

Shri Kamath: The question arises now, in view of the elections. With a view to facilitate the early holding of elections, it was decided that delimitation would be finalised very soon and published also very soon. But it has been postponed from November to the end of December—I mean the gazetting of the Order. Is it a fact that in some States where the Delimitation Order has been completed only the Congress Party has been able to secure copies of the Orders in those States, while other parties have been kept in the dark?

Shri Pataskar: The insinuation is unjustified. The fact is that the delimitation is just nearing completion and it is expected that within about a fortnight, all this will be put forth in the gazette itself. I do not know what more can be said.

Shri Kamath: Do Government think it is fair to all parties concerned that there should be a time-lag of only two months between the date when the final Delimitation Order is published and the first polling day? That is what it comes to.

Shri Pataskar: All these things will be taken into account when the final notification is issued.

Shri Kamath: Is it fair to all? There is too much of delay.

Shri Pataskar: I do not understand what is unfair in this.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister says that this matter will also be considered before a final notification is issued regarding the fixation of a final date.

Shri Kamath: Has the Government recommended it?

Shri Sadhan Gupta: The hon. Minister stated that the Lok Sabha will not be dissolved before the general elections. He has also stated that the general elections would be between 28th February and 14th March. There was an item in the newspapers that the last part of the general elections in Himachal Pradesh will be held in May. May I know whether that report is correct and, if so, whether the Lok Sabha will be dissolved before that time or after that time?

Shri Pataskar: In reply to part (c) of the question: whether the Lok Sabha will be dissolved before the next General Elections, I have replied "no".

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Does the answer refer to 14th March or May when the last part of the General Elections will be completed in the snow-bound areas of Himachal Pradesh?

Shri Pataskar: Is the hon. Member referring to Himachal Pradesh?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Pataskar: I have no information about that.

Shri V. G. Deshpande: Our question is, in view of the fact that there will be very small time left between the publication of the Delimitation Order and the holding of the elections, is it fact that Congress Party has been supplied with the Delimitation Order by the Election Commission?

Some Hon. Members: No. No.

Shri Pataskar: I repudiate it.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Election Commission has sent its recommendation regarding the time-table of the election to the President and the State Governments and if so, whether some of the State Governments' consent has been received so far?

Shri Pataskar: I have already stated that it is for the Election Commission to recommend to the President and the Governors of States the actual dates for the issue of official notifications; the Government does not come in.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I want to know whether that recommendation has been sent.

Shri Pataskar: Not, to my knowledge.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: A very serious allegation has been levelled against the Government by Mr. Kamath; that has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: It has been answered. The question Hour is over.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Cracker Explosion in Delhi

S.N.Q. 2. { **Shri Kajrolkar:**
Shri Gidwani:
Shri Bhe: 111
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri M. C. Agarwal:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a cracker explosion at Ramlika Grounds at the time of Civic Reception to the Prime Minister of China on the 30th November, 1956;

(b) if so, the number of persons injured; and

(c) whether any arrests have so far been made?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) Yes.

(b) Six persons were arrested as a result of the crackings.

(c) Some arrests have been made in the course of the investigation, which is still proceeding.

Shri Gadgil: May I know from the Home Minister the nature of the cracker-crackers, whether they were crackers or something more serious?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I am told that it was a cracker and not a bomb; a bomb has a mineral container and this did not have any such mineral container.

Shri Kajrolkar: May I know if the services of any police officer from Bombay State have been secured for the investigation?

Pandit G. B. Pant: So far it has not been considered necessary.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether in view of the frequency of these explosions, the Government has tightened up the supervision by the police in the routine as well as in some special way?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The Government is fully aware of the situation and also of its responsibility.

Shri Bansal: May I know if as a result of the police not being able to apprehend the people who are supposed to be responsible for frequent throwing of bombs, there has been recently a shake up in the police hierarchy and if it is connected with this incident that has taken place?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Some supervisory staff has been replaced and some action has also been taken in the lower ranks. But, it is not absolutely necessary to connect it with this or the serious of incidents.

Shri Joachim Alva: While wholly appreciating the Government's alertness and promptitude in dealing with this matter.....

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri Joachim Alva: ...do Government realise that these acts are rehearsals of something dangerous that is yet to come?

Pandit G. B. Pant: They are in no way desirable, but are disagreeable and very dangerous too.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any foreign national was arrested in this connection?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Well, perhaps yes.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the persons who have been arrested in this and other bomb and cracker explosions in Delhi and other parts of India are having any political connection?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The matter is under investigation.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether Government have yet found any motive behind the throw of crackers at the meeting and if so whether the motive is a political motive?

Mr. Speaker: That has been answered just now. The matter is under investigation.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: I want to know whether this incident has been traced back to some sort of imperialistic machination?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I think not.

Shri Kamath: Does the comparative examination of various crackers or bombs that have been thrown in and around this area in recent months disclose or show the operation of a common gang or one plan or mind behind these incidents?

Pandit G. B. Pant: So far as crackers are concerned, they are also sometimes used by innocent people. There were occasions when some crackers exploded and when the police made enquiries, they found that there was no evil design behind them. But, when the persons who are responsible for such explosions are not traced, it is difficult to define their motive. But Government hopes that with the co-operation of all and with the labours of the police, we may be able to reach some definite conclusions later.

Shri Gadgil: Is it not a fact that such disclosure in this House often hampers the police enquiry itself?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I should think that hon. Members of this House are fully seized of that aspect of the problem.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member himself wanted to know whether it was a cracker or a bomb.

Workers Retrenchment Compensation

S.N.Q. 3. { **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:**
Shri Gadgil:
Shri K. P. Tripathi:
Shri N. Shreekanth Nair:

Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court Judgment delivered on the 26th November, 1956 in the case of Shree Dinesh