

Shri S. N. Mishra: In the next Five Year Plan? As to that, I can give only a very tentative overall figure. On our present working, it comes to round about 3 millions.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether it is a fact that after the next Five Year Plan period the jobs that are provided for the people would be just adequate to absorb the new addition to the population?

Shri S. N. Mishra: On the present estimate of the employment potential of the Plan, it would be less.

Salt

*1178. **Shri Bansilal:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the various recommendations contained in the Fifteenth Report of the Estimates Committee relating to the Salt Organisation; and

(b) if so, the action taken to implement the following recommendations:

(i) exploitation of un-utilised bitterns available at Sambhar;

(ii) abolition of salt nominee system; and

(iii) removal of control on transportation, distribution and sale of salt?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Estimates Committee relating to Salt Organisation are still under consideration.

Shri Bansilal: May I know what is the percentage of salt in the salt bitterns available at Sambhar?

Shri Satish Chandra: The chemical composition of the bitterns at Sambhar indicates that the percentage of sodium chloride is about 25.

Shri Bansilal: What is the difficulty in the way of the Government abolishing the nominee system still prevailing in U.P. and other parts of the country?

Shri Satish Chandra: The Central Government have recommended to the State Government that the nominee system should be abolished. There was a conference also in May last, and various State Governments have taken steps to abolish the nominee system. But due to the acute transport position, especially on the metre gauge system, some State Governments have thought fit to maintain some sort of control for the supply of salt at reasonable rates.

Shri Bansilal: May I know whether Government contemplate putting up any industry at Sambhar for utilisation of the salt bitterns?

Shri Satish Chandra: The bittern-salt residue—is really the concern of the State Government. The matter is, however, being considered. As the Estimates Committee have made certain recommendations in this respect the question will be looked into.

All India Radio

*1179. **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindi was made an essential qualification for selecting Assistant Editors (English), News Division, All India Radio;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that more posts were filled than the number advertised?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) The information supplied to the hon. Member that posts of Assistant Editor (English) were advertised or recruited is not correct. The posts advertised were of Assistant News Editors only and they were meant mainly for the Hindi Section.

(b) Hindi news bulletins occupy a prominent and considerable place in the national news bulletins and Assistant News Editors are also required to do considerable work in original Hindi by way of news reporting, news casting, etc. A sound knowledge of Hindi has, therefore, been held essential in respect of a certain proportion of Assistant News Editors.

(c) Originally, only three posts which were vacancies, could be advertised. At the instance of the Departmental Promotion Committee presided over by a member of the Union Public Service Commission, five more posts were reported to the Commission as those who held them temporarily were other incumbents.

Out of the 7 persons recommended by the Commission, the mother tongue of 5 is not Hindi.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether it is a fact that the advertisement was for the purpose of filling vacancies for the News Section (English) and whether it is not a fact that persons who were working in the English Section of All India Radio were also allowed to sit for the examination but afterwards they were asked to take examination in Hindi?