

Indian Administrative System

133 Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether over-centralization was one of the failings of the Indian administrative system, as reported in the *Hindustan Times*, dated the 6th March, 1967, and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs: (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) and (b) The Administrative Reforms Commission appointed to examine the public administration of the country is also likely to go into this problem. Such recommendations as may be made by the Commission in this behalf will be given due consideration by the Government.

Unemployment Insurance Scheme

134 Shri Yashpal Singh
Shri D. C. Sharma.

Will the Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation be pleased to state

(a) whether any final decision has been taken to introduce Unemployment Insurance scheme for persons who are employed but may lose employment, and

(b) if not, when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation: (Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi)

(a) No

(b) The matter is proposed to be placed before the Standing Labour Committee at its next meeting scheduled to be held on the 25th April 1967.

Special Status for Hill Areas of Assam

135 Shri Sezhiyan:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have decided to establish a federal type

of Government in Assam whereunder Assam Hills would be given special status, and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

The Minister of Home Affairs: (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) and (b) A statement on the question of reorganisation of State of Assam was issued on the 13th January 1967. A copy of that statement is attached.

STATEMENT

On the conclusion of discussions by the Prime Minister and the Home Minister with the leaders of the All Party Hill Leaders Conference, the Union Home Ministry has issued the following statement today.

The Prime Minister and the Home Minister have held detailed discussions with the leaders of the APHLC. The Government of India appreciate the political aspirations of the people of the Hill areas of Assam and have decided to reorganise the State of Assam.

Bearing in mind the geography and the imperative needs of security and coordinated development of this region as a whole the Home Minister discussed with the APHLC leaders the proposal that a federal structure, composed of federating units having equal status, not subordinate to one another, should provide the basis for this reorganisation. Under this arrangement a limited number of essential subjects of common interest would be assigned to the regional federation leaving the rest of the State functions to the federating units which will have their own legislative assemblies, councils of Ministers etc. Details of the scheme, including the subjects to be allocated to the regional federation, would be worked out within six months by a committee on which all concerned interests would be represented. At a later stage, other administrative units in the eastern region may also join this regional federation.