Oral Answers

3 MAY 1955

2804

करने की प्रार्थना की थी, क्योंकि भारत सरकार के विचार से वह बिल जनवरी १६४४, के समफॉर्त के अनुक्ल न था। लंका की पार्लियामेंट के दोनों भवनों द्वारा वद्य बिल अब पास किया जा चुका हैं और गवर्नर जनरल की स्वीकृति के लिए रुका हुआ हैं।

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether the Government of India has expressed that the Ceylon Immigrants Act should not be passed unless and until a register of Indian nationals in Ceylon had been compiled and what replies, if any, have the Government of Ceylon given?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: In our aide memorie to the Government of Ceylon we had suggested that before the register of unregistered adults had been prepared, it would not be proper for them to proceed with this Bill. However, they have gone through the Bill and the Bill has been passed by both Houses of the Ceylon Parliament.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether the compilation of this register of Indian nationals in Ceylon is continued?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The register has not yet been compiled.

Shri Joachim Alva: If worse comes to the worst, has our Government got a clear-cut programme by which we could receive and lodge the stateless persons who will be thrown out of Ceylon?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): No. It is not the responsibility of this Government to look after stateless persons.

Shri Kasiiwal: When this Bill was under discussion in the Ceylon Parliament, certain allegations were made against the conduct of the Indian High Commissioner in Ceylon, saying that he was obstructing the Indo-Ceylon agreement. May I know how far those allegations are true and may I know whether the Government is in a position to contradict those statements made by the Education Minister of Ceylon in the Ceylon Parliament?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The allegations are entirely baseless. Our High Commissioner has given every help and co-operation to the Ceylon Government in this regard.

Shri Thanu Pillai: What happens to the Indian nationals who are deported from Ceylon to India and will they be taken care of by the Government of India?

Shri Jawaharial Nehru: So far as the Indian nationals are concerned, of course such help as we can give is given.

Shri N. M. Lingam: Have the Government of Ceylon called for a conference or have convened a conference of the officials of the Ceylon Government with our High Commissioner's office to discuss this question of stateless persons or rather the registration of Indian nationals and whether our Government has accepted the invitation?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no formal conference so far as we know, but our High Commissioner has been just recently invited to come and have a talk with some of the officials there. He has not been told what the agenda is, and we do not know. Naturally he has accepted and he will go and take part in the talks.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ORGANISATION AND METHODS DIVISION

•2727. Shri S. N. Das: Shrimati Ganga Devi:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1154 on the 21st September, 1954 and state:

(a) whether the working of the Organisation and Methods Division has been reviewed and examined; (c) whether any report on the working of this Division has been prepared or is proposed to be prepared; and

(d) whether, as a result of the setting up of this division, any officer has been rewarded for efficiency or punished for negligence of duties?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (c). A report on the working of the Division for the first year of its existence is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in the Library. See No. S-188/55.]

(d) The control measures introduced in all Ministries and Departments at the instance of the O. & M. Division furnish reliable objective material for gauging the quality of performance by individual officers and staff. This is in its turn reflected in the confidential reports on their work and conduct on which promotions are based. A number of officers whose performance has been shown to be outstanding have received accelerated promotions to the different grades of the Central Secretariat Service. Persons whose performances were not regarded satisfactory have been passed over although at the time of the initial constitution of the Service they had been graded high.

INDO-PAKISTAN PASSPORTS

*2739. Shri R. P. Garg: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for liberalising the existing passport system between India and Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the broad heads under which the system will be liberalised?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). This question was recently discussed in Karachi between our Minister for Rehabilitation and the Pakistan Minister for the Interior, and agreement was reached on the principles to be followed for liberalising the present system. This agreement is subject to ratification. A detailed scheme will be prepared and published for general information after the two Governments have ratified the agreement.

INDIANS IN U.K.

1188. Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indians between the ages of i8 and 26 and ordinarily resident in Britain are required to serve compulsorily in the forces under the provisions of Britain's National Service Act; and

(b) if so, how many Indians are so affected?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlai Nehru): (a) Liability for military service in the United Kingdom is governed by the British National Service Act of 1948 which applies to all Commonwealth citizens (including Indian nationals) between the ages of 18 and 26 resident in the United Kingdom for not less than 2 years.

The Act does not apply to persons residing in the United Kingdom only for the purpose of attending a course of education or where the circumstances of residence in the United Kingdom are otherwise such as to show that the person is residing there for a temporary purpose only. Since Indian nationals in this age group, resident in the United Kingdom for two years or more, consist preponderantly of students and trainees, the number of Indians liable to be called up for military service is extremely limited.

(b) No figures are available.