

### State Associated Banks in Kerala

1389. **Shri Warier:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any representation from the All Kerala Bank Employees Union regarding the question of the merger of the three State Associated Banks of the Kerala Government with the State Bank of India; and

(b) if so, what steps Government contemplate to take in the matter?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Yes, Sir, but the Union have suggested that the merger of the Travancore Bank Ltd. with the State Bank of India should be effected as soon as possible, and that the Indo-Mercantile Bank Ltd., Cochin and the Central Banking Corporation of Travancore Ltd., Alleppey, should be reorganised suitably. The merger of the Indo-Mercantile Bank with the other State-associated banks in the State or, in the alternative, with the State Bank of India has also been proposed.

(b) The amalgamation of the Travancore Bank Ltd. with the State Bank of India has been suggested by the Rural Credit Survey Committee and is under examination along with the other recommendations of this Committee. As regards the other two banks, it will be open to the State Bank of India to consider, in terms of Section 35 of the State Bank of India Act, whether it can take over their business but the initiative in the matter rests with the management of the two banks themselves.

### Cannanore Military Cantonment

1390. **Shri Jinachandran:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to abolish the Military Cantonment in Cannanore, Kerala;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Defence Department had a proposal to erect sea walls in the Cantonment area in Cannanore to prevent sea erosion; and

(d) if so, whether this proposal has been shelved now?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). It is a fact that some time ago a Board of officers convened by the Military Engineering Service had examined the problem of sea erosion at Cannanore on the spot and submitted schemes for checking it. The Central Water and Power Commission, however, considered that before they could advise on the adoption of these schemes it would be necessary to conduct a model test at the Central Water and Power Research Station at Poona. The proposal for conducting such a test has recently been approved. Depending on the results of the test which would be known in about six months, the question of taking further steps would be considered.

### Re-employment of Released Officers

1391. **Shri M. C. Jain:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether 45 years is the lower age limit prescribed for re-employment of released non-regular officers;

(b) if so, whether that is the reason for their being considered ineligible for Regular Permanent Commission;

(c) whether any released non-regular officers have been granted Short Service Commissions in the Regular Army (as distinct from the Territorial Army and the N.C.C.) for employment with the N.C.C.; and

(d) if so, how many of them were below the age of 45 years at the time of re-employment?