

time to time. Government are issuing instructions to the Administration that this is not a desirable practice and should be stopped.

(c) and (d). A member of the Vigilance Committee had, at a meeting with the Central Vigilance Commissioner, made some general allegation regarding misuse of Government labour. He was asked to bring specific cases to the notice of the Administration.

(e) Government have no information in this regard.

Development of Nicobarese Language

2455. Shri K. R. Ganesh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to develop the Nicobarese language, spoken by the Nicobarese tribal population of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands to enable it to become the medium of education in the Nicobar Group of Islands;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) if not, whether it is desirable to deny to the Nicobarese facilities granted to other Indian nationals in the matter of their regional languages as vehicles of their education, culture and administration?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education (Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad): (a) and (b). Nicobarese is only a dialect. It had no script of its own. Government propose to help to develop this dialect in Devanagari script.

(c) Does not arise.

Industrial Workers in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

2456. Shri K. R. Ganesh: Will the Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial workers in the Andaman and Nicobar

Islands who have been made permanent industry-wise and the total number of workers working in these industries;

(b) the number of temporary and casual workers who have put in more than one year and more than three years of service industry-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal to make all the workers who have put in more than one year service permanent; and

(d) whether the Chief Labour Commissioner, during his last visit to the Islands advised the Andaman Administration to make all workers who have put in one year's service permanent?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House as soon as available.

Government House, Ross Island, Andamans

2457. Shri K. R. Ganesh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an order of Government prohibiting the dismantling of the old Government House at Ross Island in the Andaman and Nicobar;

(b) whether Government are aware that during April, 1967 valuable timber from this building was removed by some individuals; and

(c) if so, the authority which has given permission and the use made of the timber?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Andaman and Nicobar Administration have authorised removal of building material which is getting damaged by exposure to sun and rain from Government