

**LOK SABHA**

Wednesday, 21st November, 1956

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock  
(Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair)

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**Demarcation of Boundaries in Punjab**

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\*244. { **Shri Bansal :**  
          { **Shri Ram Krishan :**

\* Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken to demarcate the boundaries of the two regions of the Punjab consequent upon the amendment of the Constitution, providing for, *inter alia*, the formation of two regions in that State?

**The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar) :** A conference was convened by the Minister of Home Affairs recently of the Chief Ministers of the former States of Punjab and PEPSU and representatives of other interests concerned, to discuss this matter. The conference appointed a Committee of six to go into the question. The Committee has since submitted its report. The matter is under consideration.

**Shri Bansal :** Inasmuch as delimitation of constituencies is going on at present how long will Government take to decide this question of demarcation of boundaries between the two regions?

**Shri Datar :** Government will not take long, it will come to a decision as early as possible.

**Shri Bansal :** In the report, what is the suggestion of the committee as to what should be the ultimate unit which will be taken in to account for demarcating the boundaries, namely, whether it will be the village, the *thana* or the *tehsil* or the district?

**Shri Datar :** The report has dealt with this question, but it will be premature to discuss this or to disclose it at this stage.

**Shri Heda :** Are Government aware of the fact that because of the delay of this work, not only the delimitation of Punjab but the delimitation in other States like Andhra Pradesh is also being delayed; and if so, may I know what steps Government are taking?

**Shri Datar :** This matter relates to Punjab, and attempts are being made to come to a decision as early as possible. So far as the other States are concerned, I am not aware of what the hon. Member has stated.

**Shri Bansal :** Is the hon. Minister aware that the Delimitation Commission cannot issue the final delimitation until the delimitation in respect of all the States is ready? And that is what Mr. Heda tried to point out, that inasmuch as the Punjab delimitation is being delayed on account of this demarcation, the Commission cannot publish the delimitation of constituencies order in any other State.

**Shri Datar :** Government will take this matter into consideration in coming to a decision on the Punjab question.

**Shri B.S. Murthy :** May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that the different States are not able to come to an agreement because they do not know whether to take a village or a *tehsil* as the unit of compromise? Therefore is it not better that the Centre fixes either the village or the *tehsil*, as the unit, so that the agreement will be easier?

**Shri Datar :** May I point out that this relates to the Punjab only where these two regions are to be established? It does not relate to other States as such. But Government are taking a decision as early as possible on what the hon. Member had just suggested.

**Sardar Hukam Singh :** It has been suggested that the Delimitation Commission shall announce its decision so far as all States are concerned simultaneously and at one time. Therefore, the demarcation of one region would affect the delimitation of other States as well. It is therefore necessary that the delimitation of Punjab also should be expedited, as the delimitation of other States has to be done. In the circumstances, does the Government realise the desirability of coming to an early decision, because the Delimitation Commission has expressed that

it would not wait further now for the announcement of the decision — and if their decision is announced, and afterwards this announcement is made about the demarcation of the regions, that might adversely affect the hopes that had arisen in these two regions?

**Shri Datar:** Government are fully aware of the need to come to an early decision on this question.

#### Steamer Service to Laccadive Islands

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\*246. { **Shri Nettur P. Damodaran:**  
      **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 533 on the 31st July, 1956 and state:

(a) whether the arrangements for running of a direct steamer service between the mainland and the Laccadive Islands have since been finalised;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) when the service is likely to be started; and

(d) what will be the frequency of the same?

**The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) Not yet.

(b) The offer received from one Shipping Company is still under consideration.

(c) As soon as the negotiations are finalised.

(d) It is proposed to charter a vessel for 11 days in a month, for a round journey of the Islands during fair season of 8 months in a year (i.e., October to May).

**Shri Nettur P. Damodaran:** In view of the backwardness of the Islands which have now come under the Central control, and the growing demand for a steamer service connecting the mainland and the Islands of Laccadive and Aminidivi, will Government see that the steamer service is started with the least amount of delay?

**Shri Datar:** Yes, Government are aware of this and are anxious to start it as early as possible.

**Shri Nettur P. Damodaran:** Which are the Islands that will be served by the proposed steamer service?

**Shri Datar:** All the ten Islands will be served — there are, in all, nineteen Islands of which ten are inhabited — and the idea is to take it every month to all these Islands.

#### Backward Classes Evaluation Organisation

\*247. { **Shri Gidwani:**  
      **Shri M. R. Krishna:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India propose to set up a Central Evaluation Organisation to audit the achievements in the work or the advancement of Backward Classes;

(b) what will be the nature of the organisation; and

(c) what will be its functions?

**The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 16].

**Shri Gidwani:** In the statement it is stated that the organisation will consist of one Officer on Special Duty at headquarters and sixteen Assistant Commissioners as field officers at the rate of one officer on an average for each State, including the seven Regional Assistant Commissioners. May I know what will be the annual expenditure in this set-up?

**Shri Datar:** That is being worked out now.

**Shri Gidwani:** In the statement it is also said that the principal functions of the organisation will be to report to the Ministry of Home Affairs on the adequacy of the resources and personnel deployed on the various schemes by State Governments. May I know whether all the States have agreed to implement the scheme and co-operate fully?

**Shri Datar:** This scheme has to be carried on in co-ordination with the State Governments, and we are making grants to the State Governments. Therefore, they are inclined to have the scheme implemented, because it would be of use to them as well.

**Shri Gidwani:** In the statement it is further stated that in respect of schemes which involve public co-operation, it will be the function of the organisation to ensure that such co-operation is forthcoming in adequate measure. May I know whether Government have laid down any basis for such co-operation—any scheme or any method?

**Shri Datar:** That is what the Government are doing in consultation with the State Governments. A number of schemes are to be carried on by State