

(c) whether the offices at Mandapam and Trichinapalli have been abolished; and

(d) if so, what were the reasons?

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) and (b). The Government of India have agreed to the Government of Ceylon's opening a new Office in Madras for Information and Passport purposes. The office is likely to be opened in December.

(c) and (d). No such proposal has been received. It is unlikely that the Ceylon Government will wish to close either of their offices at Mandapam and Tirchirapalli, the new name of Trichinopoly.

**Shri Muniswamy:** May I know whether the question of issuing visas is purely at the discretion of that Government or whether our Government have got any say in that matter?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** It is at the discretion of the Government that issue visas. No other Government has any say in the matter—they may be consulted.

**Shri Muniswamy:** May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that some of the boat workers in the Madras State have been refused visas whereas they were getting visas for the past so many years?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I cannot say whether Government as such have got information; possibly they may have; I have no recollection of it.

**Shri Muniswamy:** In view of the fact that these boat men, who take goods from Cuddalore to Tuticorin and Ceylon are put to a lot of troubles, may I know whether our Government have got any intention to interfere in this matter and give all possible help to these boat men?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Whenever such a question arises, it is taken up by our High Commissioner. The House will remember that we are dealing with an independent Government. We

deal with them in a friendly way and get relief; sometimes we do not get relief.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Question-hour is over.

**Shri Muniswamy:** We have five minutes more, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** Whatever it may be,

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### REGISTER OF TECHNICAL PERSONNEL

\*357. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to para 125, page 59 of the Fifth Report of the Estimates Committee (1951-52) and state:

(a) whether the Register of expert engineers and technical persons referred to therein has been prepared; and

(b) if not, what has been the cause of delay?

**The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** (a) The Register is under compilation.

(b) Complete information from the State Governments has not yet been received.

### NATIONAL BUILDING ORGANISATION

\*358. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Building Organisation has been set up; and

(b) if so, what is its constitution and structure?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) and (b). The proposal to set up a National Buildings Organisation has been accepted by Government; and preparatory work towards its establishment as a full-fledged organisation, is in hand.