their designs were examined critically by scientific officers of the Government?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** The aero-magnetic survey was carried out by the Standard Vacuum Oil Company,

but after that we have not made any particular survey.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** Is the hon. Minister not aware that all these foreign prospectors hold back all the results not only from the public but also from the Government, and is he not aware that some of the oil companies in America have been prosecuted for withholding very important information from their own Government?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. He is giving information.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** May I know whether any Indian scientist was associated with this survey?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Yes, one of our geophysicists was associated with the survey.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** Is the hon. Minister aware...

**Mr. Speaker:** I may just inform the hon. Member that he might ask for information without making allegations.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** I am asking for information. Is the hon. Minister quite satisfied that the particular officer who was deputed to work with this Company was never allowed into any of their secrets?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Under the agreement all facilities were given to our representative to be associated with the survey.

**Mr. Speaker:** We will go to the next question.

#### SECTION 144 CR.P.C. IN IMPHAL

\*237. **Shri L. J. Singh:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 678 asked on the 10th June 1952 and state why on two occasions—one during the Manipur Exhibition at the time of Shri Himmat Singh, the then Chief Commissioner and another during the Dhanamanjuri College strike in 1952 at the time of Shri E.P. Moon, the former Chief Commissioner, Section 144 Criminal Procedure Code was promulgated in Imphal?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** In March 1951 and in April 1952 prohibitory orders had to be issued to prevent a possible breach of peace in certain areas of Imphal. I am ascertaining from the Chief Commissioner the exact position.