

Monday, 17th November, 1941

THE COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

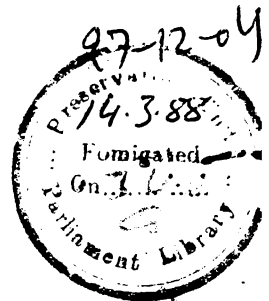
VOLUME II, 1941

(10th November to 22nd November, 1941)

TENTH SESSION

OF THE

FOURTH COUNCIL OF STATE, 1941



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111 Council House in New
CORRIGENDA.

In the Council of State Debates,
1941, Vol. II,—

(1) On page 4, in the top line,—
for " India " read " Indian ";

(2) On page 136, in line 3 from the
top,—
for " one is at " read " that is,
with ".

(3) On page 142, in line 5,—

delete the words " at the time ";

(4) On page 147, in line 4,—

for " I lay a statement on the
table " read " A statement
has been laid on the
table ".

COUNCIL OF STATE.

Monday, 17th November, 1941.

The Council met in the Council Chamber of the Council House at Eleven of the Clock, the Honourable the President in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

INDIGENOUS MANUFACTURE OF SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS AND APPLIANCES.

80. **THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH:** With reference to the committee which was appointed under the auspices of the Director General of the Indian Medical Service in Delhi in May last with a view to the standardisation of surgical instruments and appliances will Government state what steps, if any, have been taken towards the manufacture of such instruments and appliances in India and whether such manufactured articles will be available for private sale, or whether their supply will be confined only to Government military and civil purposes, including A. R. P.? By what time the articles are expected to be available?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: The committee to which the Honourable Member refers has in consultation with the industry established indigenous manufacture of a wide range of surgical instruments and appliances. These articles are already available for private sale.

ESTABLISHMENT OF SAMPLE ROOMS FOR THE DISPLAY OF ARTICLES REQUIRED BY THE SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

81. **THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH:** Will Government state whether they have established, or propose to establish at important centres in India, sample rooms for the display of articles required by the Supply Department which are either not being produced at all in India at present or produced on a scale insufficient to meet the full demand? If so, at what centres have such sample rooms been established?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: Yes, an officer has been placed on special duty for establishing sample rooms of the type referred to by the Honourable Member at important centres in India.

No such sample rooms have yet been actually established.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUEL RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT DHANBAD.

82. **THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH:** (a) Do Government propose to establish a Fuel Research Institute at Dhanbad, where the School of Mines is located in Bihar? If so, is it one of the objects of the Institute to make experiments in the way of finding out a suitable substitute for petrol for running automobiles?

(b) What will be the approximate expenditure involved, non-recurring and recurring?

THE HONOURABLE SIR ALAN LLOYD : There is no proposal at present before Government to establish a Fuel Research Institute at Dhanbad. The rest of the question does not arise.

COMMISSIONING OF MR. GEOFFREY TYSON TO WRITE ON INDIAN INDUSTRY IN WAR TIME.

83. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH : (a) Is it a fact that a British journalist in Calcutta has been recently appointed to write a book on the activities of the Supply Department and their effect on the industrial development of the country? If so, what is the name of this gentleman, and what are his special qualifications for the post; and what pay and other emoluments are given to him?

(b) Why was not a qualified Indian appointed, or why was not the work entrusted to the Information Officer connected with the Supply Department, or the Bureau of Public Information?

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR AKBAR HYDARI : (a) Mr. Geoffrey Tyson has been commissioned to write a book giving a picture of Indian industry in war time, with particular reference to the effect of the war on established industries and on the growth of new industries. It will not be a book on the activities of the Supply Department. The decision was taken in June, 1941, and the work is likely to take about nine months, and Mr. Tyson is to have a fee of Rs. 5,000. Mr. Tyson is an experienced writer and journalist, a professional economist and the editor of *Capital*, well known as being one of the leading Indian financial journals, and has wide contacts with the leaders of industry in India.

(b) The matter was fully considered and Mr. Tyson was thought in view of his experience and contacts as detailed above to be the person best qualified to do the work. There would have been no advantage and no saving in expense in appointing an Information Officer to write the book, as it would have been necessary to take him off his ordinary duties and appoint someone else to do them.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : Was the post advertised in the Press?

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR AKBAR HYDARI : It was not advertised.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : How and by whom was the selection made?

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR AKBAR HYDARI : The selection was made in the Department after such consultation as there was.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : Consultation with whom? Was there any Selection Committee of the Department to recommend the gentleman concerned or was it made by the Head of the Department himself without any consultation?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : He said "in consultation with the Department".

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : I want to know what "the Department" means.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : Then you can ask that question.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : What does "the Department" mean ?

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIB AKBAR HYDARI : The appointment was made within the powers of the Government of India.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : That does not answer my question. I know that the Government of India is even more mighty than Hitler and Mussolini. What I want to know is how, in this particular case, the selection was made ? Consultation with whom ?

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIB AKBAR HYDARI : Such consultation as the Government of India in the Department concerned thought necessary.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : What were the efforts made to secure a qualified Indian ?

(No answer.)

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Has the Honourable the Leader of the House not understood the question or is he unwilling to answer the question ?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : His silence denotes that he is not willing to answer the question.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Extraordinary !

ROYAL INDIAN NAVY.

84. **THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** Will Government give the present strength of the Royal Indian Navy and a brief account of its expansion during the past year, so far as this could be done without divulging secrets ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief) : Government consider it is not in the public interest to disclose the figures of the strength of the Royal Indian Navy, but I may state that there has been during the last year, an increase of over 50 per cent. in officers and 100 per cent. in ratings. The Boys Training Establishment in Manora has been increased in size to accommodate 500 boys, and a new Signal School capable of training 500 officers and men per annum has been completed in Bombay. The Mechanical Training Establishment in Bombay which formerly trained 140 men per annum, has now been enlarged and houses 300 pupils. Besides, an Anti-Submarine School, a Navigation School and an Anti-Gas School have been established in Bombay.

INDO-BURMA IMMIGRATION AGREEMENT.

85. **THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH :** (a) Are Government aware that the Indo-Burma Immigration Agreement recently concluded has aroused "feeling of keen disappointment, and grave concern of the Indian public, and the Indian commercial community", and "spontaneous and genuine feelings of anxiety, resentment, and even indignation"? And have Government in this connection received any representation from the Committee of the Federation of the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Council of the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association and the Committee appointed of the All-Parties meeting held at Madras on the 28th July, 1941?

(b) Will Government state when the Report of the Commission of Enquiry to examine the question of Indian immigration into Burma "which formed a suitable basis for negotiation", was submitted; and when was the Report made available to the members of the Bajpai Delegation, and to the general public?

(c) Will Government state why no non-official Indian was associated with the Delegation?

(d) Is it a fact that even the *ad hoc* Committee appointed by Indians in Burma was not fully consulted on all the points and that when the terms of the Agreement were made known, the Committee immediately lodged their protest with the Government of India?

(e) Were members of the Standing Emigration Committee supplied with the Report of the Baxter Committee, and were they consulted and was their approval obtained before the final conclusion of the Agreement was reached?

(f) Are Government aware that Mr. Butler, speaking on behalf of Government in the House of Commons, in November, 1936, definitely gave the assurance that "we do not want to stop the free entry of Indians in general" in Burma? If so, why these restrictions have now been imposed?

THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. BOZMAN : (a) There has been considerable criticism of the Agreement in the press and elsewhere and Government have received a number of representations on the subject including the one referred to by the Honourable Member.

(b) Mr. Baxter submitted his Report to the Government of Burma in October, 1940, and it was made available to the Government of India for their confidential information in February, 1941. It was available to the Delegation before it proceeded to Burma and, as the Honourable Member is aware, it was published on the 22nd July, 1941.

(c) Government did not consider it necessary to associate non-officials with the Delegation as they had consulted the Standing Emigration Committee representing both Houses of the Indian Legislature before the Delegation proceeded to Burma.

(d) There were certain points upon which the *ad hoc* Committee was not consulted. The *ad hoc* Committee addressed a representation to the Government of India soon after the publication of the Agreement.

(e) Copies of the recommendations of the Baxter Commission were supplied to the Members of the Standing Emigration Committee, who were also consulted before the Agreement was approved.

(f) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, the Agreement has not yet come into force except in regard to the prohibition of emigration of unskilled labour to Burma and the Government of India have communicated the criticisms of the Agreement to the Secretary of State and have suggested that certain adjustments should be made before it is put into force by an Order in Council.

BALANCE OF TRADE BETWEEN BRITISH INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

86. THE HONOURABLE MR. M. N. DALAL : (a) Will Government lay on the table of the House a statement regarding the movement of exports of private merchandise from India, in comparison with the corresponding stream of imports, from November, 1940 to the end of October, 1941 ?

(b) How far has the balance of trade in these statistics affected the international value of the rupee and the remittances from India ?

(c) Will Government state whether any further balances are being accumulated outside India, and, if so, to what purpose do they propose to apply such surplus balances ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. E. JONES : (a) A statement showing monthly figures for export and import of private merchandise and treasure from October, 1940 to September, 1941 is laid on the table of the House. Figures for October, 1941 are not yet available. I would, however, point out that these figures do not present a completely accurate picture of the balance of trade as imports and exports on Government account for Defence purposes are not included in these statistics.

(b) The balance of trade as revealed in these statistics has had no effect either on remittances or on the exchange value of the rupee.

(c) If the Honourable Member is referring to the sterling balances at the credit of the Reserve Bank of India, I would refer him to the Statement of Account of the Bank published weekly in the *Gazette of India*. As explained in the Finance Member's last Budget Speech these acquisitions of sterling have enabled the Reserve Bank *inter alia* to put large amounts at the disposal of the Government of India for the repatriation of our sterling debt.

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. N. DALAL : Do Government realise that any further accumulation of balances outside India would not be in India's interest because we do not require it for discharging our obligations and Indian industry needs money ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. E. JONES : Government do not realise that payment for supplies made is not in India's interests.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Do Government realise that there are further sterling debts which might advantageously be paid off at the present time ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. E. JONES : Government are well aware that there are outstanding sterling debts.

Statement showing the balance of trade between British India (excluding Burma) and all foreign countries (including Burma) from October, 1940 to September, 1941.

Month.	Imports of foreign merchandise (Private).	Exports and re-exports of merchandise (Private).	Balance of trade in merchandise (Private).	Balance of transactions in treasure. (Private).	Total visible balance of trade.
October, 1940 .	12,78	15,42	+ 2,64	+ 1,57	+ 4,21
November, 1940 .	12,76	16,30	+ 3,54	+ 1,20	+ 4,74
December, 1940 .	11,34	16,97	+ 5,63	+ 1,46	+ 7,09
January, 1941 .	14,69	21,43	+ 6,74	— 8	+ 6,66
February, 1941 .	11,18	12,58	+ 1,40	— 1	+ 1,39
March, 1941 .	14,56	13,32	— 1,24	+ 6	— 1,18
April, 1941 .	16,93	12,11	— 4,82	+ 6	— 4,76
May, 1941 .	17,79	15,15	— 2,64	— 9	— 2,73
June, 1941 .	17,61	16,47	— 1,14	+ 17	— 97
July, 1941 .	18,37	21,54	+ 3,17	— 1	+ 3,16
August, 1941 .	14,25	23,08	+ 8,83	+ 71	+ 9,54
September, 1941	15,71	24,89	+ 9,18	— 34	+ 8,84
Total .	1,77,97	2,09,26	+ 31,29	+ 4,70	+ 35,99

TRAINING OF INDIANS IN FLYING SCHOOLS IN THE U. S. A.

87. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH : Will Government state whether it is intended to give flying training to Indian pupils in the civilian flying school which Britain has opened or is going to open in the United States of America for training of pilots for war purposes ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief) : Not at present.

DECLARATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY IN FAVOUR OF INDIAN STATE SUBJECTS.

88. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH : Will Government state whether negotiations are in progress, or arrangements have been arrived at, to secure a general declaration of eligibility for Indian State subjects for appointments under the Central Government and the Secretary of State for India ? If so, will Government lay on the table a copy of the decision arrived at and the rules and regulations, if any, framed in this connection ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. CONRAN-SMITH : The reply to the first part of the question is in the negative and the second part therefore does not arise.

SPANISH DEBTS.

89. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH : Will Government state what arrangements have been made, under the provisions of the Anglo-Spanish Trade and Payments Agreement, 1940, for transfer of commercial debts from persons in Spain to persons in India ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR ALAN LLOYD : The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the Press Note issued by the Government of India on the subject dated the 9th April, 1941, a copy of which is laid on the table of the House.

PRESS NOTE.

Outstanding debts due from Spain.

Arrangements have been made with the authorities concerned for transfer under the "arrears" provisions of Anglo-Spanish Trade and Payments Agreement, 1940 of commercial debts which fell due before April 1st, 1939 from persons in Spain* to persons in India.

The Agreement provides for liquidation of arrears by payment of a first instalment of 50 per cent. of the amount due and of subsequent instalments of 10 per cent. each. It is not expected that it will be possible to begin payment of subsequent instalments until 1942.

Creditors in India who wish to adopt this method of liquidating debts of the kind described above should request their Spanish debtors to apply (through their Bankers) to the Institute Espanol De Moneda Extranjera, Madrid, for approval of transfer of debt and for authority to deposit in the Peseta Arrears Account pesetas representing 50 per cent. of the amount due. When deposit has been made the Institute will send to the Clearing Office in London instructions to make payment of a corresponding amount in sterling.

The Clearing Office in London is unable to make payment direct to creditors in India and the latter must therefore arrange that a Bank in the United Kingdom receives payment on their behalf and must arrange with their Spanish debtors that the name of a specified intermediary Bank is inserted in the appropriate space on the form of application for transfer.

It should be noted that applications for such transfers must be made to the Institute before June 30th, 1941.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ;
NEW DELHI ;

The 9th April, 1941.

TRADE WITH RUSSIA.

90. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH : Will Government state what fillip has been given to Indian trade with Russia, as a result of the British Government's promised economic assistance to Russia in her war with Germany ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR ALAN LLOYD : Since the invasion of Russia there has been a considerable increase in the trade of India with that country.

BRITISH MILITARY MISSION TO RUSSIA.

91. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH : Will Government state whether any separate representation of India was given on the British Military Mission to Russia in view of India's growing importance as a result of the situation arising out of Russia's participation in the war ? If not, why should not independent contact be made between the Indian and Russian Governments ? Did the Government of India press for independent representation ?

*The expression "Spain" means the territories of the Peninsula, the Canary Isles and the Balearic Isles, Ceuta and Melilla, the Spanish zone of Morocco (not including Tangier) and the Spanish colonies.

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief): The duties of the Mission being concerned with broad issues of strategy affecting the whole Empire, the necessity for separate representation of India did not arise.

EFFECT OF FREEZING JAPANESE ASSETS.

92. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH: (a) Will Government state what practical reaction the freezing of Japanese assets in India has produced or is likely to produce, with special reference to the economic and trade relations between the two countries?

(b) Has India been consulted by His Majesty's Government as regards the details of the manner in which this policy of freezing is to be applied in view of the assurance given by Mr. Eden in Parliament about the beginning of August that the policy "will be worked out throughout with the closest collaboration and frankest discussions between the British Government, her dominions, India, Burma and Colonies....."?

(c) Are Government in a position to give some details of this policy, so far as they can?

THE HONOURABLE SIR ALAN LLOYD: (a) The freezing of Japanese assets in India has had the effect of virtually stopping all trade between India and Japan.

(b) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative.

As regards the second part of the question I need only refer to my reply already given to (a).

APPROXIMATE QUANTITIES OF FOODSTUFFS SENT TO IRAN.

93. THE HONOURABLE RAJA YUVERAJ DUTTA SINGH: (a) Will Government state approximately how much foodstuffs and other articles have been sent from India for the people of Iran, since the British and Russian troops entered Iran about the 25th August, 1941?

(b) How many Indian subjects were in Iran about that time and how many of them have been repatriated to India?

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR AKBAR HYDARI: (a) A statement showing the approximate quantities of foodstuffs sent to Iran during the period from the 25th August to the 29th October, 1941 is placed on the table of the House.

(b) There were roughly 4,600 Indian and British protected persons in Iran at the end of August. After the fullest consideration it was decided that any policy of evacuation was unnecessary and unjustifiable.

Statement showing the approximate quantities of foodstuffs sent to Iran during the period from the 25th August to the 29th October, 1941.

(i) Wheat	15,659 tons.
(ii) Grain, pulse and flour other than wheat	107 "
(iii) Tea	1,044 lbs.
(iv) Other foodstuffs :—	
1. Spices	58 tons 7 cwt.
2. Provisions canned and bottled	200 lbs.
3. Fruits, dried, other sorts	14 tons.
4. Sugar	1,500 tons.

EXPORT MARKETS FOR SUGAR.

94. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SRI NARAIN MAHTHA: Will Government state—

(a) Whether there is a fair possibility of establishing sugar markets particularly in Afghanistan, Iran, Kashmir, Nepal, Tibet, etc., and, if so, what steps need be taken in this direction?

(b) Whether any progress has been made in finding export market for Indian sugar in the United Kingdom and what chances there are for sugar export to the United Kingdom in the current year?

(c) The total carry over of stocks of sugar at the beginning of the last three sugarcane seasons?

(d) Whether there has been any over-production of sugar? If so, do Government propose taking any action to check over-production? and

(e) What is the total capacity for the production of sugar annually of the sugar factories in India and whether it is intended to put any restriction on the increase in the number of sugar factories?

THE HONOURABLE SIR ALAN LLOYD: (a) There are no restrictions preventing the Indian Sugar Industry from exploiting the markets referred to by the Honourable Member excepting that exports of Indian sugar by sea to Iran are ordinarily prohibited in view of India's obligations under the International Sugar Agreement. As instances of Government encouragement in this direction, I may mention that the Government of India have granted remission of excise duty on exports of Indian sugar to Afghanistan and have allowed a special reduction of railway freight charges for sugar destined for that country and Iran by land, apart from the publicity work that is being carried on by our Trade Representatives in those countries.

(b) Yes. Shipment of sugar purchased by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom not exceeding 200,000 tons have been permitted up to the 31st December, 1941 in relaxation of India's international obligations. Exports may be made to the United Kingdom and to such areas in the Middle East as His Majesty's Government may determine, regard being had to the shipping situation.

(c) A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

(d) and (e). There was over-production of sugar in India in the sugarcane season ending October, 1940. The total capacity for the production of sugar of the cane factories in India in a normal season is estimated at about 13 to 13½ lakhs tons. The question of checking over-production and restricting the number of sugar factories will no doubt receive consideration by the Central Sugar Advisory Board, which has been set up under the Commerce Department.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SRI NARAIN MAHTHA: One part of my question (d) was, if there was over-production of sugar, whether Government proposed to take any action about it. That has not been answered.

THE HONOURABLE SIR ALAN LLOYD: I said, Sir, that the question of checking over-production is one which will no doubt receive consideration by the Central Sugar Advisory Board. It has not yet been before that Board which has only just been appointed.

Statement showing the estimated carry-over of stocks of sugar at the beginning of the last three sugarcane seasons.

	1st November, 1938.	1st November, 1939.	1st November, 1940.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1. Stocks of sugar in port markets	20,000	51,000	13,000
2. Stocks of sugar in principal inland markets	15,000	17,000	25,000
3. Physical stocks with sugar factories	67,000	28,000 (revised)	390,000
Total	102,000	96,000	428,000

NUMBER OF OFFICERS RECRUITED FOR THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY.

95. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : (a) What is the total number of officers recruited for the Royal Indian Navy since the 1st September, 1939 ? How many of them are (i) pure Indians and (ii) Anglo-Indians ?

(b) What are the sources from which they have been obtained and what is the number of officers obtained from each source ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief) : (a) 25, 11 British, 10 Indians and 4 Anglo-Indians.

(b) By transfer from the Reserves—2.

Through the Federal Public Service Commission Examination—9.

Through the "Dufferin" Examination—3.

Through special Examination held in England—11 (all British).

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : The Navy having been expanded considerably, surely the number of officers recruited must have been more than 25 ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : Those are the facts, Sir.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Is this the total number of officers obtained after the expansion that has taken place in the Navy ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : I do suggest that when the Honourable Member is fortunate enough to get some figures out of the Defence Department he should at least accept them.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : I do not consider myself under any obligation to the Defence Department for having been decent enough to give some information.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : He has definitely said that the number is 25. He still sticks to that statement and you cannot ask anything more after that.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : All that I can say is that I feel considerable doubt with regard to the accuracy of the figures given by the Honourable Member.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: Under the Standing Orders Members are not allowed to argue or make any comments.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: I have a right to point out to him certain circumstances which show that the number of officers obtained by the Royal Indian Navy must have been considerably more than 25.

THE HONOURABLE MALIK SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON: As a Government Member I ought to protest against this insinuation, because it means that Government have supplied wrong numbers or numbers which are not correct. We cannot accept that position?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: I agree. I pointed out that Mr. Williams definitely stated twice that it was not more than 25 and no Member has the right to question that.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: I do not know whether I should congratulate the Honourable Sir Firoz Khan Noon on his chivalry, but I do not withdraw a word of what I have said in spite of his protest.

NUMBER OF CADETS UNDER TRAINING AT THE ARTILLERY SCHOOL.

96. **THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU:** (a) Will Government state how many cadets are under training at the Artillery School (Cadet Wing)?

(b) What is the number of Indian and British cadets, respectively? How many of the latter have been brought out from England?

(c) Are the British cadets to be employed in British or Indian artillery units?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief): (a) It is not in the public interest to give this information.

(b) The actual numbers cannot be given. Of the cadets under training on the 8th November, 1941, 15 per cent. were Indians and 85 per cent. British.

(c) British cadets will be employed in both Indian and British artillery units.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: Will the Honourable Member tell me whether any British cadets have been brought out from England?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: I should require notice of that, Sir. The Honourable Member asked for the figures and I was not prepared to give the figures.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: I merely want to know, Sir, whether it is a fact that any British cadets have been brought out from England. I do not want the figures at all.

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: I am asking for notice of that.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: If you want notice, say so in clear words, so that there may be no misunderstanding.

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: I want notice, Sir.

INDIAN FIELD REGIMENTS.

97. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: (a) How many Indian Field Regiments, Indian Artillery, have been created since it was decided to have Indian units of artillery? Are they shown in the *Indian Army List*? If not, what is the reason for it?

(b) How many officers are there in these units and how many of them are Indians?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief): (a) The numbers of Indian Field Regiments are not shown in the *Indian Army List* because it is not in the public interest that the numbers should be generally known; and for the same reason I regret that I am unable to supply the information asked for by the Honourable Member.

(b) It is not in the public interest to give the total numbers, but at present 14 per cent. of them are Indian.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: With regard to part (a), there was one Indian Field Regiment, Indian Artillery, before the war broke out. Why is not that shown in the *Indian Army List*?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: Because there has been a large expansion and it is not in the public interest that the extent of that expansion should be made public.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: I have not asked for the new units to be shown. I want to know why the old unit too has been omitted from the *Indian Army List*. The Army has been considerably expanded, but the old units are nevertheless shown in the *Indian Army List*. Similarly why is not the first Indian Field Regiment, Indian Artillery, shown in the *Indian Army List* as it used to be shown till July, 1940?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: Since the new units are not shown, there does not seem to be any point in showing the old unit.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: New units of the Army are not shown, but the old units continue to be shown. Why should the Indian Unit of Artillery have been selected for omission?

(No answer.)

APPOINTMENT OF A RETIRED I.C.S. OFFICER TO WRITE THE HISTORY OF INDIA'S WAR EFFORT.

98. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: Have Government appointed a retired Indian Civil Service officer to write the history of India's war effort? If so, on what terms? Was no officer available in India to whom this work could be assigned?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief): (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. 1,000 a month.

(c) This officer was already in India when the appointment was made.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: Was no Indian available, Sir? Is he a retired officer of the Indian Civil Service or not?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: Yes, Sir.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: Is he a former Defence Secretary?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: Yes, Sir.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: How did his presence in India enable the Government of India to select him? Why did not they select an Indian?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: The Honourable Member asked whether any officer was available in India to whom this work could be given. My answer was that this officer *was* in India.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: Was he an officer of the Government of India when he was appointed or was he on the retired list?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: He was on the retired list, Sir.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: Why was not one of the officers now in service appointed if they did not want to take an outsider or if they wanted to take a man from outside, why was not an Indian appointed?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: The Honourable Member has said that he was present in India.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: My question was whether there was any officer available here?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: He is a retired officer. Officer does not mean that he should not be a retired officer.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: When we ask whether an officer of the Government of India is available we mean an officer now serving. Otherwise, there are hundreds of officers on the retired list.

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: As everyone knows there is a very great shortage of officers. But apart from that—Mr. Macworth Young is his name—he had peculiar qualifications for the post.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: Did the Government of India make any attempt to select a qualified Indian?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: I can only say that Mr. Macworth Young was the most qualified person available.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: Is it true that the Government of India did not think of appointing an Indian at all and made no efforts to secure one?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: No, Sir; it is not true.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: What efforts did they make to secure an Indian?

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU: How was the selection made and by whom was the selection made?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT (to the Honourable Mr. Williams): Will you please answer the question how the selection was made?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: The appointment was made in the ordinary way like any other appointment. The selection was made by the Department and the appointment was made by the Government of India.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU: The Public Service Commission was not consulted or there was no selection committee?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT (to the Honourable Mr. P. N. Sapru): Please put a specific question.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU: Is it a fact that he was appointed in the discretion of the officer or the Commander-in-Chief?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT (to the Honourable Mr. P. N. Sapru): I have not yet understood your question. What is your question?

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU: My question is was he appointed after applications had been received and after consultation with some selection committee or appointment committee or was he appointed solely in the discretion of the appointing authority?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: I must ask whether "in the discretion" is to be regarded as a term of art?

COMMISSIONING OF MR. GEOFFREY TYSON TO WRITE ON INDIAN INDUSTRY IN WAR TIME.

99. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: (a) Have Government appointed the editor of a Calcutta periodical to write a history of India's industrial development since the war started? If so, what is his name and what are the terms on which he has been engaged?

(b) What effort did Government make to select an officer of their own or to find a competent non-official Indian for this work?

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR AKBAR HYDARI: (a) and (b). I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply just given to the Honourable Raja Yuveraj Dutta Singh's question No. 83.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: What has not been answered by the Government is this. What effort did the Government make to select an officer of their own for the task ?

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR AKBAR HYDARI: I have previously answered that question. I have said that it would have been more expensive to have appointed an officer of the Department.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU: How would it have been more expensive to appoint an officer of the Department ?

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR AKBAR HYDARI: The matter was considered and the Department came to the conclusion that it would be less expensive to get Mr. Tyson.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: Why should it be more expensive to place an officer on special duty in this connection ?

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR AKBAR HYDARI: I have already said in answer to that question that there would have been no advantage and no saving in expense in appointing an Information Officer to write the book as it would have been necessary to take him off his ordinary duties and appoint someone else to do them.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU: I understood the Honourable the Leader of the House to say that it would have been more expensive to appoint an officer of their own. Now I find that there is shifting of the ground. He says there would have been no saving in expense.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: He said "less expensive".

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: Government frequently place officers of their own on special duty which means that an allowance has been made in the strength of the various services for officers to be placed on special duty. Why should the appointment of an officer on special duty in this particular case have led to an increased expenditure ?

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR AKBAR HYDARI: Considering the strength of the Department and the nature of the work, no provision could have been made in determining the strength of the Department for special duty on this account for such a period.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU: Is it the suggestion of the Honourable the Leader of the House that an Indian would have been more expensive than this British journalist ?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: He never said anything of the kind.

WAGES OF INDIAN AND CHINESE LABOURERS IN MALAYA.

100. **THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU:** How does the daily wage of an Indian worker on a rubber plantation in Malaya compare with that of a Chinese worker ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. BOZMAN : At present an Indian male estate labourer gets a daily wage of 50 cents plus a victualling allowance of 10 cents a day ; a Chinese labourer's wage is not regulated and is not uniform but it is understood that he generally gets about \$1 a day.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

101. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS :
(a) Are the services of the telephone operators transferable under the new revised rules ?

(b) Are there two grades of telephone operators, viz., 1st and 2nd grade in each scale of pay ? Will Government state how a 2nd grade telephone operator is allowed to get the benefit of the 1st grade and whether there is any rule governing it ? Are these rules strictly followed in the Dacca Telegraph Engineering Division ? If not, why not ?

(c) Are the officiating services of a telephone operator counted towards increment at the time of the fixation of pay ? If so, how an official who has temporary officiating service at different stations on different time-scales of pay will get the benefit of temporary service ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The principle governing promotion from the 2nd to the 1st grade is seniority subject to the rejection of the unfit. The Postmaster-General, Bengal and Assam Circle, has reported that this principle is observed in the Dacca Telegraph Engineering Division as elsewhere.

(c) I would refer the Honourable Member to Fundamental Rule 26 which governs these cases.

CLASSIFICATION OF STATIONS IN DIFFERENT GROUPS BY THE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT FOR FIXING TIME SCALES OF PAY.

102. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS :
(a) Is it a fact that the classifications of stations in different groups relating to the Posts and Telegraphs Department for fixing the time scales of pay are based on the general cost of living of different localities ? If so, will Government lay on the table a statement giving the factors which determine the cost of living of a place ?

(b) Are Government aware that the costs of living at Narayanganj and Chittagong are equal to, if not higher than, those at Dacca, Mymensingh, etc., which have been placed under Group B ?

(c) If the reply to part (b) be in the affirmative, do Government propose to place Narayanganj and Chittagong under Group B ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : (a) Generally speaking, the reply to the first part is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, it is not possible to give an exhaustive list of the factors which are taken into account.

(b) Government are not satisfied that this is the case.

(c) Does not arise.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

103. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS :
(a) Is it a fact that according to the existing system the telephone operators are allowed only one holiday once in every four weeks ?

(b) Do Government propose to allow the telephone operators more holidays ?

(c) Is the existing system of allowing only one holiday once in every four weeks to the telephone operators strictly followed in the Chittagong and Narayanganj Exchanges of the Dacca Telegraph Engineering Division ? If not, why not ?

(d) Is it a fact that some of the senior telephone operators of Dacca, Narayanganj and Chittagong Exchanges have got non-operating duty ? If so, why ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : (a) This is substantially correct.

(b) The question is under examination.

(c) and (d). Information has been called for and will be placed on the table of the House in due course.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES.

104. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS :
Have Government defined the following terms (a) small telephone exchange, (b) large telephone exchange, (c) senior telephone operator, (d) head telephone operator, (e) telephone monitor ? If so, what is their definition ? What are the duties of a (i) senior telephone operator, (ii) head telephone operator and (iii) telephone monitor ? Are the senior telephone operators, head telephone operators or telephone monitors exempted from switchboard operating duty and night duty ? If so, why ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : The terms at (a) and (b) of the question have not been defined but by large exchanges is generally meant those in charge of gazetted officers or having more than ten operators. The senior telephone operator is the operator with the longest service or next for promotion. A head telephone operator is the operator in charge of an exchange. Monitors are officials employed in exchanges for traffic supervision. Head operators, and in some cases, senior operators have generally operative duty as well as supervision and correspondence work. None of these classes of officials are exempted from night duty, but monitors are employed primarily for supervision and do not ordinarily perform regular operative duty.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

105. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS :
(a) Is it a fact that the telephone operators recruited before the year 1938 are all station-service telephone operators, and that they are all localised and not transferred from one place to another ?

(b) Is it a fact that transfers are being made in the Dacca Telegraph Engineering Division contrary to the above conditions ? If so, why ?

(c) Will Government lay on the table a copy of the rules regulating transfers of telephone operators ? On what basis the transfers of telephone operators are being made ? Are these rules of transfer strictly followed in the Dacca Telegraph Engineering Division ? If not, why not ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The relevant rules, namely, rules 37 and 60 (10) will be found in the Posts and Telegraphs Manual, Volume IV, a copy of which is in the Library. The rules are being duly followed in the Dacca Engineering Division.

TRANSFER OF CLERKS OF THE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

106. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS : (a) Is there any rule for the transfer of the clerks of the Telegraph Engineering Branch of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department ?

(b) If the reply to part (a) be in the affirmative, will Government lay on the table a copy of the rules relating to the transfer of clerks of the above branch ?

(c) If the reply to part (a) be in the negative, do Government propose to formulate some rules regarding the transfer of the above officials ? If not, why not ?

(d) Is there any rule for rotation of duty among the clerks of the above branch of the Department ? Is such rule being strictly followed in the Dacca Telegraph Engineering Division and the Circle office at Calcutta ? If not, why not ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : (a) and (b). Under the rules for recruitment of Telegraph Engineering office clerks, they are ordinarily not transferable outside the Division to which they have been appointed. These rules will be found in Appendix No. 17 to Volume IV of the Posts and Telegraphs Manual of which a copy will be found in the Library.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The reply to the first part is in the negative, the second part does not arise.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

107. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS : Do Government propose to grant house rent allowances to the telephone operators of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department or to provide free quarters for them ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : The reply is in the negative.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

108. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS : Is it a fact that the telephone operators are recruited by a combined competitive examination for the recruitment of the services of telegraphists, telephone operators, clerks and sorters ? If the reply be in the affirmative, will Government state how differentiation is drawn among the list of approved candidates having regard to their option as to the acceptance of a job of a clerk or a telephone operator in a telegraph engineering division ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. Successful candidates are offered appointments in the three recruiting units according to the preference expressed by them in their applications for admission to the examination and in the order in which they pass the examination.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

109. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS : Is it a fact that the telegraphists, wireless operators and engineering supervisors are granted an allowance per month during their period of training? If so, do Government propose to grant an allowance in the case of the telephone operators during their period of training?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative and that to the latter part in the negative.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

110. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS : Will Government state the prescribed standard for regulating the strength of the staff of telegraphists? Is there any prescribed standard for regulating the strength of the staff of telephone operators? If not, why not?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : The standard for telegraphists is given in paragraph 592 of the Posts and Telegraphs Manual, Volume IV, a copy of which is in the Library of the House. I doubt if any simple standard, such as the number of telegrams used for fixing the cadre of telegraphists, is applicable in the case of telephone operators, but the question of fixing a standard for them is being examined.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

111. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS : Is it a fact that the telephone operators of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department do not come under the Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923? Do Government propose to include the telephone operators under the above Act? If not, why?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : They are not included, and Government have no proposal under consideration for their inclusion, as they see no need for this step.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

112. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS : (a) Is it a fact that the services of the telephone operators and clerks of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department are more or less similar and that the composition order of the first and second grade clerks of the department is 50 : 50?

(b) Is the same rule of the composition order of the staff applicable in the case of the telephone operators? If not, why not?

(c) If the reply to part (b) be in the affirmative will Government state whether the rule is strictly followed in the Dacca Telegraph Engineering Division? If not, why not?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : (a) The duties of telephone operators and clerks are not similar though their scales of pay are. The reply to the second part is in the affirmative.

(b) No, for the reason stated in reply to part (a).

(c) Does not arise.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

113. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS : Is it a fact that there is no difference between the duties and responsibilities of the 1st and 2nd grade telephone operators of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department ? If so, will Government state why there should be any difference at all as regards their pay and emoluments ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : The duties of the two grades of telephone operators are interchangeable. Recruitment is made in the 2nd grade and operators are promoted to the 1st grade according to seniority and fitness. It is not unusual to have two grades of pay for officials performing the same class of work.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

114. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS : Is it a fact that the rate of overtime allowance of the telephone operators is less than those of the telegraphists and that the telegraphists get higher rate of overtime allowances during night ? Do Government propose to revise the rates of overtime allowances in the case of the telephone operators in the same light as those of the telegraphists ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : The facts are generally as stated in the first part of the question. Revision of the rates of overtime allowance for telephone operators is under examination.

DIVISIONAL STORE DEPOT CLERKS OF THE INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

115. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR SATYENDRA KUMAR DAS : (a) Is it a fact that the New Stores Organisation Scheme of Accounting of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department came into force from the 1st of April, 1937 and that the 18 divisional depot store clerks were sanctioned in the upper grade scale of pay ?

(b) If the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, will Government state why out of the 18 divisional depot store clerks, the pay of the six divisional depot store clerks has been fixed in the lower grade scale of pay since April, 1937 ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : (a) and (b). The organisation was sanctioned from April, 1937 and 18 posts were originally sanctioned as stated. Since then the question of the composition of a cadre for divisional store depot clerks has had to be further examined. This examination has not been completed and pending final orders the men in question draw their pay in their own scales according to their position in their parent cadre.

MISSION OF DR. H. GRADY.

116. THE HONOURABLE MR. M. N. DALAL : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the appointment of Dr. Henry Grady, President Roosevelt's Special Economic Investigator in the Far East and representative of the Federal Loan Agency, who is now conferring with officials in India in connection with the supply of certain strategic materials needed in the defence programme of the United States of America, the British Empire and the allied countries ?

(b) Will Government state what official and non-official facilities are given to Dr. Grady in the discharge of his duties as Special Economic Investigator in this country ?

(c) Have Government considered the repercussions of Dr. Grady's mission and investigation regarding the present and post-war foreign trade of India, particularly with countries like the United States of America, Great Britain, Japan and other countries on the shores of the Pacific Ocean ?

(d) What assurances have Government received or what assurances will be necessary to receive to see that the investigations of Dr. Grady are confined only to the present trade in strategic materials as mentioned in the press report, and that full opportunities will be afforded to the representatives of Indian commerce and industry in connection with the post-war reconstruction of the trade of India when the opportune moment arrives for the same ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DE C. WILLIAMS : (a) Yes, but Dr. Grady left India on October the 1st.

(b) Dr. Grady received no special facilities other than the opportunity of discussing the purpose of his visit with officials in Calcutta.

(c) Dr. Grady's visit to India was only concerned with the specific subject of the United States of America's requirements of mica during the next 12 months. Full consideration was given to the effects of those requirements on the mica trade as a whole.

(d) Does not arise.

NUMBER OF INDIAN OFFICERS IN THE REGIMENT OF INDIAN ARTILLERY.

117. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : (a) What was the number of Indian officers in the 1st Indian Field Regiment, Indian Artillery, in July, 1940 and what is it now ?

(b) If the number is less than before what is the reduction due to ? Has the policy of Government to Indianize it undergone a change ? If so, why ?

(c) What is the work that has been assigned to the officers that are no longer in the regiment ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DE C. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief) : (a) 19 and 6, respectively.

(b) The reduction is due to the fact that in July, 1940, there was only one Indian Regiment of Artillery to which all Indian officers were posted. There are now many Indian Artillery units among which Indian officers are being distributed. The present policy regarding Indianization is not to Indianize any particular selected regiment, but to post Indian officers to any unit in the Regiment of Indian Artillery. This new policy applies not only for the Artillery but for the whole of the Indian Army.

(c) They are variously employed, the majority being posted to other Artillery units.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Is it a fact that some of the Indians who were officers in the 1st Indian Field Regiment up to July, 1942, have either been transferred to non-Artillery units or have been compelled to retire or resign ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : Two officers have resigned, Sir. Twelve are with other Artillery units and five are otherwise employed. One has got a staff appointment, one is at the Staff College and one is with a Labour Battalion.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : What is the number of the old officers who have either resigned or are doing duty not connected with Artillery units or with the Military Training Centre ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : Four, Sir. I treat a course at the Staff College as not being work other than that which an Artillery officer would be called upon to do.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Does this number four include those who have resigned ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : Yes, Sir. I have already said that two have resigned.

NUMBER OF REGIMENTS OF INDIAN ARTILLERY.

118. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : (a) What is the total number of Indian Artillery units ?

(b) What is the proportion in which Indian and British officers are being recruited for them ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief) : (a) I regret I am unable to supply the information asked for as it is not in the public interest to disclose it.

(b) The actual percentages of British and Indian officers in the Indian Artillery units are, at present—

British	86 per cent.
Indian	14 per cent.

but no fixed proportion is laid down. Every suitable officer whether British or Indian is accepted.

RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE RECRUITING CONFERENCE.

119. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the statement issued by the President of the Indian Medical Association regarding the attitude of Government towards the suggestions made by the Indian Medical Association ? Will Government make a full statement on the subject ?

(b) What are the recommendations made by the Conference that was held recently at Simla to encourage recruitment for the I. M. S. ? What is the decision arrived at by Government with regard to them ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Indian Medical Association was not consulted in regard to the selection of the personnel of the Central and Provincial Committees ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing the recommendations made by the Indian Medical Service Recruiting Conference and the decisions arrived at by Government thereon so far, is laid on the table.

(c) The Indian Medical Association was not consulted regarding the selection of two members of the Indian medical profession for the Central Advisory Committee. The selection was made by the Central Government from among non-officials who attended the Simla conference in July and no medical organisation was consulted in the matter. For the Provincial Committees, the Central Government appointed the medical men recommended by the Provincial Governments and it is not known whether the latter consulted the Provincial branches of the Indian Medical Association or any other organisation of medical graduates before making their recommendations.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : Who are the two non-officials serving on the Central Committee ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : I want notice of that, please.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : Why was the Indian Medical Association not consulted ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : One reason is that it is not entirely representative of the whole medical profession. There are other Associations also.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Is it a fact that the Government asked the Indian Medical Association to send its representatives to the Conference that was held at Simla some months back ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : That may be, Sir, but the fact remains that as the selection was made from persons who attended the Conference, or so it seems to me, the objection suggested by the Honourable Members opposite does not arise.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : Is it proportionately more representative of the Indian medical profession than any other Association in India ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : I suggest that the Honourable Member should send notice of that question to the Honourable Mr. Bozman.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Was it the intention of the Government to have no representative of the Indian Medical Association on the Central Committee ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : I do not see that that arises. The question is whether they were consulted, not whether they were represented.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : If it was desired to give them representation, why were not the Indian Medical Association consulted ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : I have already explained why it was not consulted. It is not exclusively representative of the medical profession in India. There is also the British Medical Association which also contains Indian professional men.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Why was it not consulted with regard to its own representative ?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : The Honourable Member has said that he was selected from one of them. Was it necessary to do anything further ?

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : If the Government wanted a representative of the Indian Medical Association, they should have asked the Indian Medical Association to tell them who that representative should be.

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : Because the members of this Committee are not intended to represent Associations. They are intended to represent the profession.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Why was the Indian Medical Association associated then with the Conference that was held at Simla a few months back ?

(No answer.)

Statement referred to in reply to part (b) of question 119.

Recommendations.

Action taken.

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| <p>(a) (i) Further publicity be given to the terms and conditions of service, together with all concessions sanctioned up-to-date as applicable to Emergency Commissions in the I. M. S., with special emphasis on the absence of discrimination between European and Indian recruits. Such publicity should be among the duties of the Central Advisory Board and Provincial Recruitment Committees referred to below.</p> | <p>Necessary publicity has been given to the terms and conditions of service in the Emergency Branch of the I. M. S. and to any new concessions for candidates granted by Government from time to time. The inauguration of a large-scale publicity campaign was held over till the Central Advisory Board and the Provincial Recruitment Committees were set up.</p> |
| <p>(ii) When the recommendations of the Conference have been examined and decisions have been taken, use should be made of All-India Radio to secure publicity for the improved terms.</p> | |

Recommendations.

Action taken.

- (b) The procedure for recruitment should be decentralised and a committee with which the independent medical profession would be associated should be set up in each Province. These Committees whose functions will be advisory and will include the interviewing of candidates for commissions before their names are submitted to the D. G., I. M. S. and the making of suitable arrangements for publicity should consist in the larger Provinces of five members including two non-officials; in the smaller provinces, of three members including one non-official.
- (c) It was decided that it would be inadvisable to consider proposals for conditional service, either service in India only or part-time local service—until the possibilities of getting more recruits for general service had been fully explored.
- (d) That a minimum gratuity of Rs. 2,000 be guaranteed to those candidates who complete the first year of service, after which they would be entitled to an additional gratuity equal to one month's pay for each further completed year of service. This gratuity should not be admissible to officers who are, on demobilization, appointed to permanent commissions or to those who have a lien on civil government appointments or who, on demobilization obtain permanent government employment.
- (e) That an antedate equal to half the number of years from the date of qualification to the date of appointment to an Emergency Commission, subject to a maximum of 6 years, be granted to candidates who are considered suitable for Selection. This concession should be made applicable to Emergency Commissioned officers already in service. The existing concession regarding an antedate up to a maximum of 18 months should no longer apply.
- (f) That candidates who are selected as Captains will be eligible in the ordinary course for promotion to higher rank.
- Provincial Recruitment Committees have been set up in Madras, Bombay, Bengal, U. P., Bihar, C. P., Assam, N. -W. F. P., and committees in the Punjab and Orissa is under consideration.
- In view of the acute shortage of medical officers in the Army it became necessary to supplement the normal monthly intake of Emergency Commissioned officers by recruiting civilian medical practitioners over 45 years of age or those medically unfit for appointment to Emergency Commissions in the I. M. S. The military requirements in respect of these civilian doctors upto 1st December, 1941 were estimated at 300, against which figure about 100 doctors have been recruited upto date. All members of the Central Advisory Board were informed of the inauguration of this Scheme.
- The Secretary of State has sanctioned the grant of a minimum gratuity of Rs. 2,000 on the completion of first year of service to those Emergency Commissioned officers who obtained their basic registrable medical qualifications before 1st January, 1940 and Rs. 1,000 to those who graduated after that date. The decision was announced in a press note issued on the 13th October 1941.
- The question is still under consideration.
- The question is under consideration.

Recommendations.

Action taken.

- (g) That problems connected with the demobilization of I. M. S. officers should be considered by the Demobilization Sub-Committee of the Government of India Reconstruction Committee. The Defence Secretary is Chairman of this Sub-Committee.
- The Demobilization Sub-Committee is at present considering general principles only. When actual demobilization is contemplated, the D. G., I. M. S. will be represented on the Sub-Committee.
- (h) That the question of relaxation of standards be referred to the Executive Committee of the Medical Council of India at its forthcoming meeting in Bombay.
- The question has been referred to the Medical Council of India, as decided by the Conference.
- (i) A Central Advisory Body should be set up which would review the progress of the arrangements now proposed for improving recruitment and make recommendations when necessary. This Central Advisory Committee should consist of five members, three of whom would be *ex-officio*, viz., Director General, I. M. S., and the Secretaries of the Defence and E. H. and L. Departments, and two members of the private medical profession.
- The Central Advisory Board has been formed and its first meeting was held on 29th October, 1941.
- (j) The Conference finally recommended that a percentage of permanent Commissions in the I. M. S. after the war should be reserved for Emergency Commissioned officers who have rendered approved service. Some of the non-official members of the Conference suggested that the civil side of the I. M. S. should cease to exist but it was pointed out that this question impinged on the constitutional field and the suggestion could not, therefore, be considered during the war.
- The matter is under consideration.

EMPLOYMENT OF LADY RELATIONS OF ARMY OR SECRETARIAT OFFICERS UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

120. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : What is the number of ladies who are relations of the Army or Secretariat officers and who are employed as stenographers or secretaries or in similar capacities under the Government of India? Will Government place a list of them on the table stating the designation and salary of each of them?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. CONRAN-SMITH : Seventy. I lay on the table a statement showing the information asked for.

Statement showing the number, designation and salary of ladies who are relations of Army or Secretariat Officers and who are employed as stenographers or secretaries or in similar capacities under the Government of India.

No.	Designation.	Salary.
		Rs.
1	Confidential Assistant	300
3	Cypher Assistants	100 each.
1	Personal Assistant	250
1	Reporter	320
1	Stenographer	325
1	Stenographer	240
6	Stenographers	130 each.
13	Stenographers	125 each.
2	Stenographers	100
	Shorthand allowance	15 } each.
1	Translator	200
4	Examiners	200 each.
1	Senior clerk	150
1	Clerk	125
1	Clerk	120
4	Clerks	105 each.
25	Clerks	100 each.
2	Clerks	80 each.
2	Clerks	70 each.

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PROMOTION OF SELECTED APPRENTICES TO SUPERIOR POSTS IN ORDNANCE FACTORIES.

121. **THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU :** (a) With reference to the reply given by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to question No. 73 on the 6th March, 1941, will Government state what decision they have come to regarding the promotion to superior posts of selected apprentices from among those employed in subordinate posts in the Ordnance factories? Are Government aware that these apprentices have the same qualifications as the special class apprentices who are appointed to superior posts in the Railways and that there is a common examination held for their selection by the Central Public Service Commission?

(b) How many apprentices had been promoted to superior posts before the 6th March, 1941, and how many have been promoted since? What are the names of the promoted officers?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DE C. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief): (a) The present apprentice scheme was designed to provide recruits for the non-gazetted supervisory posts, and not for gazetted posts. There is a separate scheme for the training of Indians for direct appointment to gazetted grades. The former scheme was only introduced in June, 1935, and as the course of training is four to five years and six years in the case of clothing factories, those apprentices who have so far completed the course

are considerably junior to the majority of non-gazetted personnel, who are also eligible for promotion to gazetted rank. The ex-apprentices will be considered for promotion when they have more experience.

The answer to the second part is in the affirmative, at the time when the apprentices are selected but the course of training is different.

(b) No apprentices have been promoted to gazetted posts so far in Ordnance factories. In the Clothing factories, two ex-apprentices are on probation as Assistant Works Managers. Their names are Messrs. S. N. Gupta and Amar Chand.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief said that he was looking into the whole question. What has been the result of this examination ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : I have already stated what the position is at the moment. The question has been investigated but I do not know if the Honourable Member expects results in a matter of this kind in a few months.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : What I want to know is whether any decision has been come to in respect of the policy involved in the matter and the Honourable Member has not answered that.

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : I do not see how I can be called upon to make a statement of policy in reply to a supplementary question.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : I referred to the reply given by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief on the 6th March, 1941, and it was with reference to that that I wanted to know whether any decision had been come to. I am not springing any surprise on the Honourable Member.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : *He has said that it will take some months to show the results.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : I am not referring to the results. But what is the policy that has been laid down which may be expected to show satisfactory results in course of time ?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : I quite agree with the Honourable Member (the Honourable Mr. Williams). He has stated that he is not here to explain the policy.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : My question relates to policy. What are the Government Members here for if they say that it is not their business to explain the policy of Government ?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : That is your view. Every Government Member is not bound to tell the House what is the policy.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : I can understand Government saying they will not reply to a question, but I cannot understand any representative of the Government saying that he is not here to explain the policy of the Government to the Council.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : I quite agree with you. Unfortunately the Government Members often are too ready to reply. If they remained silent they would have less difficulty. Sometimes they are too anxious to give all the information available and Honourable Members take advantage of it.

NUMBER OF OFFICERS APPOINTED TO THE ORDNANCE FACTORIES.

122. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : (a) What is the number of officers appointed to the Indian Ordnance Services since the previous question was answered and how many of them are Indians ?

(b) How many (i) Indians and (ii) Britishers are being trained as officers for employment in the Ordnance Services ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief) : (a) The total number appointed since the 6th March, 1941 is 57 of whom 20 are Indians.

(b) Six Indians are being trained to assume gazetted appointments in Ordnance factories. No Briton is being trained.

PROMOTIONS OF INDIAN WARRANT OFFICERS TO COMMISSIONED RANK.

123. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : With reference to the reply given by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to question No. 74 on the 6th March, 1941, will Government state whether Indians appointed to posts for which departmental officers who are selected entirely from British warrant officers were formerly recruited have been promoted to commissioned rank like the departmental officers ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief) : Not all of them.

Some of the work formerly attached to these posts is done by Indian Viceroy's commissioned officers ; some by officers holding the normal type of commission, who may be British or Indian ; and some by civilians who hold no commission, and who are Indians. In some cases, such civilians have been granted commissions.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : What was the total number of officers appointed to posts which were formerly held by departmental officers and how many of them hold commissions or gazetted rank ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : I should require notice of that, Sir.

PRISONERS OF WAR AND DETENUS.

124. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : (a) Will Government lay on the table copies of the rules relating to the accommodation, diet and general treatment of (i) the prisoners of war detained in this country and (ii) the detenus ?

(b) Does any officer belonging to a neutral country in charge of the interests in India of the nations to which the prisoners of war belong inspect the camps where these prisoners are detained ? If so, what is his name and designation, how often does he inspect the camps and to whom does he report ?

(e) Have any arrangements been made for the periodical inspection by non-official visitors of places where the detenues are kept ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. CONRAN-SMITH : (a) (i) The rules relating to the accommodation, diet and general treatment of prisoners of war detained in this country, are contained in the International Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War completed at Geneva on July 27th, 1929, and ratified on June 23rd, 1931, a copy of which is in the Library of the House.

(ii) A copy of Government's order regulating the conditions of detention in the Deoli Detention Camp was placed in the Library of the House on the 10th December, 1940.

(b) The Representative of the Neutral Country charged with the protection of the interests of enemy belligerents is also charged with protecting the interests of prisoners of war. He is entitled to visit camps where prisoners of war are detained at all times, and at his sole discretion. Spain is the Neutral Power entrusted with the protection of Italian interests in those parts of India where prisoners of war are detained, and the Consul for Spain in Bombay is the individual immediately concerned. The Consul reports directly to his own Government.

(c) The Deoli Detention Camp Order does not provide for the periodical inspection of the Camp by non-official visitors. This matter is, however, at present engaging the attention of Government.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : Is Deoli the only internment camp under the Government of India or are there other camps also for the detention of detenues ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. CONRAN-SMITH : If the Honourable Member is using the word "Camp" in the strict sense, the answer to the first part of his question is in the affirmative. There are however other security prisoners in jails in Centrally administered areas.

NUMBER OF INDIANS ENLISTED IN THE INDIAN ARMY FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER, 1939.

125. **THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU :** (a) What is the total number of Indian soldiers enlisted in the Indian Army since the 1st September, 1939 ?

(b) Will Government lay on the table a statement classifying the recruits according to the (i) provinces and (ii) communities they belong to ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief) : (a) and (b). I regret I cannot supply the information asked for by the Honourable Member as Government consider it is not in the public interest to do so.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Is this too governed by the reply given by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to Mr. Hossain Imam's question to which the Honourable Member referred the other day ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS : Yes, Sir.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Is it a fact that that question of Mr. Hossain Imam's related only to officers ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS: That may be so, but it does not affect the fact that these figures should not be given out.

NUMBER OF INDIANS RECRUITED FROM ENLISTED AND NON-ENLISTED CLASSES FOR THE INDIAN ARMY.

126. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: (a) Is it a fact that the Council passed an amendment moved by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to a Resolution on the 6th March, 1941, recommending to Government that "the army authorities should now review sources of manpower throughout the country and should exclude no class or area from consideration for recruitment in the formation of new units"?

(b) What is the number of Indian soldiers recruited from the enlisted and non-enlisted classes in each province during the periods (i) 1st September, 1939 to February, 1941, and (ii) March, 1941 to October, 1941?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief): (a) Yes.

(b) Government consider that it is not in the public interest to give the actual numbers of Indian soldiers recruited. I would, however, give for the information of the Honourable Member the percentages—

- (i) Percentage of post-war classes to pre-war classes, recruited during the period 1st September, 1939 to 28th February, 1941 3.5 per cent.
- (ii) Percentage of post-war classes to pre-war classes recruited for the period 1st March, 1941 to the 30th September, 1941 6.5 per cent.

RE-EMPLOYMENT OF MR. F. T. JONES, AFTER RETIREMENT.

127. THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU: (a) Has Mr. F. T. Jones, retired Chief Engineer, been re-employed by Government? If so, what are his duties? If he was granted an extension before his retirement what was its duration?

(b) What is his salary? If he gets any allowance in addition to his salary, what is its amount? Does he get his salary in addition to his pension?

(c) What are the reasons for which he has been re-employed?

THE HONOURABLE MALIK SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON: (a) Mr. F. T. Jones has been re-employed in the temporary post of Steel Control Adviser (Labour Department) for a period of six months in the first instance with effect from the 30th July, 1941. His duties are to advise the Department of Labour in operating the quota allotted to it for essential civil needs under the Iron and Steel (Control of Distribution) Order, 1941. In addition, he performs the duties of Rent Controller in Delhi, and, since the introduction of the Simla Rent Control Order, in Simla also. Mr. Jones was not granted any extension before retirement.

(b) Mr. Jones's salary is Rs. 1,500 per mensem in addition to his pension. He also receives an additional pay of Rs. 250 per mensem for performing the duties of Rent Controller.

(c) Mr. Jones was re-employed as Steel Control Adviser (Labour Department) because he possessed the technical qualifications and the experience required for the post.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Where did he acquire this technical experience ?

THE HONOURABLE MALIK SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON : During his long service as Chief Engineer in the P. W. D.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Could not the Chief Engineer then be asked to lend an officer of his own Department ?

THE HONOURABLE MALIK SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON : Government Departments are always kept at the very minimum in order to keep down public expenditure so there are no spare officers in Government departments to do other work.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : There is no saving to Government. Why was not a service man appointed to this superior post and a subordinate made to do his work instead of appointing a retired man to this post ?

THE HONOURABLE MALIK SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON : That is a question of opinion, whether a man should have been taken out of the service and made to do this work or a man recruited directly from outside. Speaking from my experience I can say that during the war in similar cases Government departments often have to go to industry and various business houses to ask for the loan of their officers for certain work in connection with the war ; and I think it would not have been right to disturb the ordinary working of the Department in this case and the advisable thing was to have an outsider to do this work.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : The point is this, that an officer of the Government might have been appointed to a superior post and a retired officer to a comparatively subordinate post. That has happened in England in connection with the R. A. M. C. Senior officers have patriotically offered to occupy junior posts so that men already in the service should occupy superior posts.

THE HONOURABLE MALIK SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON : I understand the Honourable Member feels that the Department should have taken a man from inside the Department, but the Department felt they should take a man from outside the Department. There is a difference of opinion. I cannot add to my answer.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : It is a mere matter of opinion.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU : Everything seems to be a matter of opinion here.

THE HONOURABLE MALIK SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON : That is quite true everywhere.

NUMBER OF OFFICERS UNDER THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS, DEFENCE DEPARTMENT, APPOINTED AS OBSERVERS IN COMMANDS, ETC.

128. **THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU :** (a) Have Government attached observers to the various Commands in India and in other places where Indian troops have been sent ? If so, what are their duties and number and where are they serving ?

(b) How many of them are Indians? Will Government place on the table a list showing their names and salaries?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (on behalf of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief): I lay a statement on the table.

Statement.

It is understood that by observers the Honourable Member means officers under the Director of Public Relations, Defence Department.

(a) As regards the first part of (a) provisions has been made for the appointment of Deputy Assistant Directors of Public Relations to the Headquarters of Army Commands in India, but, barring the attachment of an officer on special duty to Northern Command Headquarters to deal with publicity in connection with the North-West India Air Defence Exercises, these posts have not yet been filled although it is the intention to make the appointments as soon as possible. Their duties will be to provide news of military activities in the Commands to which they are attached and to assist by decentralization of the Public Relations system in procuring closer contact between the local press and public and the military in their respective areas, and to conduct parties visiting military establishments.

With Indian troops overseas there are at present six Public Relations officers proper, plus one photographer, one cinema photographer, and an officer broadcasting expert. These officers are now serving in the Middle East, Iraq, Iran and Malaya. Their functions vary according to local circumstances. In all theatres the Indian Army Public Relations units are responsible for providing background news coverage, photographs and cinema films of any operations in which Indian troops may be engaged, about outstanding feats of gallantry and of the daily life of Indian troops, and the material so procured is distributed by the Director of Public Relations through various agencies to the Indian and world press. In addition, they have to conduct where necessary accredited war correspondents on visits to Indian formations and also provide news agencies and correspondents direct with information about Indian Army units. Similarly they are expected, when occasion arises, to arrange and conduct the tours of distinguished visitors.

The Middle East unit, in addition to these functions, administers on behalf of General Staff the distribution of news and broadcasting to Indian troops, arranges recordings of messages from Indian soldiers to their relations, and produces in Egypt various news sheets for the troops, including a local edition of "Fauji Akhbar". For this latter purpose a special officer of the General Staff is attached to the unit.

In Iraq and Iran, Public Relations organisation being in the Indian Command, is entirely responsible for the news service about all the forces in the Command, whether British or Indian, and for accredited war correspondents.

In Malaya, besides securing news and pictures of Indian troops for publication in India and elsewhere, the Public Relations Officer has charge of the Indian section in the combined Services Publicity Bureau at the Headquarters of the Far East Command. From this Bureau news and photographs are distributed both to Malaya and to the world press.

(b) As regards part (b) of the question, of these ten Public Relations officers serving overseas at present, five are Indians. They comprise a major, who is a second grade staff officer, two captains, one lieutenant and one second lieutenant. They receive the pay of their rank and grade and the usual overseas allowances, plus in the case of the two lowest ranking officers, intelligence pay at Rs. 66-11-0 per mensem. The names of these officers are mentioned below, but it should be pointed out that several of the officers concerned are drawn from units of the Army and are liable to revert to their units, or to be transferred to other appointments. The list of names has therefore no degree of permanence, as officers are attached to Public Relations duties as and when the situation requires.

Names of officers mentioned above.

1. Major K. L. Atal (G-2).
2. Captain M. L. Katju (Captain).
3. Captain M. K. U. Nayar (Captain).
4. Lieutenant A. N. S. Murhti (Lieutenant).
5. 2nd Lieutenant Shams Arif, (Pay of Intelligence officer.)

DELETION OF THE WORDS "LABOURER" AND "MENIAL" FROM THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF STATE-MANAGED RAILWAYS.

129. THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : Is it a fact that the E. B. R., the E. I. R., the G. I. P. R. and the N. W. R. classify the staff as labourers and menials? If so, will Government state the authority under which such classification is made and if there is no such authority do Government propose to prohibit such classification and to instruct those Railways to delete the words "labourer" and "menial" from their rules and regulations?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : Though the phrase "daily rated labour" is used to describe manual workers, there is no classification of the kind mentioned. In fact the term "menial" is no longer in use. The second part of the question does not arise.

REFRESHER COURSES, ETC., GIVEN AT THE RAILWAY SCHOOL OF TRANSPORTATION, CHANDAUSI.

130. THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU : Will Government state the specific page of the reports for the years 1937-38-39-40-41 by the General Manager on the administration of the E.I.R. wherein a review on the working of the Senior Assistant Station Masters' Refresher Course at the Railway School of Transportation, Chandausi, is given and if such a review is not taken into consideration for the reports, the reasons therefor?

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : Pages 112, 106, 113-14, 114-15 in the Reports for the years 1937-38, 1938-39, 1939-40 and 1940-41 contain the observations made on the instruction, including refresher courses, given at the Chandausi School of Transportation. The second part does not arise.

BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY LAID ON THE TABLE.

SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL : Sir, in pursuance of rule 25 of the Indian Legislative Rules, I lay on the table copies of the following Bills which were passed by the Legislative Assembly at its meetings held on the 13th and 14th November, 1941, namely :—

A Bill further to amend the Excess Profits Tax Act, 1940.

A Bill to regulate the extent to which railway property shall be liable to taxation imposed by an authority within a Province.

A Bill further to amend the Indian Companies Act, 1913.

A Bill further to amend the Trade Marks Act, 1940.

CENTRAL ADVISORY BOARD OF EDUCATION IN INDIA.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : With reference to the announcement made by me on the 13th November, 1941 regarding nomination to the Central Advisory Board of Education in India, I have to announce that the Honourable Sir Ramunni Menon has been nominated to it. As there is only one candidate for one vacancy I declare him duly elected.

INFORMATION PROMISED IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS LAID ON THE TABLE.

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. DEC. WILLIAMS (Defence Co-ordination Secretary) : Sir, I lay on the table the information promised in reply to questions Nos. 153 and 154 asked by the Honourable Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru on the 2nd April, 1941.

Question No. 153.

SALE OF BUNGALOWS IN POONA CANTONMENT.

(a) It is assumed that the question relates to sites held under the old Rules, Regulations and Orders in force in the Cantonment. If so, the answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. With regard to the second part the sanction is required under the regulations governing the tenure of the sites.

(b) Purchasers are asked to give an admission certificate which merely summarises the conditions on which the site is held. The certificate, which in its present form summarises the provisions of the various Rules, Regulations and Orders in force from time to time, is under the existing orders of Government only to be taken when the transferee agrees.

Question No. 154.

MORTGAGE OF PROPERTY IN POONA CANTONMENT.

(a) to (c). The answers given to question No. 153 apply equally in the case of transfers by mortgage and partition of family estates.

As no cases of transfer by an executor to a legatee have, as far as is known, occurred the part of the question in respect of them does not arise.

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. E. JONES (Finance Secretary) : Sir, I lay on the table the information promised in reply to question No. 58, asked by the Honourable Mr. N. K. Das on the 5th March, 1941.

RULES FOR DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS OF INSPECTORS AND ACCOUNTANTS IN THE INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENT, BIHAR AND ORISSA.

(a) Yes.

(b) Nine.

(c) No. The rules are, however, liberally interpreted and benefits admissible under the old rules have been and will continue to be allowed in deserving cases.

INDIAN LIMITATION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

THE HONOURABLE MR. CHIDAMBARAM CHETTIYAR (Madras : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Indian Limitation Act, 1908.

ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. BOZMAN (Secretary, Indians Overseas Department) : Sir, I move :—

“ That the Bill further to amend the Aligarh Muslim University Act, 1920, for a certain purpose, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration.”

I do not think that the House will require me to make any remarks on this Bill. The Statement of Objects and Reasons is complete and shows that the Bill is merely designed to fill a gap which exists in the Act as it stands at present.

Sir, I move.

THE HONOURABLE SIR MUHAMMAD YAKUB (Nominated Non-Official) : Sir, I rise to lend my hearty support to the Motion made by the Honourable Member. When the Muslim University Act was passed in 1921 we had no girls' institution at Aligarh. Since then, first a girls' school and afterwards a girls' college was established at Aligarh, and as there was no provision in the Muslim University Act to allow girl students to appear for the examination it was very inconvenient for Muslim girls to appear for the examination. In fact they had to appear as private candidates and it was to remove this difficulty that this amendment was introduced. I am very glad that the Bill has been passed by the Assembly and is now before this House and I lend my support to it.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU (United Provinces Southern : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I should like also to give this Bill my hearty support. It is intended to enable the Aligarh University to admit to its privileges a Degree College which it is proposed to organise at Aligarh. I am glad that our Muslim brothers are taking so much interest in women's education. The future not only of their community but also India depends upon the emancipation of women. I hope, Sir, that there will be more radical social change in the constitution of both Muslim and Hindu society than we have had so far.

With these words, Sir, I would like to give this Bill my support.

THE HONOURABLE PANDIT HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU (United Provinces Northern : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I do not propose to oppose this Bill but I should frankly have preferred that Muslim girls should receive education in Aligarh University in the same way as the boys are doing. By the establishment of a separate college the University is to a certain extent contravening the principles underlying its establishment. The Aligarh University is a unitary teaching and residential University in the same way as the Allahabad and the Hindu Universities. A breach is being made in its principles by passing this Bill today which would enable women who are not strictly speaking students of the Aligarh University to receive its Degrees. However, I would not on this ground oppose this Bill. I am, on the contrary, glad that there is a desire, a keen desire, on the part of Muslim girls to receive higher education. No one who goes to Hyderabad can fail to be struck by the keenness among women in regard to education and I trust that the same keenness will be exhibited in an ever-increasing degree throughout India.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : Motion moved :—

“ That the Bill further to amend the Aligarh Muslim University Act, 1920, for a certain purpose, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration. ”

Question put and Motion adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and Preamble were added to the Bill.

THE HONOURABLE MR. G. S. BOZMAN : Sir, I move :—

“ That the Bill, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be passed. ”

The Motion was adopted.

MADRAS PORT TRUST (AMENDMENT) BILL.

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY (Communications Secretary) : Sir, I move :—

“ That the Bill to alter the constitution of the Board of Trustees of the Port of Madras, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration. ”

The Madras Port Trust Board consists of fifteen members of whom five, including the Chairman, are appointed by the Central Government, and ten are elected by commercial bodies. Of the elected members, four are from the Madras Chamber of Commerce, two from the Trades Association, two from the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, and one each from the Skin and Hide Merchants Association and the Madras Piece-goods Association. The last two bodies were given representation for the first time by the amending Act of 1923 which thereby raised Indian commercial representation from two to four. Since 1930, however, repeated representations have been received from Indian commercial bodies alleging that the share of Indian business interests in the trade of the Port has increased very considerably and that the existing distribution of seats is unfair to them. It has been difficult to collect reliable statistics, but the result of recent inquiries goes to show that Indian and European interests share about equally in the traffic of the Port.

The Bill as introduced, therefore, sought to correct the inequality by taking away the two seats allotted to the Trades Association. It was considered desirable to avoid sectional representation, as far as possible. It was accordingly proposed to redistribute the seats given to Indian Commerce by taking away the seat allotted to the Piece-goods Association and giving it to the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, in which that Association is strongly represented. Owing to the special position of the Skin and Hide Merchants Association, who control nearly a quarter of the trade passing through the Port, the seat allotted to them was retained. The opportunity was taken to give one seat to the Madras Corporation, one to a nominee of the Provincial Government, and to reserve one seat for a representative of Labour from among the seats to which appointments are made by the Central Government.

The Bill as passed by the Legislative Assembly has—

- (i) increased the representation of the Skin and Hide Merchants Association to two seats ;

[Mr. S. N. Roy.]

- (ii) restored one seat to the Madras Trades Association ;
- (iii) given one seat to the Andhra Chamber of Commerce which is not at present represented on the Trust, thus increasing the total number of trustees from fifteen to eighteen.

It also provides that the seat reserved for Labour shall be filled after consultation with registered Trade Unions of Port employees, if any.

The Bill as passed by the Assembly thus increases the representatives of Indian commerce from four to six and reduces those of European commerce from six to five. It provides in addition for one representative of Labour, one of the Corporation and one of the Provincial Government, leaving four, including the Chairman, to be appointed by the Central Government. The alterations made in the Assembly represent a fair compromise between conflicting claims and I commend the Bill as passed by the Assembly for the acceptance of the House.

Sir, I move.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU (United Provinces Southern : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, whilst I am glad that the question of the constitution of the Board of Trustees of the Port of Madras has been taken into consideration by Government, I cannot wholeheartedly congratulate them on the actual measure that they have produced. Sir, the ports constitute the front line of national defence and I do not agree with the view that aliens or foreigners should have any representation in the constitution of the Port Trusts. The constitution of the Port Trusts should be exclusively Indian and as we are not in favour of imperialistic exploitation of any character whatever, we can never compromise on this question that the constitution should be entirely Indian in character. I should have preferred—I do not want to disfranchise the European merchants who are here—but I should have preferred a common electorate and I should not have divided them up into the Indian Chamber of Commerce, the European Chamber of Commerce, the Trades Association or the other Associations that are mentioned here, but I would have had one common electorate, and I should have given in that common electorate the Europeans, who are resident in this country, a vote. Beyond that I do not think that the Europeans are entitled to any special consideration, and, therefore, as a matter of principle, I am clearly and unequivocally opposed to representation which has been provided for Chambers of Commerce which are exclusively European.

I find, Sir, that the Madras Chamber of Commerce has been given four seats. The Indian Chamber of Commerce has been allotted only three seats. Now the Indian Chamber of Commerce represents much larger interests than the Madras Chamber of Commerce, and I see no reason why there should have been this discrimination in favour of the Madras Chamber of Commerce. The qualification of the Madras Chamber of Commerce is that it is predominantly European. The disqualification, so far as I can see, of the Indian Chamber of Commerce is that it is predominantly Indian, or it is almost exclusively Indian. Then I find, Sir, that the Madras Trades Association has been given one seat. Now, I do not think, Sir, that it is a sufficiently important body to be allotted a seat at all. As a matter of fact, I was just going through the opinions on this Bill and I find that the Madras Government say that they do

not press the claims of the Madras Trades Association. Therefore, Sir, I see no reason why the Madras Trades Association should have been given any representation, particularly when the Rice and Grains Association has not been given any representation at all. I understand that the Rice and Grains Association is a bigger body than the Madras Trades Association. Sir, we cannot accept the criterion of the volume of trade in the hands of each community as the basis of representation. If we accept that criterion then we shall have to provide representation for the Americans, for the Japanese and perhaps, in the post-war world, even for those with whom we are fighting to-day. We can only accept a national basis as the criterion of representation in bodies which regulate the ports of our country. Imagine, for example, Sir, Indians claiming representation in the constitution of the Port Trust, assuming that there is a Port Trust, of London. What would be the answer? We trade with so many other countries. Have we ever put forward a claim that, as we have got some export and some import business, we should have representation in the constitution of the Port Trusts of those countries? What is the basis for this representation? The basis for representation is that England is in a dominant position in this country; that England has the supreme power in this country and, therefore, Britishers are not prepared for racial equality. Well, that being the basis of this Bill, it is not possible for me or for us to support this racial discrimination. The basis of the Bill is, as I said before, imperialistic and we are uncompromisingly opposed to imperialism of any kind whatever.

Then, Sir, I should like also to say one word about Labour representation. I am glad that Labour has been given one seat, but I should have liked Labour to have been given at least two seats. I think Labour had an equal right with Commerce to be fairly and adequately represented on this body. Sir, while I am not prepared to offer actual opposition to this Bill, I cannot look upon it as a considerable advance in the direction of giving Indians what is their due.

THE HONOURABLE SIR A. P. PATRO (Nominated Non-Official): I welcome this Bill and lend my support to it. The only criticism that I could hear was that the constitution of the Board of Trustees should be entirely Indian and that the basic principle of this Bill is imperialistic. I do not see anything in this Bill which in any way indicates that it is imperialistic or that it makes any distinction between European and Indian. On the other hand, it seems to me that the Honourable Mr. Sapru is not acquainted with the facts concerning the position of the various bodies to whom representation has been given in this Bill—

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. N. SAPRU: I am acquainted. I have read about it.

THE HONOURABLE SIR A. P. PATRO: You may read it in some newspaper article which is always scrappy and which cannot be a sure guide in the matter of facts. If you go into the details of the composition of the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, you will at once see that the persons who are members thereof are not worth anything. It is a close Association. And yet you find the big name of Southern India Chamber of Commerce consisting of several members. Analyse them and you will find all the representatives to be a close preserve. If he knows the details, I am sure my Honourable friend will not be so very eloquent in his criticism of this Bill,

[Sir A. P. Patro.]

Then, where is the imperialistic idea in this? The Trades Association consists largely of European traders and Indian traders. It is not exclusively European. Therefore you will find that representation is given to the Indian element also in the Trades Association. What is the test of representation? It is the volume of trade carried on by each organisation and not the number of members. The volume of the trade is the real test in the case of these institutions to whom representation has been given. The volume of trade is not much, though the Southern India Chamber of Commerce get representation. It is a pity that no representation could be given to the Piece-goods Association. They have been agitating for a representative no doubt. But the difficulty seems to be that many members of the Piece-goods Association are also members of the Southern India Chamber of Commerce and Andhra Chamber of Commerce and so they will have two votes instead of having only one vote. Any inconvenience owing to non-representation of the Piece-goods Association is minimised by their being represented on the Southern India Chamber of Commerce. Therefore, the criticism of my Honourable friend Mr. Sapru is not at all sound. If he acquaints himself with the facts, he will find that there is no racial discrimination or imperialistic ideas. These are phrases which are glibly trotted out but there is absolutely no foundation for any such expressions to be used in connection with this Bill. As I said, the Bill makes a very equitable distribution of the seats on the Madras Port Trust and as such I welcome it.

THE HONOURABLE SIR ANDREW CLOW (Communications Member): Sir, the last speaker has replied effectively to the main point made by the Honourable Mr. Sapru. I was a little astonished to see that he detected imperialistic designs in this Bill. I do not know how it furthers these at all. His statement that the British were not prepared for racial equality in the matter of this Bill is, I should have thought, on the face of it, incorrect. He referred to foreigners and aliens. There may be one or two in Madras engaged in trade, but the interests that are really represented in this Bill are interests that are in India and that are sharing in the commerce and industry and trade of India. He scented some discrimination because the Southern India Chamber have been given three seats and the Madras Chamber of Commerce four. But he seemed to have overlooked the fact that the Andhra Chamber of Commerce has been given a seat and that the Skin and Hide Merchants Association have been given two. As regards the Piece-goods Association, my understanding of the position is that the trade is smaller and that all of it, particularly of the export trade, is not in their hands. The last speaker has referred to the presence of members of this Association in the Southern India Chamber of Commerce and I think I am right in saying that they are also in the Andhra Chamber of Commerce, perhaps even in larger numbers.

THE HONOURABLE SIR A. P. PATRO: Yes.

THE HONOURABLE SIR ANDREW CLOW: I notice that criticism of this Bill, both here and in another place, seems to emanate from those who live a very long way from Madras while it had the general support of those who are familiar with conditions in their own port.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: Motion moved:—

“That the Bill to alter the constitution of the Board of Trustees of the Port of Madras, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration.”

Question put and Motion adopted.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and Preamble were added to the Bill.

THE HONOURABLE MR. S. N. ROY : Sir, I move :—

“ That the Bill, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be passed.”

The Motion was adopted.

The Council then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, the 18th November, 1941.
