

Dr. Suresh Chandra: May I know whether the Government propose to have such exchanges with other friendly countries also?

Dr. Katju: If a suitable opportunity offers, it can be made.

GORKHA BATTALION IN TRIVANDRUM

*1220. **Kumari Annie Mascarene:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to reduce the maintenance staff of the Gorkha battalion posted in Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, the number to be reduced?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes.

(b) 19 individuals of the MES staff at Trivandrum are proposed to be reduced during the next four months due to decrease in work.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether there was any suggestion that instead of disbanding them or reducing them for a few months, their salary may be reduced so as to keep them continued in service?

Shri Satish Chandra: The hon. Member wrote a letter and a reply has been sent to her.

Some Hon. Members: The House does not know.

अम्बाला छावनी बोर्ड

* १२२१. **डा० सत्यबाषी:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अम्बाला छावनी बोर्ड के गैर सरकारी सदस्यों ने बोर्ड की बैठकों का बाहिष्कार किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो भगई की विस्तृत बातें क्या हैं; और

(ग) इसे निपटाने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

रक्षा उपमंत्री (श्री सतीश चन्द्र): (क) से (ग). सिविल एरिया कमेटी के सभापति की हैंसियत से उप-प्रधान को निर्णायक-गत दर्जे का अधिकार

प्राप्त है या नहीं, इस विषय को ले कर अम्बाला कैंटोनमेंट बोर्ड के प्रधान और उप-प्रधान के बीच एक विवादग्रस्त प्रश्न उठ खड़ा हुआ, जिसके फलस्वरूप कैंटोनमेंट बोर्ड ने १-१०-५४ को एक प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत किया कि उप-प्रधान को बोर्ड की सदस्यता से हटा दिया जाए। इस पर गैर-सरकारी सदस्यों ने बोर्ड की अगली बैठकों में भाग नहीं लिया। जनरल आफिसर कमांडिंग इन चीफ पश्चिमी कमान ने कैंटोनमेंट्स एक्ट, १९२४ की धारा ५२ के अनुसार प्राप्त अपने अधिकार से इस प्रस्ताव को स्वीकृत करके भगई को समाप्त कर दिया है।

डा० सत्यबाषी : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि सरकार के पास कोई ऐसी शिकायत आई है कि जो एग्जिक्यूटिव आफिसर हैं वह सरकारी और गैर-सरकारी मेम्बरों के भगई को बढ़ाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं और क्या गवर्नमेंट ने इसकी सहकीकात की है ?

श्री सतीश चन्द्र : मेरे पास ऐसी कोई रिपोर्ट नहीं है।

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know, since the passing of the Act which was debated in this Parliament, even today, the Cantonment Boards still have an official majority and that that is one of the grievances in these Boards?

Shri Satish Chandra: The Cantonment Boards do have an official majority. It is the deliberate policy decided upon by the Defence Ministry that in the interests of the special circumstances that obtain in the cantonments which are primarily for the troops, there should be an official majority.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know if in the Civil Area Committees, they have full autonomy

Shri Satish Chandra: In the Civil Area Committees, the Chairman is always a non-official.

COMMISSION ON SANSKRIT EDUCATION

*1224. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether a Commission has been appointed to enquire into the present

state of Sanskrit education in the country and to suggest measures for its improvement?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): No Sir.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Central Government is aware of the fact that so many States are thinking of setting up Sanskrit Universities, and if so, whether the Central Government is going to make any effort to co-ordinate this activity?

Dr. M. M. Das: The Ministry of Education propose to address all the State Governments to report on the arrangements for teaching Sanskrit in their areas and whether they intend to take any steps to improve the present state of Sanskrit education.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the improvement of Sanskrit education is also going to be one of the items for consideration by the University Grants Commission?

Dr. M. M. Das: That depends upon the Universities.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

POLICE OPERATIONS AGAINST MANSINGH

S.N.Q. 3. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the command of the combined police operations against Mansingh and his gang has approached the army authorities of the Eastern Command for assistance;

(b) if so, whether that request has been complied with by the Army authorities;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what assistance has been given by the Eastern Command; and

(d) how far the assistance given by the Eastern Command has proved beneficial in that operation?

The Minister of Defence (Dr. Katju): (a) No.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Do Government consider it safe from the point of view of security of the Eastern Command Zone that an area comprising over 300 square miles should be allowed to be infested by such dacoits

Dr. Katju: This is a matter primarily for the police. They are responsible for internal security, and Government is satisfied that the State Governments concerned—there are four of them, Madhya Bharat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Vindhya Pradesh—are taking all effective steps for overcoming this menace.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Has the Defence Ministry or the Eastern Command authorities received any communication of any nature from any of the four States which the hon. Minister referred to?

Dr. Katju: Requests have been made for the supply of ammunition and equipment, and those requests have been acceded to and complied with.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: When was that request first made? Can the hon. Minister give us any idea of the amount of arms and equipment which have been supplied to the police forces?

Dr. Katju: I think it would not be in the public interest to disclose it. It is a matter of detail.

Shri Joachim Alva: In view of the long and protracted time taken by the police to quell the disorders on that border, do the Ministry of Defence consider that it is high time for them to step in.

Dr. Katju: It is not a question of my stepping in. The police there are about 1,600, and they are doing their best. It is the difficulty of the terrain.

Dr. Suresh Chandra

Mr. Speaker: I do not think we need go into this question now.

I find several Members wishing to catch the eye of the Chair, but they