

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Only the percentage I wanted.

GENERAL ELECTIONS

***2133. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of next General Elections has been considered and programme prepared for the same;

(b) if so, the nature of the programme;

(c) whether Lok Sabha will be dissolved before these elections;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) whether there will be any legal or conventional difficulty in doing so?

The Minister of Legal Affairs (Shri Pataskar): (a) No.

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

Shri S. C. Samanta: As Government have declared that the elections are going to take place in the early part of 1957, may I know why these proceedings are not being taken as yet?

Shri Pataskar: That is the Government's intention, but particularly the matter has not been considered.

Shri Kamath: Now that there are, thanks to Government's own bungling and blundering.....

Mr. Speaker: What is all this preamble?

Shri Kamath: Otherwise it would not be understood, I am coming to the question.

There are three B's in their bonnet namely, Bombay, Bengal and Bihar, does Government propose, before preparations for general elections are set afoot, to bow to the popular will, as manifested in the recent by-elections to the Bombay Assembly, and give earnest and serious consideration to the inclusion of Bombay City in Maharashtra, just as they have

bowed to the popular will in the case of the merger or union proposal of Bengal and Bihar?

Mr. Speaker: It does not arise.

Shri Kamath: Elections cannot be held before that.

Mr. Speaker: Elections may take place, but this does not arise.

सेठ गोविंद दास : श्री माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस सवाल की धारा १ के सम्बन्ध में कहा कि इस सम्बन्ध में कोई निर्णय नहीं हुआ है। क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में निर्णय कब तक हो जाने की आशा है और यह निश्चयपूर्वक कब तक कहा जा सकेगा कि चुनाव कब तक होंगे ?

प्रधान मंत्री तथा वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू) : माननीय सदस्य जानते हैं कि कायदे और हमारे विधान के हिसाब से ग्राम चुनाव अगले साल होगा। चुनाव के उसकी पूरी तैयारी, जहाँ तक इलेक्शन कमीशन का सवाल है, वह करते हैं। यह सिलसिला जारी रहता है और उनको बताने की जरूरत नहीं है। उस सिलसिले में अगर कोई दिक्कत आयी है तो वह यह है कि यहाँ एक कानून विचाराधीन है, जिसका नतीजा यह होगा कि नई नई स्टेट्स बनेंगी और फिर उसके बाद डिलिमिटेशन होगा। इसलिए जिस वक्त तक वह कानून यहाँ पूरा नहीं हो जाता उस वक्त तक इलेक्शन कमीशन उस बारे में कुछ कारवाई नहीं कर सकता। और कारवाई तो उसकी जारी है और तैयार है। जैसी कि हिन्दुस्तान में आज कल कांस्टीट्यूएंसीज हैं अगर उनके हिसाब से हम इलेक्शन कमीशन से इलेक्शन करने को कहें तो वे दो महीने में इलेक्शन कर सकते हैं। लेकिन चूँकि कांस्टीट्यूएंसीज में तबदीली होगी इसलिए उनको वक्त चाहिए और वह उस चीज को उस वक्त तक शुरू नहीं कर सकते जब तक कि उनको यह न मालूम हो जाये कि कांस्टीट्यूएंसीज किस तरह से होगी। यह पेश पड़ गया है। लेकिन जहाँ तक गवर्नमेंट का ताल्लुक है, उसका इरादा है कि मार्च में या उसी जमाने में ग्राम चुनाव हो।

Dr. Rama Rao: May I have the answer in English.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I stated that according to the Constitution, general elections have to be held early next

year. So far as the Election Commission is concerned, they are always preparing for the next step. It is their chief business to prepare for elections and they are ready. If we ask them, on the present basis of the constituencies, to have elections they will start work. They will produce a programme and have elections in two or three months from now. So, they are quite ready. The difficulty comes in when the new constituencies will have to be formed because of new States and for other reasons. That, they cannot know till they know what the final decision of Parliament is. As soon as the final decision is known—they have done all the preliminaries and they will be ready for that—they will go ahead. So, an exact date for them to start the work cannot be fixed unless you can fix an exact date for the finalisation of this Bill here in Parliament. So far as the Government are concerned, they are anxious to have the elections as usual in March next.

Shri D. C. Sharma: There is a state of suspense in the country on account of the contradictory statements that have been made. Sometimes it is said that elections will take place in March next and sometimes it is said that they will take place later than March. May I know how long will this state of suspense last and when we shall be able to know and have a definite indication regarding the elections?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member relies too much on rumours and gossip. Nobody can stop the effect of rumours and gossip on the people who give their ears to them.

APPOINTMENT OF NON-INDIANS

***2137. Shri Gadilingana Gowd:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have recently laid down certain conditions for the appointment of non-Indians to services;

(b) if so, what are these conditions; and

(c) whether these conditions are in addition to the general principle to be followed that appointment of non-Indians should be made to posts which require specialised and technical qualifications or experience?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). No new conditions for appointment of Non-Indians have been prescribed recently. The conditions under which such officers are to be appointed have been stated in the late Home Department Office Memorandum No. 20/106/46-Ests. (S), dated the 4th November, 1946, the relevant extracts from which are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XIII, annexure No. 2].

Shri Gadilingana Gowd: The statement laid on the Table of the House with regard to this question relates to the conditions ten years back. I want to know what further steps the Government have taken, after the achievement of Independence, to replace these non-Indians.

Shri Datar: Government are taking steps to replace the non-Indians according to these rules. The rules themselves make it clear. The rules are very beneficial and effective, and therefore, it is not considered necessary to have any changes in these rules.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd: I want to know the number of officers who are non-Indians, that are still continuing from 1946.

Shri Datar: I cannot give the figures for all the years, but I may point out that at present there are 115 non-Indians.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd: May I know the steps taken to replace these non-Indians and the reasons as to why, though ten years have passed after the passing of this order, they are still kept in office?