

**Shri Hathi:** Generally, when power is sold in bulk, it is definitely at a cheaper rate and there will be some margin which the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation can have for them. The tariff will be according to the rates prescribed by the West Bengal Government.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Is it contemplated that the price of electricity will come down in Calcutta after this,—according to your calculations?

**Shri Hathi:** I am not in a position to reply to that. That will lie with the West Bengal Government.

#### SALT

**\*494. Shri Raghavaiah:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the steps Government propose to take to encourage the salt industry in the Andhra State?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey):** No special measures or steps are considered necessary for increasing the production of Salt in the Andhra State as there is already surplus production. In order, however, to improve the quality of the salt manufactured, Government have decided to set up a test laboratory at Kakinada to facilitate the rapid analysis of salt for the guidance of the manufacturers. The setting up of some more test laboratories is under consideration.

**Shri Raghavaiah:** May I know, Sir, whether the Government propose to start research laboratories, salt refineries and model farms in Andhra State?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** Yes, Sir. The Salt Cess Bill was passed by Parliament and some provision is made there for development activities in the field of the salt industry. When those schemes are taken up, Andhra State also will have a share.

**Shri Raghavaiah:** What is the number of salt refineries and salt research laboratories and model farms that are going to be started in Andhra State?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** At present, Kakinada is selected. Regarding other places, just now I am not in a position to give the information.

**Shri Nanadas rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

#### N.E.F.A. ADMINISTRATION

**\*495. Shri L. Jogeswar Singh:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government propose to introduce shortly a special cadre of service for the North East Frontier Agency?

(b) if so, what are the criteria for the selection of candidates for these posts?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) The question of the formation of a special cadre for the North-East Frontier Agency has been under consideration. Before coming to a final decision, it has been decided to recruit a certain number of Political Officers and Assistant Political Officers and watch this experiment for about a year or so. Such recruitment was also made necessary because of the need arising from the extension of administration.

(b) Qualities of initiative, imagination, resourcefulness and a broad sympathy with and understanding of the tribal people and their customs are considered essential for officers holding posts in the North-East Frontier Agency. The officers are also expected to be mentally and physically fit for service in extremely difficult conditions.

**Shri L. Jogeswar Singh:** May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that only military officers are eligible for these posts and civilian officers are totally excluded?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** No, Sir. When we decided to recruit a number of new officers, applications were invited from officers in the NEF area in the State of Assam and in the All-India Services such as the IAS, IPS.