

P. & T. and Anchal Department

*1016. **Shri Mathew** : Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any disparity in the retiring age prescribed for the pre-1938 entrants to the Posts and Telegraphs Department in British India and for the pre-1938 entrants to the Anchal Department in any of the Indian States which has been taken over by the Union Government; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for this discrimination against the latter?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar) : (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 26].

Shri Mathew : May I know whether there was an agreement entered into between the Travancore-Cochin State Government and the Union Government whereby the employees in the Anchal Department would be given terms not less advantageous than what they had in the Travancore-Cochin State?

Shri Datar : I am not aware of any such agreement having taken place, but I am aware that at an inter-departmental meeting held on the 20th August 1950, the arrangement which is now in force was come to.

Shri Mathew : Has the Minister taken into account these two facts, that according to the Travancore-Cochin Government service regulations, these people would have got full pension, that is, 50 per cent. of their salary, after 25 years' service, whereas according to the rules of service of the Union Government they have to serve for 30 years and even then they would get only three-eighths of their salary as pension?

Shri Datar : We have received some representations on the lines suggested by the hon. Member. Government had already taken the decision in 1950 and now we are examining whether there is any need to modify these rules.

Shri Matthen : In view of the fact that the ex-State employees are denied any promotion even after seven years of integration and their *inter se* seniority has not been fixed, would the Minister please give them the same superannuation period which the P. & T. Department employees are entitled to?

Shri Datar : I am not aware of the assumption that the hon. Member has made that they are denied promotions.

Shri V. P. Nayar : May I know whether the Home Ministry has received representations from the ex-Anchal employees regarding a uniform policy for the categorisation of posts, equating of posts, and also weightage on past service which have been provided for in the Instrument of Accession of the Travancore-Cochin State?

Shri Datar : As I have stated, we have received representations and we are examining them.

Gypsum

*1018. **Shri C. R. Narasimhan** : Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state :

(a) the latest programme for survey and detailed investigation of Gypsum; and

(b) whether there is enough good quality gypsum in the country?

The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K. D. Malaviya) : (a) and (b). A statement showing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 27].

Shri C. R. Narasimhan : In view of the answer to part (b) which states that good quality of gypsum is known to occur in various parts of the country and that the total reserves estimated are roughly 67.1 million tons, may I know whether the Ministry was consulted when the Sindri Fertilisers purchased lakhs worth of gypsum from Pakistan which was announced in the House recently?

Shri K. D. Malaviya : The State Trading Corporation have entered into some agreement with the Pakistan Government for import of gypsum, about 1,50,000 tons. It was because of the quality of the gypsum and also because of certain breakdowns in the production of gypsum in Bikaner. More than that I am unable to say. He may put a separate question to the Production Ministry.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan : What will be the policy of the Government in the case of future needs?

Shri K. D. Malaviya : As stated in the table, we have got a fairly good quantity of good quality gypsum. If there is any demand from the Production Ministry or any other Ministry, we will be able to help them.

Shri Ramchandra Reddi : May I know whether Andhra, especially Nellore, has been included in this programme of detailed survey for gypsum?