

considered seriously before these new safeguards were devised?

**Shri Biswas :** As a matter of fact, loose talk had gone on about this tampering business.

**Shri A. M. Thomas :** Mainly from defeated candidates.

**Shri Biswas :** Actually if the instructions which were given by the Election Commissioner had been followed, there could not be any tampering. It all depends on whether the instructions are carried out or not. For that purpose elaborate safeguards are being taken this year. As a matter of fact, at four centres pilot elections—muk elections if we may call them—are being organised. One has been held at Agra. Another was to have been held yesterday possibly at Bangalore, I do not know the exact place. Others will be held. The Chief electoral officers from the different States will be required to attend these pilot elections. Then these electoral officers will go back to their States and hold rehearsals. After the last dates of nominations are over, these election officers will be required to hold such rehearsals in every constituency, and the polling personnel, not only the polling personnel but the candidates and their representative will be all invited to come and watch how this is done, how the boxes are sealed and so on. To guard against any possible misadventure on their part, all these precautions are being taken.

**Shri Kamath :** Arising out of the Minister's loose talk—I mean the expression used by him—is the Minister . . . . .

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** The question should be very short and precise, and so will be the answer.

**Shri Kamath :** Yes Sir, particularly the answer. Is the Minister sure that in none of the election petitions filed during the last three or four years after the general elections, the allegations of tampering were proved, not even in a single election petition?

**Shri Biswas :** I cannot give that assurance because I do not know how many election petitions were filed in which these questions were raised. So, I am not going to venture an opinion, but . . .

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** That is all, I think.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha :** In answer to part (a) of the question, the hon. Minister said that there was no demonstration before the Election Commission, but does the Minister know that almost all over India, perhaps in all the important newspapers these reports came out, and whether the Government

reports to issue contradictions of these reports, so that public opinion may not be created otherwise?

**Shri Biswas :** I do not know whether contradictions were issued on these questions, but what I do know is this that every effort is being made with the co-operation of the parties, the prospective candidates and their prospective agents, to make sure that there is no tampering at all or no breakage of these ballot boxes and so forth.

**Shri Tek Chand :** Was a single allegation as to the defective mechanism of the ballot boxes ever found to be well founded?

**Shri Biswas :** No, Sir.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy :** With a view to help the voters to choose the candidates of their choice, will the Government or the Election Commission consider fixing the photos of candidates on the respective boxes?

**Shri Biswas :** No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

**Shri Kamath :** Is the hon. Minister in a position to assure the House that the safeguards referred to in part (c) of the question that have been now devised will make these boxes, to use the expression of his predecessor Dr. Ambedkar, fool-proof and knave-proof, not merely tamper-proof?

**Shri Tek Chand :** But not allegation-proof.

**Shri Biswas :** They have already fool-proof, knave-proof and proof against anything.

**Dr. Rama Rao :** In the pilot elections or the so-called rehearsals, is the Government inviting political parties also?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** That has been said.

#### Houses for Scheduled Castes/Tribes in Kerala

\*764. **Shri L. Eacharan :** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided to Kerala State as grants for building of houses for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during 1956;

(b) whether the grant will be given in a lump sum or by instalments; and

(c) what percentage of money spent in building of houses will be Central Government's share?

**The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs ( Shri Datar ) :** (a) and (c). A grant of Rs. 35,750/- has been given to the erstwhile Travancore-Cochin Government on 50:50 basis for the construction of Houses for Scheduled Tribes. It is proposed to give a further grant of Rs. 45,000/- for this purpose under the Centrally Sponsored programme which will be entirely financed by the Centre.

No housing scheme for Scheduled Castes for the current financial year has so far been received from the State Government.

(b) The grants will be paid in two instalments. The first instalment in respect of the State Plan has already been paid with the issue of sanction.

**Shri I. Eacharan :** May I know the terms and conditions to be satisfied for the giving of this grant?

**Shri Datar :** The conditions are that the schemes have to be approved by the Central Government, and fifty per cent of the charges are to be borne by the State Government.

**Shri Velayudhan :** May I know whether the plans for the houses are given by Government or the houses can be built by the allottees themselves according to their own plans?

**Shri Datar :** There are a number of plans. Model plans have been prepared and supplied to the State Governments.

**Shri Punnoose :** It was stated that a certain amount was allotted for the Travancore-Cochin State during the last year. Was that amount paid? May I also know how many houses were constructed? Has the Minister got any report about it?

**Shri Datar :** I am not in a position to give that information at present.

**Shri Velayudhan :** May I know the amount that has lapsed in respect of the housing grants for these communities during the last year, and whether that amount is being carried over to the current year?

**Shri Datar :** I am not aware whether any amount had lapsed at all, so far as Madras Government were concerned.

**Shri I. Eacharan :** May I know the approximate cost of each house?

**Shri Datar :** It may be either Rs. 250, or Rs. 500, or Rs. 750 or Rs. 1000.

### चोर की सूचना देने वाली घंटी

\*७६६. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या प्राकृतिक संसाधन और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इलाहाबाद के जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर नामक व्यक्ति ने चोर की सूचना देने वाली एक घंटी का आविष्कार किया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां. तो इस आविष्कार की क्या उपयोगिता है ?

**प्राकृतिक संसाधन मंत्री (श्री के० दे० मालवीय) :** (क) जी हां ।

(ख) रिपोर्ट है कि यह आविष्कार चोरों से रक्षा करने के लिये लाभदायक सिद्ध होगा ।

**Shri Punnoose :** It is a very important question. May we have the answer in English?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** Yes.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is reported that the invention will prove useful for safety against burglars.

**Shri Tek Chand :** May I know whether this burglar alarm is an alarm for the burglar or for the householders?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** Perhaps, for both.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya :** It is reported that it is an alarm for both.

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आपके विभाग ने इस नये आविष्कार को ऐगजामिन (परीक्षण) किया है और यदि हां तो इसको कहाँ तक यूजफुल (लाभदायक) पाया है और इस घंटी की कोस्ट क्या होगी ?

**श्री के० दे० मालवीय :** हमारे विभाग को इसकी सूचना नहीं है । इस घंटी का श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर ने अपनी व्यक्तिगत हैसियत से आविष्कार किया है और इस प्रश्न के पूछने के बाद यह जानकारी हासिल की गई थी जो मैं ने सभा पटल पर रख दी ।