

were confirmed earlier. Had the Inspectors continued in the Bombay Collectorate, their position would not have been different. The rules of confirmation and seniority are uniform for all Collectorates of Central Excise and do not differ from one Collectorate to another.

(b) Before the year 1949, the seniority of persons working in a grade was determined according to date of confirmation in the grade. After the Partition, a number of displaced persons found employment in various Departments of the Central Government. As many of them had rendered long service under the Provincial Governments, local bodies etc., in Pakistan, it was decided in 1949, by the Ministry of Home Affairs that to mitigate hardship to the displaced persons the seniority of all persons working in a grade except those confirmed before 1-1-44 in that grade, should be determined according to continuous service in that grade or in an equivalent grade. Now that the conditions have returned to normalcy, it was decided in 1958 to revert to the old procedure of determining seniority on the basis of date of confirmation. This is a well established principle and cannot be revised.

(c) Representations received from the Inspectors of Mysore Collectorate in this behalf were rejected.

Copper Deposits

1689. **Shri P. E. Ramakrishnan:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of copper resources of the country so far estimated;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps during 1957-58 to increase the indigenous production of copper; and

(c) if so, what is the actual increase?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The total ore reserves proved so far are of the order of 3.37 million tons.

(b) and (c). The Geological Survey of India is now busy in carrying out intensive survey in the copper belts of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Andhra with some encouraging results. The Indian Bureau of Mines is also carrying out detailed investigations at Khetri and Daribo with a view to find out the economic workability of these deposits. However, these endeavours have not yet reached the production stage.

Officers under the Manipur Administration

1690. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that officers on deputation from other States enjoy much higher pay and allowances in Manipur than the local officers; and

(b) if so, whether he would lay on the Table a statement containing particulars of such officers with the rate of pay and allowances given to them per month as compared with the pay and allowances given to officers of the same rank and status under the Manipur Administration?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):

(a) It is a fact that the pay and allowances of officers sent on deputation to Manipur from other States are generally different from those admissible to officers belonging to the local services. In the former case, the officers normally draw the pay to which they are entitled from time to time in the parent service, and in addition, a deputation special pay according to the prescribed rate.

(b) In view of the position stated under (a) above and also because the services of officers from other States are obtained on deputation only when the posts in question cannot be filled by persons belonging to the local services, the drawing up of a comparative statement on the lines desired will not be feasible, or strictly correct.