

to see that undue advantage is not taken of a person's being in Government service to get a more than usual share of broadcasting income. Employees of All India Radio are not entitled to any fees.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of what the hon. Parliamentary Secretary has said about government servants, may I know why it is that government servants and even the State transport motor workers who are radio artistes are paid a sum that does not exceed Rs 25 per contract, and there is this invidious distinction maintained between government servants and the rest of the artistes?

Mr. Speaker: I thought the hon. Member was going to ask why they are paid at all.

Shri Hem Barua: No, Sir; why should I?

Shri A. C. Joshi: Government servants being whole-time servants are not expected to look for other sources of revenue or income which may divert them from their duties. Also, government servants may be often in a position to undertake the work by virtue of their duties.

Shri Hem Barua: How is it, may I know?

Shri Ansar Harvani: Who decides the categories of talkers and broadcasters in the matter of payment?

Shri A. C. Joshi: The All India Radio.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Have you got a screening committee to decide their status in the matter of payment, or is it left to the sweet will of the directors of the All India Radio?

Shri A. C. Joshi: There is a committee of non-officials also to decide and to categorise the musicians, both in classical music and others.

Shri Ansar Harvani: I am talking of talkers and not of musicians.

Shri A. C. Joshi: The All India Radio Station Directors decide that

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether broadcasting fees vary from station to station, and whereas a broadcaster broadcasting from Delhi Station gets Rs 50, he gets only Rs 20 for doing the same thing from Gauhati?

Shri A. C. Joshi: I do not think so.

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, he has not answered my question.

Mr. Speaker: He says that he does not think so.

Shri Hem Barua: I am saying this from my personal experience.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member says that he is speaking from his own experience. The hon. Parliamentary Secretary will kindly make enquiries.

Shri Nath Pai: He is a victim of discrimination.

Tea Trade Delegation

*1257. **Shri Kumaran:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to send a tea trade delegation to the United States and other foreign countries to establish contact with trade interests there?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): There is no such proposal at present.

Shri Kumaran: May I invite the attention of the hon. Minister to an article in the *Journal of Industry and Trade*, which has suggested that if such a delegation is sent to the United States, it will be of help in improving our tea trade in USA and other countries, and may I know whether the Government will consider this suggestion?

Shri Satish Chandra: There has been no decline in tea trade as I said a few minutes ago, and in fact, our exports have increased. A delegation is being sponsored by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry to the United States of America in which the tea industry is also represented.

Central Aid to Kerala

*1248. **Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to press report stating that M.Ps. from Kerala have alleged that Central aid to the Kerala State was being misused;

(b) if so, whether Government has enquired into the allegations; and

(c) if so, the facts in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) to (c). No specific complaints regarding the misuse of Central assistance provided for the Development Plan of Kerala have been made to the Planning Commission.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know the general nature of the allegation that has been made in regard to this matter?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I have submitted that no such allegation has been made to the Planning Commission. We have not received any complaint of that nature

Shri P. R. Patel: May I know whether it is a fact that some days back the M.Ps. complained to the President of the Congress and asked her to enquire into the matter?

Shri S. N. Mishra: How can I know?

Mr Speaker: He must ask the M.Ps.

Shri Keshava: May I know whether it is not a fact that some co-operatives have been started by these Communists and that the Central funds are diverted to these co-operatives without any tenders being called for?

Shri S. N. Mishra: We have no information about these minor details, that is, in respect of certain specific programmes, as to how the funds are being utilised. As I have submitted,—and I would like to repeat it,—so far as the Planning Commission is con-

cerned, it is not in possession of any such complaints.

Shri Kuttikrishnan Nair: May I know whether the Government have examined the allegations regarding labour co-operatives which have nothing to do with labour or co-operation and are only concerned with the Communist bosses?

Mr. Speaker: Labour co-operatives?

Shri Kuttikrishnan Nair: Contracts are taken in the name of individual Communists and sub-contracts are given.

Shri S. N. Mishra: How is the Planning Commission concerned with labour co-operatives?

Mr. Speaker: It does not arise out of this question. The hon Members have got the questions before them. The simple question here is, certain press reports stated that M.Ps. from Kerala have alleged that the Central aid given to Kerala was being misused. The hon. Minister has said that he has not received any such reports. So, all the other questions are out of order.

Shri Kuttikrishnan Nair: The hon. Minister stated....

Mr. Speaker: Shri Thirumala Rao

Shri Thirumala Rao: May I know if the hon Minister is replying for the Planning Commission or for the Ministry of Planning? The Planning Commission is not expected to know everything from the administrative set-up of the States. We want to know what the Ministry of Planning is doing with regard to this matter?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I will have to go into the nature of the functions of the Ministry of Planning. The Ministry of Planning functions in Parliament on behalf of the Planning Commission; that is, in a sense....

Shri C. D. Pande: It functions on our behalf.

Shri S. N. Mishra: What I mean is this. Let me explain. So far as the

Planning Commission is concerned, the Ministry of Planning is a kind of liaison between it, that is the Planning Commission and Parliament. The Minister of Planning or any other person on his behalf speaks in Parliament.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I would like to clear up the position. The Planning Commission is an expert body. The Ministry of Planning is a Ministry of the Government of India dealing with the subject in all its aspects. It is a liaison body, with all the Ministries of the Government of India plus the Planning Commission, of course. It is not easy to define the boundaries in a hard and fast way, because the main function of planning, the detailed work is done by the Planning Commission in consultation with all the Ministries. But the Ministry of Planning is a kind of link between all these and, of course, in so far as Parliament is concerned,

Mr. Speaker: The Minister is responsible.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: the Minister is responsible.

Mr. Speaker: The question is, "whether Government's attention has been drawn to press reports stating that MPs from Kerala have alleged that Central aid to the Kerala State was being misused?" Whether it concerns the Ministry of Planning or any other Ministry is not clear. Of course, the Centre is there. The Finance Minister must answer, I think. It is Central aid, and the allegation is that it was being misused. That is the allegation of Members of Parliament from Kerala. The hon. Minister need not say that the Planning Commission has no information. He may say that "I have no information." He has no information.

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): The Planning Commission is charged with certain functions and the details of the administration of every branch in the State do not come to the Plan-

ning Commission. There are other Ministries concerned with those activities who may deal with those things.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Ministers find that the question is not appropriately put to them they would kindly transfer it to the concerned Minister who ought to answer that question.

Closure of Manganese Mines

*1259 **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state

(a) the number of manganese mines closed in Madhya Pradesh and Bombay State during the year 1958,

(b) how many workers have been affected as a result of the closures; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for reopening the same?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abd Ali): (a) According to the closing notices under Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, (1958), 39 manganese mines in Madhya Pradesh and 19 in Bombay have been closed down in 1958.

(b) The information is not available.

(c) To stimulate exports the following steps have been taken by Government —

- 1 Export duty on all grades of Manganese ore has been abolished from November, 1958.
- 2 Mine owners and exporters have been permitted to enter into long term contracts, for a minimum period of three years, with foreign buyers. Shippers have been assured that any change in the future export policies of the Government will not deprive them of export and movement quota.