

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

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(12th November to 18th November, 1946)

SECOND SESSION

OF THE

SIXTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
1946



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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Deputy President :

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MR. P. J. GRIFFITHS, M.L.A.

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MR. A. J. M. ATKINSON.

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SRI SRI PRAKASA, M.L.A.

MR. C. P. LAWSON, M.L.A.

SARDAR MANGAL SINGH, M.L.A.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Saturday, 16th November, 1946

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at Eleven of the Clock, Mr. President (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(a) ORAL ANSWERS

SARAI PURANI IDGAH HOUSING SCHEME IN DELHI

625. *Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal: Will the Secretary of the Health Department please state:

(a) if it is a fact that Sarai Purani Idgah Scheme for re-housing the poor in Delhi is executed; and

(b) number of families getting the benefit of that scheme?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: (a) The scheme has not yet been finally approved.

(b) The Delhi Improvement Trust is taking a census of the persons who are likely to be affected by the execution of the scheme, and the number of families which will be entitled to the benefits of the state-aided re-housing scheme will be known on completion of the census.

Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal: May I know from the Honourable Member the stage at which the scheme stands at present?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: The scheme has been published for public objections and it is now under the consideration of the Trust.

Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal: How long will it take to get their final approval?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: I cannot say that.

Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal: May I know if the location of the alternative accommodation proposed to be provided for the persons coming under the scheme is close to the place of the scheme?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: I understand that the whole question of the accommodation of those who will be displaced is under the consideration of the Trust.

Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal: May I know what is the shape and design of the houses which are going to be provided to those people and whether they will have electricity and water supply?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: Yes, Sir. Electricity and water will certainly be provided. As regards the design of the houses I shall have to ask for notice of that question.

Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal: Will notice be served upon the inhabitants when the scheme is finally approved?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: Yes, Sir. I believe that notice to vacate will be given in the case of those persons who are required to vacate their houses.

RESERVATION OF POSTS OF CIVIL SURGEONS FOR EUROPEAN I.M.S. OFFICERS

626. *Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal: Will the Secretary of the Health Department please state the steps which the Interim Government have taken or propose to take to remove the reservation of several posts of Civil Surgeons for European I. M. S. Officers only?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: The posts are reserved under orders passed by the Secretary of State. The whole question of the termination of the I.M.S. (Civil) as a Secretary of State's service is under the active consideration of Government.

Seth Govind Das: Are the Government of India going to represent to the Secretary of State that such reservation is detrimental to the interests of this country?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: I have said that the matter is under the consideration of the Government and the point which the Honourable Member has made will certainly be borne in mind.

Lala Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know if it is a fact that in Delhi we can have only a European I.M.S. as civil surgeon and not an Indian?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: The post of Civil Surgeon, Delhi, is one of the posts which are reserved for European officers under the rules made by the Secretary of State.

REMOVAL OF COLOUR PREJUDICE AND FAVOURITISM IN W. A. C. (I)

627. *Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state the steps which the Interim Government have taken or propose to take to put an end to colour prejudice and favouritism in the W.A.C. (I)?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: The Interim Government, Sir, are satisfied that steps to prevent favouritism or colour prejudice have been taken, and I may remind the Honourable Member that this Corps will be disbanded entirely by 1st April 1947.

Babu Ram Narayan Singh: What are the steps that have been taken to remove this?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: The instructions of Government.

Shri Sri Prakasa: Could we know the nature of the colour prejudice and favouritism?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: If ever there was any colour prejudice or favouritism—and I deny that there was—that will now be stopped.

RECOVERY OF EXPENDITURE INCURRED IN INDIA ON BEHALF OF U. K. AND EASTERN GROUP COUNTRIES

628. *Mr. Manu Subedar: (a) Under how many accounts has the Honourable the Finance Member incurred expenditure in India for and on behalf of (i) the Government of the United Kingdom, and (ii) the Eastern Group countries?

(b) How much has this expenditure been during each of the last five years?

(c) How much expenditure is still being incurred, and for what purposes?

(d) By what processes and in what manner have these moneys been recovered?

(e) If they have not been recovered, what steps are Government taking for their recovery?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: (a) Mainly³ under the Defence Services Account and to a minor extent on Civil Account mainly in respect of the following items—

- (1) Evacuees.
- (2) Internees.
- (3) Lascar's pensions.
- (4) Requisitioned ships.
- (5) Mica bonus.

(b) On Defence Services Account the expenditure has been as follows:

	In lakhs of rupees
1941-42	193.53
1942-43	305.99
1943-44	377.87
1944-45	455.13
1945-46 (Estimatee)	349.56

The figures for the expenditure on Civil Account are not readily available but are comparatively small. They are being collected and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

(c) The net expenditure that will arise in the Defence Services Accounts in 1946-47 on behalf of the Government of the U.K. is estimated at Rs. 34,25 lakhs, mainly on pay and allowances of Indian troops serving overseas on Imperial duties, pay and allowances of troops in India and other formations required for the maintenance of troops and expenditure on stores for these troops, transportation charges, accommodation and other miscellaneous charges and terminal charges such as war gratuities, release leave pay, etc. In this connection a reference is invited to the Explanatory Memorandum on the Budget Estimates for the Defence Services 1946-47. Except for a trifling amount representing arrear transactions, there will be no expenditure incurred on behalf of the Eastern Group Countries in 1946-47. The extent of the expenditure on civil items mentioned in reply to part (a), which continues to be incurred, will be known when figures have been collected as indicated in reply to part (b) of the question.

(d) and (e). Under the Financial Settlement regulating the allocation of defence expenditure between His Majesty's Government and India during the war, the expenditure incurred by the Government of India on defence services and supplies less that portion debitable to India revenues is recovered currently from His Majesty's Government. That Government's liabilities in respect of the previous years have all been discharged by sterling payments. Similarly expenditure incurred in the current year on behalf of His Majesty's Government is also being recovered currently in the same manner. The civil expenditure is likewise being recovered from His Majesty's Government in sterling.

Mr. Manu Subedar: Will the Honourable the Finance Member examine the question whether, in regard to the supplies made to the Eastern Group countries (in which, I understand Australia and South Africa are included) any moneys for the past expenditure incurred by the Government of India on their behalf are still due and, if so, whether those countries should not be called upon to pay them to India directly instead of these debits being put in the sterling balances to the credit of India?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: Sir, I do not think there are any outstanding but I will have the matter examined as suggested by my Honourable friend.

RENT OF REQUISITIONED PROPERTIES

629. ***Mr. Manu Subedar:** (a) Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state by how much the rent of requisitioned properties has been brought down from the figure of nine crores of rupees a year given at the time of the last session of the Assembly?

(b) Which classes of premises are still under occupation, and why?

(c) Why did the process of de-requisitioning take so long?

(d) Is it a fact that for de-requisitioning, special men have been called out from England? If so, what are their names and their salaries?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: (a) The position as at 30th September 1946 is as follows:

	In lakhs of rupees
Rental of requisitioned property	620
Rental of hired property	152
	772

There has been a decrease of Rs. 1.34 crores since December 1945 and this has been achieved by the release of 4,152 buildings and 934 lands.

(b) I lay a statement on the table showing the classes of premises still under occupation.

(c) There is no longer any delay in the process of de-requisitioning once it is decided that the property can be released; but the requirements of the Armed Forces are still considerable, because those coming back from overseas are almost as many as those being demobilised.

(d) Yes, Sir. Of a total of 197 officers, 30 have been brought out from England. Three Deputy Assistant Directors and twenty-three Area Lands, Hirings and Disposals Officers have been recruited in the United Kingdom. A statement is laid on the table showing their names and salaries.

Statement [in reply to part (b)]
Classes of premises still under occupation

Classes	Reasons
(i) Schools and other Educational Establishments.	Being used as hospitals and by other administrative units. The release of this class of accommodation is being given the highest priority.
(ii) Hospitals	
(iii) Public Buildings and Institutes .	Only 4 premises are affected in the whole country. Will be released as hospital requirements of the Armed Forces fall.
(iv) Commercial and Industrial buildings.	
(v) Storage accommodation	Being used in most cases owing to the increased clerical staff of establishments and will be released as demobilization progresses.
(vi) Residential buildings	
(vii) Other buildings including Hospitals.	
	Cannot be released until it is possible to dispose of stores.
	Until the establishment of the Armed Forces is reduced still further it will be necessary to retain a proportion of the buildings for residential purposes.

Statement [in reply to part (d)]

	Salary Per mensem	Overseas pay per mensem
	Rs.	£
<i>Deputy Assistant Directors—</i>		
Mr. J. K. Brittain	1,100—37/8—1,250	25
„ J. Parry		
„ Gallaher		
<i>Area Lands, Hirings and Disposals Officers—</i>		
Mr. B. G. Abrahams	750—25—850	25
„ H. V. Littler		
„ V. W. G. Barrell		
„ P. G. White		
„ A. I. G. Harding		
„ A. Hinton		
„ I. E. Hills		
„ K. B. Kilner		

	Salary per mensem	Overseas pay per mensem
	Rs.	£
Mr. L. Strudwick	} 750—25—650	25
„ P. A. Greig		
„ E. Lake		
„ E. G. Brown		
„ J. Moddings		
„ L. S. Gillard		
„ H. F. Midworth		
„ L. A. Harrison		
„ D. O. J. Duncan		
„ H. E. F. Miller		
„ W. J. H. Shepherd		
„ H. C. Morris		
„ J. B. Eastmure		
„ D. G. Baker		
„ K. L. Eaves		

NOTE.—8 of these officers have been engaged on a salary above the minimum.

In addition the undermentioned, who were serving as military officers in L. H. & D. Service, on release from the Army, have been engaged on civilian contracts in the appointments they held as military officers:—

Assistant Directors—

Mr. C. R. Beale	} 1,500—50—1,700	30
„ E. W. Popple		

Deputy Assistant Directors.—

Mr. L. P. Brooks	} 1,100—37/8—1,250	25
„ A. S. Gill		

Mr. Manu Subedar: May I know why, from this enormous expenditure of Rs. 9 crores a year or Rs. 75 lakhs a month, the military department have failed to bring it down to anything less than Rs. 7 crores, and why twelve months after the war this country should still go on bearing this very heavy expenditure? May I know whether it is due to the slowness of demobilisation, and whether demobilisation has not taken place according to the schedule originally fixed? May I know whether there have been any special causes for the delay in demobilisation?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I suggest that all these questions have been gone into fully in connection with the debate on the Bill to continue certain emergency powers in relation to requisitioned land. I have given a reply to all these questions before, and I hope the House will not wish me to repeat what I have already said.

Mr. Manu Subedar: I am asking the Honourable Member to make clear to this House now why a heavy sum of Rs. 7 crores should still be borne by this country, and whether it is due to incompetence or dereliction or whether it is

due to delay in demobilisation which has left us with bill of Rs. 7 crores a year, which is a very heavy outlay.

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I explained before that the armed forces of the country—the men in uniform—were still roughly four times the normal peace-time strength. I have already explained that we had large scale movements of troops from the east and from the west; and for these reasons—(these are the main reasons) and also because we have got property worth crores of rupees to be stored and guarded, etc., all of which require accommodation—the progress of derequisitioning is not so rapid as we ourselves would like it to be. As regards the particular point about the progress of demobilisation, demobilisation is slightly behind schedule—for reasons which I need not go into at the moment—but on the whole demobilisation has not been delayed to the extent the suggestion seems to be.

Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer: In view of the fact that hundreds of bungalows which were built by Government during the course of the war round about various cantonments in India are being demolished and auctioned, why is it not possible for the Honourable Member to retain them and accommodate these officers who are coming from overseas in these hutments, so that the properties now in the possession of the Government which were requisitioned may be derequisitioned in the immediate future?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I can assure the Honourable Member straightaway that wherever there is accommodation available for troops coming from overseas theatres, special accommodation will not be reserved for them.

Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer: Why not derequisition all these properties which are in the possession of the army and remove all those officers who have enjoyed these palatial houses in the past to the inconvenience of the civil population, and shift them into hutment accommodation round about the various cantonments in India, which are now being auctioned for a song and are being demolished and thrown away?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I do not accept the implication that this happens on a scale on which my Honourable friend suggests that it exists.

Diwan Chaman Lall: Why was it necessary to import 30 European officers for derequisitioning?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I explained that in connection with another question only on the 13th November: persons with technical qualifications were required, and unfortunately in spite of advertisements in the press here we could not get the requisite number of Indians possessing the technical qualifications.

Diwan Chaman Lall: Is it a fact that the academic qualifications were so engineered as to enable only Europeans to occupy these posts?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I do not think so.

Seth Govind Das: Are they being requisitioned temporarily or for permanent posts?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: Requisitions are always temporary!

Diwan Chaman Lall: May I ask my Honourable friend whether it is a fact that among these 30 men lawyers have been imported from Great Britain?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I cannot say offhand; the lawyers might also be engineers or surveyors; it is quite possible that a lawyer may be a surveyor as well.

Diwan Chaman Lall: That means that my Honourable friend has not actually examined the position and therefore he is not in a position to tell the House what his actual qualifications are?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: That is not so; I have said that the men who have been recruited are those holding the necessary technical qualifications; if in addition to those technical qualifications, any one happens to be a lawyer, I do not think that it is a disqualification.

Mr. President: Order, order: I think this is getting into an argument.

Sardar Mangal Singh: May I know whether in view of the food shortage in this country, Government will give first priority to release agricultural lands that have been requisitioned by the military authorities?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: Wherever possible I should say that agricultural land which was not immediately required has been given out for purposes of cultivation.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know if at the time of the original requisitioning any such group of men—30 Europeans—were brought here for requisitioning purposes?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: No, Sir.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: If there was no need at the time of requisitioning to get these officers, why is it now that you have had to get thirty men out from England for derequisitioning? I want an answer to this question.

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: The volume of work went on increasing since the process of requisitioning began, and as the volume of work increased the number of officers had also to be increased.

Mr. Manu Subedar: May I know in what period the demobilisation is expected to be completed, so that that particular reason for continuing requisitioning would drop out?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I think the bulk of the armed forces will have been demobilised by October 1947.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Do these legal advisers know anything about Indian law and Indian conditions? Have they any other qualifications than knowing English law?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: How does the question of legal adviser arise out of this question, Sir?

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: One of the thirty is a legal adviser?

Mr. President: There will be no further argument. I am calling the next question.

NON-INDIAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN INDIA

630. *Mr. Manu Subedar: (a) Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state how many prisoners of war of non-Indian origin have been maintained in India, and where?

(b) What is the total amount of expenditure incurred during each of the last five years?

(c) Is any expense being incurred now? If so, how much per month?

(d) What steps have been taken for their repatriation?

(e) Are these moneys recovered from the Government of the United Kingdom? If so, in what form? If not, why not?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: (a) The total number of prisoners of war of non-Indian origin maintained in India was 70,933 comprising 68,390 Italians and 2,543 Japanese. They were maintained at the following places:

Bangalore, Bhopal, Ramgarh, Dehra Dun, Yol, Bikaner and Baleli.

(b) The total amount of expenditure incurred during each of the last five years on the maintenance of prisoners of war of non-Indian origin is as follows:

	In lakhs of rupees
1941-42	8.76
1942-43	6.65
1943-44	7.23
1944-45	4.58
1945-46	2.80
Total	30.02

(c) The expenditure is now diminishing from month to month as prisoners are being repatriated. The expenditure for the month of September is estimated at Rs. 8 lakhs.

(d) All Japanese prisoners of war were repatriated in May 1946. The number of Italians repatriated up to date is 65,192 and shipping has been allotted to repatriate the remainder by the end of November 1946.

(e) The entire expenditure on the maintenance of Italian and Japanese prisoners of war captured beyond Indian borders is recovered from His Majesty's Government in sterling like other recoverable expenditure incurred by the Government of India on behalf of His Majesty's Government. The cost of maintenance of Japanese prisoners captured within Indian borders during the Assam campaign is the liability of India.

Mr. Manu Subedar: My Honourable friend gave figures which were not quite intelligible. Does he mean Rs. 8 crores a year was spent, or was it Rs. 80 lakhs a month?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I gave the figure for 1941-42 as Rs. 876 lakhs. All these figures are given in lakhs.

Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad: May I know what portion of this Rs. 30 crores has been debited to the account of the Indian exchequer and how much to His Majesty's Government?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I have not got the exact figure, but I think for purposes of allocating costs, the number of prisoners on whose account the cost was debited to the Government of India was 650.*

Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad: The rest goes to the account of H.M.G.?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: Exactly so.

Seth Govind Das: May I know, when these prisoners were detained in India on account of imperial policy, why should India bear the cost of their remaining here?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I said that the cost of all prisoners captured outside the borders of India had been debited to His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Manu Subedar: Apart from these costs, may I know whether the Government of India have incurred any heavy capital costs for putting up their camps and for their transit or in any other manner? I think these are maintenance costs which the Honourable Member mentioned.

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I am afraid I must ask for notice of that question.

BURMA REFUGEES SERVING IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

631. ***Mr. Manu Subedar:** (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member please state how many Burma refugees are still serving in the Central Government and in which Departments are they?

(b) Has the Government of Burma demanded the services of such men?

(c) What is the present position of these negotiations and how many men have already been sent back and how many are going to be sent from the services?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a), (b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House in due course. The Government of Burma have asked for the return of some of their employees and this request has in general been complied with. The remainder are employed only in temporary posts and to the extent that they are non-Indians, they will be covered by the recent orders about the ban on the employment of non-Indians.

Mr. Manu Subedar: Are Government aware that there is a lot of heart burning among regular Indian servants of the Indian Government that some

*Vide correction at page 1180 of Debates.

of the places which should have been given to them have been given to these refugees, non-Indians from Burma and if that is so, will the Honourable Member make inquiries and try and repatriate these non-Indian refugees, who may be in Government service now, to their own country?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: The inquiry which my Honourable friend wants to be made will be made and necessary steps will be taken.

RADIO LICENCES IN INDIA

632. *Mr. Manu Subedar: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state the total number of radio licences issued in India and the comparative figures for the last five years?

(b) What was the total number of radios imported in India since the beginning of the war?

(c) How many radios imported on Government account are still with Government?

(d) What has happened to the radios, which were in use by the soldiers and how many are there?

(e) How many new broadcasting stations are going to be installed and is the machinery for them on order? If so, where and at what price?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) The total number of current radio licenses in British India on the 31st August 1946 was 2,16,420. The figures for the previous five years are as follows:

1941	.	.	.	.	.	1,36,804
1942	.	.	.	.	.	1,61,700
1943	.	.	.	.	.	1,71,616
1944	.	.	.	.	.	1,88,019
1945	.	.	.	.	.	2,02,924

The figures for the Indian States are not available.

(b) The total number of radio sets imported in India through the commercial channels is 1,51,266. Radio sets imported on Government account total 53,917.

(c) None.

(d) Wireless sets issued to units remain the property of that unit until its disbandment when the sets are returned for re-distribution. Due to the extent of troop movements to and from India during 1945 and 1946 and due to heavy wastage which occurred in action, it is not possible to state how many sets originally issued are still in service. A census is being taken.

(e) Plans, both long-term and short-term, have been prepared for the development of broadcasting in India. The number of new centres that can be established will depend mainly upon finance, the availability of equipment and the provision of technical staff. The scheme has, however, not yet been finalized and no order for the machinery has so far been placed. The last part of the question does not arise.

Mr. Manu Subedar: In view of the very small number of licences in this country and the very useful purpose which broadcasting is performing for the public, may I know whether Government will either undertake themselves or subsidize a scheme for the production of a popular radio set at a very cheap price, from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Radio sets at cheaper rates are being prepared by some important companies and they have approached the Government about the matter. It is being considered.

Mr. Manu Subedar: That important company referred to by the Honourable the Home Member is offering those sets at about Rs. 95 and I feel that having regard to the very small intrinsic value of the raw material involved in this article, if it were properly managed, it could be produced at

between Rs. 20, 30 and 40. Will Government have an inquiry made into this problem and if necessary help and subsidise the manufacture of sets at a cheap price?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: If, as is suggested, cheaper sets can be made, the suggestion will certainly be examined.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is it a fact that some time ago a model cheap set was manufactured by the Government, for being copied by other manufacturers in this country, at a cost of Rs. 50?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: I want notice. I am not aware of that.

CREATION OF CIVIC GUARDS AND CIVIL DEFENCE CORPS

633. *Seth Govind Das: Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the disturbances that are breaking out at different places; and

(b) whether Government propose to revive the system of civic guards and to establish people's own civil defence corps in all parts of the country in co-operation with Provincial Governments under the authority of the Central Government and in co-ordination with the military command?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) Yes.

(b) The organisation of civic guards was formed under an ordinance which has expired. In so far as the Provinces are concerned, the question whether the same or similar organisation should be formed is within the discretion of the Provincial Governments.

Seth Govind Das: Are Government contemplating the establishment of civic guards in the Centrally administered areas?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: No, Sir.

Seth Govind Das: Will Government then consider that some sort of co-ordination of these civic guards is necessary, if these are established in the provinces?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Different provinces have different conditions and the Government do not propose to interfere with the discretion of the Provincial Governments.

Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad: What is the information of Government, whether civic guards like cholera pills, create the trouble themselves?

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know whether disturbances are taking place in the city of Delhi? Actually some stabbings have taken place and the police do not come to the aid of the people there?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: That question does not arise. This question relates to civic guards.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: It arises out of the first part: whether Government are aware of the disturbances that are breaking out at different places.

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: This question refers to the whole of India, not Delhi only.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Delhi is included in it.

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: But the stray stabbing cases are not included in it.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Until some stabbing and death take place, the police are not to be found on the scene. The whole of last night there was trouble here at Delhi.

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: For the last ten days, the police have been working practically all the 24 hours and they have been thoroughly

exhausted. I do not think it is wise to encourage running after police help at every place. People must learn to defend themselves.

Seth Govind Das: Under these circumstances, do not the Government think the civic guards would be helpful to the police in the centrally administered areas?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: The system of civic guards for that purpose was found to be very unsuitable.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Does the Honourable Member want to encourage hand to hand fight?

Mr. President: The Honourable Member is now getting into a discussion.

Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal: How do the Government propose to help these people?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: By encouraging the people to defend themselves.

UNIFORM POLICY RE LICENCES FOR FIREARMS UNDER THE INDIAN ARMS ACT.

634. *Seth Govind Das: Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Provincial Governments are, in practice, following varied policies in issuing licences for arms, firearms and ammunition under the Indian Arms Act;

(b) whether Government propose to initiate a uniform policy throughout the country in the matter of granting these licences on a systematised standard basis based on certain well-considered qualifications thought fit by Government; and

(c) whether Government propose to add in the schedule of exemptees under the Indian Arms Act all the members of both the Houses of all the Provincial Legislatures as also the members of the Constituent Assembly?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) Yes.

(b) Having regard to the different circumstances prevailing in different Provinces, the inter-relation between law and order and grant of arms licences, and the impossibility of laying down any hard and fast standard rules on the subject, Government consider that the discretion at present vested in the Provinces should remain.

(c) Government do not consider that such exemption is necessary. I have no doubt that the application of individual members who need protection by guns or other arms will meet with a satisfactory response from District and Provincial administrations.

Seth Govind Das: Are the Government aware that even for those people who hold licences it is not possible to get these arms if they go in the market to purchase them?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Licences to members referred to in the question will be freely given if applied for.

Seth Govind Das: I am not asking about the licences. What I want to ask is that in spite of the fact that people do possess licences and yet when they go to the market and try to buy these arms, they are not available in the market?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: I am not aware of the fact that the licencees find any difficulty in the purchase of arms because we have not received any such complaints.

Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer: How is it that in the province of Bombay, though arms are available, people were prevented from buying them? Is the Honourable Member aware of the order issued by the Government of Bombay to the dealers of arms and ammunition in the province of Bombay that they cannot sell arms to any one? If so, will the Honourable Member consider the

urgency of removing this ban which has been already issued by the Bombay Government?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: I do not think that the Government of India can interfere with the discretion of the Bombay Government in this matter.

Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal: As a measure of prevention of offences against women, will the Government consider the desirability of including women-folk of our country in the exemption list?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Well, Sir, I am sure the Provinces will do the needful in the matter.

Shri Sri Prakasa: Is it not a fact that dacoits and burglars have arms without any licences and that the law only operates against law-abiding citizens?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: The dacoits and burglars have a general license and therefore a Government licence is not necessary.

Lala Deshbandhu Gupta: Will the Honourable Member consider the desirability of issuing instructions to the Local Government of Delhi to renew all such licences as were cancelled for the simple reason that ammunition was not bought by the licencees during a certain period?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: If those licencees whose licences have been cancelled will apply, the matter will be considered.

Shri Sri Prakasa: In view of the fact that dacoits and burglars have no need to take licences, will the Honourable Member repeal the Arms Act and allow law-abiding persons also to have arms without licences?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Certainly the law will be abrogated when the whole populace becomes burglars and dacoits.

BROADCASTING STATION AT JUBBULPORE.

635. *Seth Govind Das: Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that two Broadcasting Stations are already located in the Marathi speaking areas, *viz.*, Bombay and Aurangabad;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that broadcasts from Delhi and Lucknow Stations are made in a highly Persianised Urdu;

(c) whether Government have decided to construct a Broadcasting Station at Nagpur, a Marathi speaking town in the Marathi speaking areas; and

(d) whether Government will consider the advisability of establishing this Station at Jubbulpore in the Hindi speaking area?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) Yes, but the Broadcasting Station at Aurangabad belongs to the Hyderabad State.

(b) Government have received some complaints to this effect and the whole language question is at present under my active consideration.

(c) and (d). The Honourable Member seems to be under a misapprehension. Language is not the only criterion for new installations and it is possible to cover two different but adjoining linguistic tracts from the same station. Government do not, therefore, propose to decide the question of a suitable location for a transmitter in C. P. on linguistic basis only.

STUDENTS FOR SPECIALIZED TRAINING SENT ABROAD BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

636. *Seth Govind Das: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Education please lay on the table of the House a statement showing the number of students sent abroad by the Central Government at their (Government's) expense for higher and specialised training during the last five years, with their quotas from each Province, the country to which they were sent, the subjects for the training or the study for which they were sent and the expenses that have so far been and are hereafter to be incurred on them?

(b) Is it a fact that a considerable number of these students was sent to Great Britain, though higher and more advanced technological training could be had only in the United States of America, and agricultural training in the U. S. S. R.?

(c) Do Government propose to revise this policy and send students in future to countries where best facilities for technological and agricultural training of the most advanced type are available?

The Honourable Sri O. Rajagopalachari: (a) Two statements giving the information asked for are laid on the table of the House. These statements include only those Central Government scholars who have actually sailed. In addition, there are 102 selected candidates who are awaiting either admission or passage. No student was sent abroad by Government for studies during 1942 to 1944. A statement showing the revised estimates of expenditure for 1945-46 (Rs. 9.05 lakhs) and budget estimates for 1946-47 (Rs. 46.07 lakhs) in connection with the training of these scholars is also laid on the table of the House. It is not possible to give exact figures of expenditure as it will involve a great deal of calculation on the basis of when each individual student sailed.

(b) During the last two years 199 students have been sent to the U.S.A. and eight students to Canada, 214 to the U.K. and two to Australia. The country and institution in each case has been determined by the availability of suitable facilities for the particular subject for which a student was selected. Admission for all the students selected for one subject cannot be secured in a single institution or country. As regards the U.S.S.R. even if training facilities were available and even if we ignore the question of language it is not probable that that country would at the present moment receive foreign students.

(c) The scholars selected for advanced studies overseas are being sent only to those countries and institutions where suitable facilities for the subject concerned exist and are available for Indian students and no question of a revision of policy arises.

Statement showing the subjects and number of students sent overseas by the Central Government during 1945 and 1946

Subjects	From 1945 Batch		From 1946 Batch		Australia	Total
	U. K.	U. S. A.	U. K.	U. S. A.		
1. Aeronautical Engineering	2	4	3	..		9
2. Agriculture	20	23	1	3	..	47
3. Agricultural Statistics . . . . .	..	..	1	..	..	1
4. Animal Husbandry	4	8	1	4	2	19
5. Astronomy . . . . .	..	..	..	1	..	1
6. Automobile Engineering	4	1	..	1	..	6
7. Biochemistry . . . . .	..	5	..	..	..	5
8. Biological Services Technicians . . . . .	..	3	..	..	..	3
9. Building Research	2	9	..	..	..	11
10. Cellulose	2	..	1	..	..	3
11. Ceramics	3	2	1	..	..	6

Subjects	From 1945 Batch		From 1946 Batch		Australia	Total
	U. K.	U. S. A.	U. K.	U. S. A.		
	12. Chemical Engineering	8	8	..		
13. Cinematography . . . . .	..	2	..	3	..	5
14. Dairy	2	6	1	1	..	10
15. Dam Design and Hydrology . . . . .	..	..	..	4	..	4
16. Economics	3	5	1	..	..	9
17. Education General	14	..	4	4	..	22
18. Education Technical . . . . .	..	..	5	..	..	5
19. Electrical Engineering	8	13	..	1	..	22
20. Fermentation	1	2	..	..	..	3
21. Fisheries	10	5	..	1	..	16
22. Fuel Technology	2	5	5	..	..	12
23. Forestry	2	..	..	..	..	2
24. Geology	5	1	6	..	..	12
25. Geophysics . . . . .	..	..	..	1	..	1
26. Glass Technology	4	1	1	..	..	6
27. History . . . . .	..	..	1	..	..	1
28. Horticulture . . . . .	..	10	..	5	..	15
29. Industrial and Applied Chemistry.	16	3	5	..	..	24
30. Mechanical Engineering	9	7	..	..	..	16
31. Medical Librarian . . . . .	..	..	1	..	..	1
32. Mercantile Marine Ergg.	1	..	2	..	..	3
33. Metallurgical Engineering (including Steel Pipes and Casting).	8	5	..	2	..	15
34. Meteorology	4	..	..	..	..	4
35. Mining	3	1	2	..	..	6
36. Paints and Varnishes	2	2	..	1	..	5
37. Pharmacy	5	..	..	..	..	5
38. Plastics	3	2	..	1	..	6
39. Public Health Engg. . . . .	..	4	..	..	..	4
40. Pulp and Paper . . . . .	..	1	..	..	..	1
41. Radio Engineering	11	14	2	3	..	30
42. River Research and Hydraulics	..	2	..	..	..	2

Subjects	From 1945 Batch		From 1946 Batch		Australia	Total
	U. K.	U. S. A.	U. K.	U. S. A.		
43. Rubber Technology . . .	3	2		1		6
44. Scientific Instruments . . .	2	3				5
45. Soil Conservation		3		..		3
46. Statistics	2	2	..	2		6
47. Textile Engineering . . .	3	..		..		3
48. Wood	2	2		2	..	6
Grand Total	170	166	44	41	2	423

Statement Showing, According to Provinces, the number of Students sent abroad by the Central Government at their expense for advanced studies in 1945 and 1946

	1945	1946	Total
Total number selected for the award of Scholarships.	355	213	568
Total No. of Central Overseas Scholars at present.	339	186	525

Numbers actually sent abroad so far are given below :—

Assam	5	2
Bengal	62	14
Bihar	12	1
Bombay	24	
C. P. & Berar	9	...
Madras	41	14
N. W. F. P.	5	2
Orissa	2	2
Punjab	69	10
Sind	Nil	1
U. P.	50	13
Delhi	1	2
Alwar	1	...
Baroda	2	...

	1945	1946	Total
Cochin	1	2	
Gwalior	1	...	
Hyderabad	6	2	
Indore	1	1	
Jaipur	1		
Jodhpur	1	...	
Kashmir	1	1	
Kotah	1	...	
Mysore	24	7	
Nabha	2	...	
Narsingarh	1	...	
Patiala	1	...	
Travancore	12	3	
Kapurthala . . . . .	...	1	
Total	336	87	
Grand Total	423		

Statement showing the estimate of expenditure for 1945-46 and 1946-47 on the training of students selected by the Government of India for advanced studies abroad

	Revised Estimates for 1945-46	Budget Estimates for 1946-47
	Rs.	Rs.
(a) Scheme of Scholarships for Advanced Studies Abroad :—		
(i) In India and U. S. A.	4,35,000	28,00,000
(ii) In U. K.	4,00,000	17,00,000
(b) Central State Scholars and Scheduled Castes Scholars :—		
(i) In India	25,000	8,000
(ii) In U. K.	40,000	80,000
(iii) In U. S. A.	5,000	19,000
Total	9,05,000	46,07,000

Seth Govind Das: Is it a fact that some students were sent abroad for such studies as they can have in this country and the degrees which they got in foreign countries are considered even lower than the degree which they can have in India?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: I do not agree.

Seth Govind Das: Will the Honourable Member make inquiries about it because the sending of students has been going on for a long time?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: Each time when an application is received, the subjects are noted and the point mentioned by the Honourable Member is fully examined.

Shri Sri Prakasa: Is it not a fact that a large number of students who have been granted scholarships are stranded in India awaiting passage? If so, what arrangements are Government making to expedite their going abroad and not wasting their time here?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: Every effort is made to secure passages as early as possible. There is no question of stranding when the students are in their own native land and they are looked after properly by the Government as long as they are waiting to go.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is it not a fact that after their selection and before they are admitted in any college, these students join any college in the United Kingdom? Some students who were granted M.A. degrees in this country went to the United Kingdom and finding no accommodation in the original places fixed up for them had to be admitted into Matriculation courses in those Universities?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: As far as I have examined the papers, such absurd situations have not arisen, but difficulties were there and we are trying our best to overcome them.

Sri V. C. Vellingiri Gounder: Government have answered that a certain number of students were sent abroad for training in agricultural engineering this year, may I know what is their number and to what countries they were sent?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: The correct answer can be given only after notice.

Sri S. T. Adityan: Is it not cheaper to execute higher studies in this country and thus save the amount that is spent over these foreign studies?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: It may be ultimately cheaper, but the question of urgency and time also arises in the matter.

Shri Sri Prakasa: May we know the nature of the care that the Government takes of those who, according to me, are stranded and according to the Honourable Member are not stranded, and who in any case, are wasting their time waiting for passages and not knowing what to do and in the meantime losing touch with their studies?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: The persons who have been selected and who are not able to go immediately for one reason or another either hold appointments already or they are admitted to other suitable institutions here or they are given a maintenance allowance during the period. This is what I have gathered from the papers. We need not exaggerate the difficulties.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is the present Government satisfied about the desirability of sending students in such large numbers for all and sundry subjects to be studied in foreign countries?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: Even the present Government is of opinion that for rapid industrialisation in certain matters students and scholars have to be sent abroad.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is the Government aware of the case of a student who was sent abroad for higher studies in bio-chemistry but was obliged to learn fisheries for want of accommodation in bio-chemistry class?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: There is no great harm in a young man turning from one subject to another.

RESEARCH ON ATOMIC STUDIES.

637. *Seth Govind Das: Will the Honourable Member for Education please state:

(a) what steps are being taken in this country in the field of atomic studies and research in its theoretical and applied spheres;

(b) if any laboratory has been or is being contemplated to be set up for this purpose in this country; and

(c) whether any students have been sent to the United States of America for the study of this subject, and what facilities have been granted or assured by the Government of the United States to these students for such study?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: (a) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has set up a Research Committee—

(i) to explore the availability of raw materials capable of generating atomic energy,

(ii) to suggest ways and means of harnessing the raw materials for the production of atomic energy,

(iii) to keep in touch with similar organisations functioning in other countries and to make suggestions for the co-ordination of the work of this Committee on an international basis.

On the recommendations of this Committee, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research have formed two sub-committees (i) to draw up concrete proposals for a geological and physico-chemical survey of Travancore Thorium-bearing and associated minerals; and (ii) for carrying out a geological and physico-chemical survey of the uranium-bearing minerals of India with the help of special geologists to be deputed by the Geological Survey of India in this connection.

As for the theoretical aspect of atomic studies the Universities in India have been requested to encourage instructions in the theory and the experimental technique of atomic physics.

(b) No laboratory has been set up nor is it contemplated to set up one, but the Government of India have sanctioned the following three schemes to encourage atomic research:

(1) Establishment of a Betatron at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay—Rs. 32,400,

(2) Development of a school of nuclear physics and biophysics at Calcutta under Prof. M. N. Saha—Rs. 1,10,000,

(3) Research on trans-uranic elements, on the nuclear fission of heavy elements and on the absorption cross-section of neutrons at the Bose Research Institute, Calcutta—Rs. 22,400.

In addition to these grants the Government of India make a block grant of Rs. 75,000 per annum to the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research for experimental Research on cosmic rays.

(c) Atomic Research is still a jealously guarded secret in the United States of America. It has therefore not been possible to secure research facilities for our students in that country. Three students are however engaged on research in 'Nuclear Physics' in the United Kingdom.

It will be observed that we have not been sleeping over the question of atomic research.

Seth Govind Das: Will the Government see that at least in this country atomic energy is not used for destruction of life and property and for preparing bombs but is used for constructive work?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: That, that is the object may be seen throughout the answer I have given.

Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad: Are the Government aware of the fact that one of the Professors of Aligarh University was given a scholarship by a society in England to carry on research work and he has already proceeded to Manchester?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: If that is correct, I am glad.

REGISTRATION OF NEW FIRMS AFTER CONTROL OF CAPITAL ISSUES

†638. ***Mr. Vadilal Lalubhai:** (a) Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state how many new firms have been registered in India after Capital Issues were controlled?

(b) How many and which of them have been registered in partnership with foreign interests?

(c) Is it a fact that some of these partnerships have a share not only in the capital but also in control, management and ownership?

(d) If so, what are the names of such concerns?

(e) Is it a fact that arrangements are being negotiated or are completed for starting Textile machinery manufacturing undertaking in this country on the basis of foreign partnership in capital and management?

(f) If so, what are the reasons for allowing foreign vested interests to be created in the new sphere of manufacture of textile machinery?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: If the Honourable Member has in mind firms registered under the Indian Partnership Act, parts (a), (b), (c) and (d) of the question should have been addressed to the Honourable the Law Member; if he has in mind firms registered under the Indian Companies Act, then to the Honourable the Commerce Member. Parts (e) and (f) should have been addressed to the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies. I regret I am not in a position to give the information asked for.

CONTROL OF ALLIANCE BETWEEN INDIAN AND FOREIGN CAPITAL

†639. ***Mr. Vadilal Lalubhai:** (a) Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state what steps Government have taken to check the growth of foreign interests in the form of alliances between Indians and foreigners?

(b) Have Government received any representations and protests from Indian business and commercial community expressing their concern over this issue in the method of India's industrialisation?

(c) If so, what have they done to allay these fears in the minds of Indian business community?

(d) What is Government's policy in this respect, if they have any?

(e) Do Government propose to enunciate a long term policy in this respect, and publicise it for the benefits of Indian business community and the public in general?

(f) Do Government propose to assure the Indian business community that no such alliances between Indian and foreign capital will be allowed to be entered into hereafter and lay down that Indian industrialisation will be achieved on the basis of development and expansion of Industries owned, controlled and managed by Indians?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: This question should have been addressed to the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies. I regret I am not in a position to give the information asked for.

† Answer to this question laid on the table the questioner being absent.

HEALTH OF RIKSHAW PULLERS

640. *Mr. Madandhari Singh: Will the Secretary of the Health Department be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the health of Rikshaw pullers in general is very bad because of their occupation;

(b) the statistics about their number in different Provinces of India;

(c) the death rate among them and the disease from which they die; and

(d) the proposals of Government to check them?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: (a) The Labour Investigation Committee, which investigated the condition of rickshaw pullers in certain cities in India found that as the majority of them are in the prime of manhood their general health is not unsatisfactory; but they suffer frequently from respiratory diseases brought about by exposure to the weather.

(b) Statistics regarding the number of rickshaw pullers employed in the different Provinces of India are not available.

(c) No information is available about the death rate amongst rickshaw pullers.

(d) The Municipal authorities and the Provincial Governments are generally responsible for the Health and Welfare of rickshaw pullers.

Seth Govind Das: Are Government aware that in Simla Hills these rickshaw pullers die at an early age?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: There was an investigation made into the health of the rickshaw pullers about three years ago and the result does not show that the Honourable Member's statement is correct.

Sardar Mangal Singh: Will the Government of India ask the Delhi municipality at least to prohibit rickshaw pulling in the City?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: As far as the investigations which have been made show there is no reason on health grounds alone for prohibiting the pulling of rickshaws.

Shri Sri Prakasa: What is the average age of a rickshaw puller about which an investigation has been carried on by the Honourable Member's department?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: I understand that in Simla licences are issued only to men between the ages of 20 to 40.

Shri Sri Prakasa: What is the duration of the licence?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: One year.

Mr. Leslie Gwilt: May I ask whether the Honourable Member will encourage provincial governments to enquire into the average life of a rickshaw puller and in view of the fact that he becomes a rickshaw puller because of his miserable economic circumstances, will he also encourage provincial governments not to issue any more licences to rickshaw pullers, and to try and find out alternative employments for them instead of pulling rickshaws?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: The Government will consider making this suggestion to the Provincial Governments.

Seth Govind Das: Will the Government see that at least a cycle is attached to rickshaws so as to relieve the pullers of some strain?

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: That is still worse.

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: That is really a matter within the discretion of provincial governments.

Khan Mohammad Yamin Khan: Is the Honourable Member aware that the rickshaws which have got bicycles attached to them require more exertion than the ordinary rickshaws which are ordinarily pulled by them?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: I have no information on that point.

APPLICATION OF SARGENT SCHEME OF EDUCATION TO MUSLIMS

641. *Mr. Siddiq Ali Khan: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Education please state whether it is a fact that the Sargent Scheme has been accepted by the Government of India with the proviso that special efforts should be made to help the Muslims and other educationally backward communities in the Education field?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above is in the affirmative, what provision in this direction has been made in the five year plans?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: (a) The Report of the Central Advisory Board of Education on Educational Development in India, popularly called the Sargent Report, was accepted generally by the Government of India in 1945 with the proviso that until the recommendation of the Central Advisory Board of Education that educational opportunities should be available for all has been fully implemented steps should be taken to secure the provision of adequate facilities for Muslims and other minority communities and to accelerate the progress of the scheduled castes and backward communities.

(b) The decision of the Government of India was communicated to the Provincial Governments. A statement indicating the action that has been taken or is proposed to be taken by the Provincial Governments in regard to educational development in their areas during the next quinquennium has already been laid on the table of the House in connection with Starred question No. 185. The responsibility of the execution of these plans rests primarily with the provincial authorities who will no doubt pay due attention to the consideration mentioned above. The schemes received have been framed in broad outlines and the details of the provisions made in the connection referred to in the question are not available in all cases. A statement of such provisions as are mentioned specifically in the five-year plans is laid on the table of the House.

A Statement indicating special provisions made for the Education of Muslims, Scheduled Castes and other educationally backward communities in the Five-Year Plans. (Starred question No. 641.)

A. Provincial Plans

1. Assam.—(i) It is proposed to open at least 50 Primary Schools annually in all the Excluded Areas. The Control of Primary education in the Lushai Hills and the North Cachar Hills will also be gradually taken over by Government from the Missionary Bodies.

(ii) Three High Schools will be opened—one in the Lushai Hills, one in the North Cachar Hills and one in the Sadiya Frontier Tract. It is also intended to open five Middle Schools annually in the Excluded Areas and provide the necessary Inspectorate.

2. Bengal.—It is proposed to improve 50 High Schools, both boys' and girls'. In selecting these schools, the interests of the educationally backward communities will be kept in mind.

3. Orissa.—It is proposed to give more scholarships and provide books and slates to the students of scheduled castes, backward classes and hill tribes so that they may come forward in larger numbers to receive the benefits of education. There is also provision for payment of grants to hostels in which students from these communities will live.

4. United Provinces.—(i) It is proposed to give grants to libraries for depressed classes.

(ii) It is provided that grants-in-aid will be given to non-official bodies including managements of non-Government institutions which are already running hostels for students of all castes and communities and stand in need of monetary assistance for extending hostel facilities to scheduled caste students.

(iii) With a view to expending Depressed Class Girl's Education, it is proposed to give higher rates of stipends to the girls of these classes.

(iv) It is proposed to increase the salaries of Depressed Class Supervisors from Rs. 30 p. m. to Rs. 40—2—60.

5. Punjab.—(i) In the majority of tahsils selected for expansion of education, Muslim population predominates.

(ii) A liberal provision of Scholarships for all stages of education has been made; and in order to encourage education among the backward classes, an adequate number of scholarships will be reserved for them at each stage.

(iii) It is proposed to give a grant-in-aid to the Muslim Girls' School, Ambala Cantt. for the expansion of the existing school building.

(iv) A grant is to be paid to the Anjuman-i-Khadim-ul-Islam, Jullunder City, for the construction of a building for the Islamia College, Jullunder.

6. *Central Provinces*.—The Central Provinces have got two plans for educational development—one general plan for the entire Province and the other Pilot Plan for selection areas. One of the selected areas for the introduction of the Pilot Plan is Baihar tahsil inhabited mainly by the aboriginals. Among the schemes incorporated in the Pilot Plan are introduction of Compulsory Basic Education and provision of Normal and High Schools.

7. *Madras*.—Madras has made the most liberal provision for educational expansion at the school stage for all communities; they propose to provide special facilities for College education for Muslim girls.

B. Central Plans

The Government of India have also approved of certain Development Schemes of the Aligarh Muslim University concerning Engineering College, Science Departments, Women's College, Training College, Salary of the Staff, Power Plants, etc. The Central Government's contribution for these schemes may reach Rs. 70 lakhs.

A scheme for Overseas Scholarships has been in operation since 1945-46. An amount of Rs. 3.60 crores is likely to be spent on the training, etc., of the scholars up to 1951-52; this amount is inclusive of the Central Government's contribution at the rate of 50 per cent. towards the cost of training abroad of scholars, sponsored by the Provincial Governments. In making the selection the Central Government take every care to ensure that suitable candidates belonging to the minority communities are provided for. The total number of Central Scholarships awarded in 1945-46 was 354 out of which Muslims got 90. Out of 213 scholarships awarded in 1946-47 Muslims got 58.

The Government of India have also sanctioned a separate scheme for the Scheduled Caste Scholarships for five years with effect from 1944-45. An annual grant of Rs. 3,00,000 is being provided for this purpose.

GRANT TO MUSLIM INSTITUTIONS FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

642. *Mr. Siddiq Ali Khan: Will the Honourable Member for Education please give the total number of institutions receiving grants from his Department, the total sum involved every year and the proportion of Muslim Institutions thereof?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: A list of the institutions other than educational institutions of the Centrally Administered Areas which receive grants from the Education Department, is laid on the table of the House. The amount of grant paid to the institutions varies from year to year and the sums provided for in the current financial year are shown against each item in the statement. Most of the institutions receiving grants-in-aid are all-India. all-Community institutions devoted to Research and Cultural activities of which the advantages and facilities are available to all communities. Of the institution set out in the statement the Aligarh Muslim University, if it can be counted as a Muslim Institution, receives a grant of Rs. 3.3 lakhs out of a total of Rs. 15.94 lakhs recurring grants.

In this connection the attention of the Honourable Member is also invited to the statement laid on the table of the House in reply to Starred Question No. 185 on the 4th November 1946 which sets out what is contemplated in respect of additional grants to certain institutions including Aligarh Muslim University.

Statement

Name of Institution	Budget Provision—1946-47
	Rs.
1. Indian Science Congress Association, Calcutta.	5,000
2. Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Calcutta.	20,000

Name of Institution	Budget Provision—1946-47
	Rs.
3. Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal	25,000
4. Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta	2,15,000
	(This includes a non-recurring grant of Rs. 1,40,000 and a Recurring grant of Rs. 75,000 which is earmarked for the re-organisation of the Institute. Till the re-organisation takes place a grant of Rs. 53,000 would be paid to the Institute.)
5. Dharmakosh Mandal	2,000
6. National Institute of Sciences of India	3,37,000
	(Includes a Non-recurring grant of Rs. 2,20,000 and a Recurring grant of Rs. 1,17,000. Actually a grant of Rs. 1,02,200 Recurring has so far been paid and Rs. 70,000 Non-recurring grant is also expected to be paid this year.)
7. Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Calcutta.	10,000
8. Vishweshwaranand Vedic Research Institute, Lahore.	5,500
9. Indian History Congress	10,000
10. Botanical Society, Calcutta	1,000
11. Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona.	4,000
12. Bose Research Institute, Calcutta	66,000
	(This is the maximum grant admissible Actual amount to be paid depends on the actual expenditure of the Institute.)
13. New Delhi Social Service League for Literacy Campaign among inferior staff of the Central Secretariat.	1,000
14. Grant to Visva Bharati	32,000
	(Excludes grant which it is proposed to make to the Institution for undertaking schemes for the training of teachers in connection with the Development Plan.)
15. Girls' Guide Association	2,500
16. Boy Scouts Association	15,000
17. Lady Irwin College, New Delhi	71,000
	(This includes a Non-recurring grant of Rs. 50,000 which is not likely to be paid this year.)
18. Scheduled Caste College, Bombay	2,54,000
	(This is a Non-recurring grant and will be paid this year only)
19. Benares Hindu University	3,30,000

Name of Institution	Budget Provision—1946-47
	Rs.
20. Aligarh Muslim University	3,30,000
21. Indian Olympic Association	1,000
22. Inter-University Board	1,000
	(In 1946-47 an extra grant of Rs. 9,000 to be met from savings has been agreed to)
23. Inter-Provincial Board for Anglo-Indian and European Education.	3,500
24. Indian Institute of Science	20,26,500
	(This includes Non-recurring grant of Rs. 15,20,000.)
25. Association of Principals of Technical Institutions (India).	10,400
	Total . Rs. 37,78,400*

(*Includes Non-recurring grants totalling Rs. 21.84 lakhs).

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: What kind of control do the Central Government exercises over the institutions to which grants are made, to see that the grants are properly utilised and the institutions are properly working?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: Consistent with the autonomy of important educational institutions every care is exercised to carry out the duties of the Government of India to watch the fulfilment of conditions which are set out in the policies as well as the grants themselves.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is it a fact that in the case of institutions to which large grants are made—like the Bhatnagar Institute to which a large sum of money is given—the Central Government introduces into the Board two Members of the Legislative Assembly? Likewise will the Honourable Member control the Bhatnagar Institute also by providing that in the governing body representation is given to two Members of this House because a large grant is made there?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: The control exercised varies from institution to institution. I do not understand the reference to the Bhatnagar Institute, but if it relates to the Council of Industrial and Scientific Research, the Honourable Member for Industries is the President of that Council.

Shri Sri Prakasa: Will the Honourable Member kindly control himself from controlling the institutions to which Government give grants?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: There is more cacophony than clarity in that question.

Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad: As this House has the right to nominate members to the Bangalore Institute of Science, why should not the same privilege be extended in the case of the Council of Industrial and Scientific Research?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: This Council is a mixed body where industrialists have a part, scientists have a part and Government have a part; and the President of the Council of the general body as well as of the governing body is the Honourable Member for Industries and Supplies. And I can assure Honourable Members that every paper goes to the Government Department and there is perfect control over this Council.

• PROPORTION OF MUSLIM OFFICERS IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

643. *Mr. Siddiq Ali Khan: Will the Honourable Member for Education please state the total number of class I Officers in his Department and its attached offices and the proportion of Muslims therein?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: The total number of Class I Officers in this Department including attached offices is 50. Of these three are non-Indians. Twelve out of the remaining 47 are Muslims. Besides these, three Class I posts in the Archaeological Survey are reserved for War Service Candidates who will be selected on the recommendation of the Federal Public Service Commission.

Mr. Siddiq Ali Khan: Were these Muslim officers selected departmentally, or by the Federal Public Service Commission?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: They are already there; I do not know how they were originally selected.

Mr. Siddiq Ali Khan: Are there any officers who were not selected by the Public Service Commission?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: If the question is about persons who are already holding posts there, I must ask for notice to answer that question.

Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer: Do I understand that the proportion of Muslims in the Honourable Member's Department is not in accordance with the Government rule under which Muslims must have 25 per cent.? If so, what steps does he propose to take to see that the quota of Muslims is properly maintained in his department?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: I believe the quota is maintained. As I have already said, there are certain posts to which the communal proportion rule does not apply. It should also be remembered that promotions are not made on the communal proportion basis. I said 12 out of 47 are Muslims today. Out of these 47 some five are not subject to the communal rule; others about three are due to promotions. And if we subtract this—I hope my calculation is right—it would be about 39, out of which 12 are Muslims; and I do not think that this is below the communal quota. The Honourable Member will tell me if my arithmetic is wrong.

Mr. Siddiq Ali Khan: Is the Honourable Member aware that some of these 12 Muslim officers came in by competitive examination and not under the communal proportion rule?

Mr. President: That has been already answered; the Honourable Member wants notice.

PROVISION OF WAITING ROOM, IN INCOME-TAX OFFICE, DELHI.

644. *Lala Deshbandhu Gupta: Is the Honourable the Finance Member aware of the great inconvenience caused to income-tax payers and their representatives who appear before the Income Tax Officers in Delhi, for want of waiting rooms, or any seating accommodation in the Income Tax Offices? If so, what steps do Government propose to take to remove the same?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: Steps have been taken to provide waiting rooms in those Income-tax Offices in Delhi where they did not exist.

Shri Sri Prakasa: Will the Honourable Member kindly extend this convenience to places other than Delhi also?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: If the Honourable Member will give me more particulars I shall be glad to examine the question.

Shri Sri Prakasa: What particulars? Where there are no rooms there can be no particulars.

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: I want particulars that the lack of rooms is actually causing inconvenience to the public.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Are Government aware that in district centres income-tax assesses have to stand in the verandah or in the open because of want of rooms?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: In winter months it is better outside than inside a cold room.

Shri Sri Prakasa: But what about the summer months? Will the Honourable Member examine the topography of the income-tax office in Benares?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: I am not sure about Benares, but in summer months also the shade of a tree is much cooler than a room without fans or other cooling arrangements.

Shri Sri Prakasa: Will the Honourable Member kindly take steps to hold meetings of the Legislative Assembly under trees?

Mr. President: Order, order. The question hour is over.

Mr. President: Mr. Bhalja wants to correct one of his replies, which he may do now.

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: In reply to a supplementary question on Question No. 680, I said that the number of prisoners the cost of whose maintenance was debited to the Government of India was 450. The correct figure is 650.

Mr. President: Before Short Notice Questions are put, I have to invite Honourable Members' attention to one point. It has been suggested to me, and rightly, that questions which really involve long tabulated statements and figures should not come in as starred questions. The result is that members are not able to study the statements and put supplementary questions and the questions take up more time of the House, barring out other questions. In this connection, I have to invite Honourable Members' attention to a circular which is always issued at the beginning of each Session. This very suggestion has been repeated there. I am referring to 5(a):

"A star should be placed in front of a question to which an Honourable Member wishes to have an oral answer on the floor of the House. Honourable Members are advised to put a star against only those questions in respect of which supplementary questions are likely to be asked, and not against those which merely ask for statistics or for the laying of statements on the table of the House."

So I just invite the attention of the Honourable Members to that. I do not want to interfere with their own discretion in this matter.

I might also invite their attention to another fact that we are not putting through more than about 20 questions a day. We have on the question list on an average about 40 to 45 questions every day. I may be wrong with regard to the exact number, but the point is that a large number of them cannot be orally answered and so they practically go in as unstarred questions. It would be better if Members while starring questions just take care to see that they do not star questions which require long statements or long particulars.

Seth Govind Das (Central Provinces Hindi Divisions: Non-Muhammadan): Will the Honourable the President consider one more point for saving the time of the House and putting through more questions? In the last Session it was suggested that as is the practice in many provincial assemblies, replies to the questions may also be printed and circulated to members at least two hours earlier so that we may be able to put more supplementary questions.

Shri Sri Prakasa (Benares and Gorakhpur Divisions: Non-Muhammadan Rural): May I respectfully suggest that you may unstar most of our starred questions. You take great care in improving the language and deleting certain parts of our questions, and when you undergo all that trouble, take so much pain over every question. I submit that it would be quite easy for you to demolish the star also.

Seth Govind Das: What about my request?

Mr. President: That question will be considered.

Mr. N. M. Joshi (Nominated Non-Official): May I bring to your notice that sometime the Government Members when they do not want supplementary questions to be asked put the reply in the form of a statement and lay it on the table. I suggest that Government Members should not also do that. When the reply is short they should read the information and not lay a statement on the table of the House.

Mr. President: If such a question arises, we will consider that matter. About printing the answers, we shall see. That matter was considered during the last session, and it now rests with the Government. But any way, I am merely impressing on the Members the desirability of not starring all but only such of their questions as are desired to be answered orally. Unless the whole House agrees that I should delete the star, I am afraid I cannot do so.

Sjt. N. V. Gadgil (Bombay Central Division: Non-Muhammadian Rural): I say most respectfully that we are not prepared to give you that power.

Mr. President: It is not a question of giving me that power. Even if that power is given to me, my difficulty would be that I cannot know what is in the mind of the Honourable Member with reference to supplementary questions. It will therefore be a difficult power to exercise. I leave it to the Honourable Members to consider this matter.

(b) WRITTEN ANSWERS

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION FOR DELHI

645. *Lala Deshbandhu Gupta: (a) Will the Secretary of the Health Department be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the general demand made by the people of the Delhi Province that the undemocratic character of the various local bodies of the Province, *i.e.*, New Delhi Committee Notified Area Committee, Fort Area Committee, should be ended and the Delhi Municipal Committee should be formed into a Municipal Corporation by merging the various local bodies in the same?

(b) Have Government decided to appoint a Committee to go into this question and consider the advisability or otherwise of forming a corporation? If so, when will this Committee be formed, and what will be its terms of reference?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: (a) Government are aware that there is a demand for the establishment of a Municipal Corporation in Delhi.

(b) The matter is under consideration and an announcement on the subject will be made very shortly.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE *re* PREVENTION OF EXPORT OF ARTICLES OF ARTISTIC IMPORTANCE

646. *Shri D. P. Karmarkar: Will the Honourable Member for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Archaeological Advisory Committee have recommended to Government about the advisability of taking steps with a view to preventing unauthorised export of articles of artistic importance and to recover such articles already sent to foreign countries? If so, what steps do Government intend taking in respect of the recommendation?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: The Central Advisory Board of Archaeology at its third meeting held on the 10th September, 1946, referred the question of prevention of the export of valuable antiquarian remains and objects of art outside the country and of reclaiming, where possible, from European countries as many objects of antique value as were carried by them in the past, to its Standing Committee for examination and report to the next meeting of the Board to be held early in 1947. Government are awaiting the recommendations of the Board.

ABOLITION OF DEATH PENALTY

647. *Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) if his attention has been drawn to a *Reuter's* message of the 28th October from London stating that in a letter to the *Times*, Dr. Katju, the Minister for Justice in the United Provinces Government, has favoured the abolition of death penalty and says that it "serves no useful purpose" besides being barbarous; and

(b) whether Government propose to consider the advisability of bringing forward a Bill to abolish this form of punishment?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) Yes.

(b) No. Attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the reply given by me on the 30th October 1946 to starred question No. 92 by Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal.

RETRENCHMENT IN GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

648. *Sardar Mangal Singh: (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member please state the approximate dates as to when retrenchment in different Departments in the Central Government especially in the General Headquarters will take place?

(b) What arrangements have been made by the Government of India to find alternative employment for those who are going to be retrenched?

(c) Is it the policy of the present National Government to provide the retrenched staff with alternative employment before their present posts are retrenched?

(d) Is it a fact that the various Departments of the Government of India are advertising in the Press for further recruitment from civil life in order to fill vacancies in their respective Departments?

(e) Do Government propose to create an Inter Departmental co-ordination Committee so that the employees who are retrenched from one Department are given employment in another Department which advertises for the jobs?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) No definite date for retrenchment as such has been fixed but persons holding temporary appointments will be discharged in the ordinary course as and when they become surplus to Government requirements.

(b), (c), (d) and (e). Government have not adopted a policy of postponing the retrenchment of superfluous posts until alternative employment has been found for those filling them. Departments advertise the posts only when suitable retrenched personnel are not available. Government have also promulgated their plans for resettlement of retrenched employees in the instructions a copy of which I place on the table. The Central Employment Exchange set up by the Labour Department constitutes such a co-ordinating authority as is referred to in part (c).

VI (1)

OFFICE MEMORANDUM, HOME DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, No. 70/69/45-Ests. (R), DATED, THE 24TH NOVEMBER 1945, TO ALL DEPTTS. OF THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

SUBJECT :—*Resettlement of retrenched temporary employees of the Central Government.*

As a result of the end of the war it is expected that a large number of temporary employees of Government will have to be discharged. It has been decided that the Employment Exchanges set up by the Labour Department, will render every assistance to these persons in finding other employment. The Labour Department will be shortly issuing instructions to give effect to this decision in respect of persons with technical qualifications. In respect of other temporary employees, Departments are required to observe the following procedure in discharging them and in making future recruitment :—

I. *Registration in Employment Exchanges.*

(a) Well in advance of the date of discharge of a temporary Government servant—clerical, administrative or executive—the employing Department or office will fill up in duplicate the standard occupational record form (form X-1) and the standard confidential report in respect of every such person who desires assistance in finding employment, and will forward the forms to the Central Employment Exchange, Labour Department, Simla.

(b) The Central Employment Exchange will register the forms, retain one set for its records and forward the other set to the Employment Exchange nearest the person's place of residence. The discharged employees should be asked to notify to the Exchange his arrival at his place of residence as soon as he gets there.

II. Recruitment

(i) An appointing authority before filling any permanent or temporary vacancy which can be filled otherwise than in consultation with the Federal Public Service Commission or on the results of competitive examination, will report to the Central Employment Exchange or the appropriate Regional Exchange the number of vacancies available and the qualifications required of intending candidates and call upon the Exchange to submit a list of candidates possessing the prescribed qualifications. Where the number of available candidates is likely to be large, the appointing authority may state the maximum number of candidates to be nominated by the Exchange.

(ii) The Employment Exchange will then submit to the appointing authority details of all candidates who possess the prescribed qualifications and have not been described by the previous employer as unsuitable for Government service or, where the appointing authority has stated the maximum number of candidates to be nominated, details of the most suitable candidates from its registers up to the maximum number prescribed.

(iii) The appointing authority, after selecting and appointing the most suitable persons from the panel of names submitted, will then report the fact of appointment to the Employment Exchanges which had nominated them in order to enable the Exchanges to maintain their registers up-to-date.

(iv) No Department or office shall after the issue of these orders, fill any vacancy of more than three months' duration by direct recruitment of a person not already in Government employment otherwise than through the Employment Exchanges unless the Exchanges are unable to supply suitable Candidates—

Provided that appointments which have to be made in consultation with the Federal Public Service Commission or on the results of a competitive examination will continue to be so made; and in respect of vacancies which have to be filled on the results of a competitive examination, the authority concerned will inform the appropriate Employment Exchange of the number of vacancies which have to be filled and the qualifications required, and the Employment Exchanges will bring the vacancies to the notice of qualified persons registered with them.

(v) The procedure outlined above does not imply any relaxation of the qualification prescribed in respect of any appointment. Persons recruited through Employment Exchanges are required, subject to any general orders issued in this behalf, the qualifications prescribed in regard to age, education, or other matters and appointments must be made in strict conformity with the rules regulating reservation of vacancies in favour of minority communities.

2. It has also been decided that Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment will, as far as possible, ascertain the special aptitudes of persons registered in the Employment Exchanges and afford them training facilities to fit them for employment for which they show aptitude. Further instructions on this point will be issued by the Labour Department.

3. A specimen copy of form X-1 and of the confidential report and a copy of the instructions for completing the forms are enclosed herewith. Any difficulty in filling up the forms should be referred to the Labour Department, which will also render any necessary assistance to any Department in completing the forms when discharge on a large scale is contemplated. Supplies of Form X-1 and of the standard confidential report form can be had on application to the Central Employment Exchange, Labour Department, Government of India, Simla.

19. **Occupational Record**

Name of Factory	Job	Date of joining	Date of leaving	Pay on leaving	Whether checked by r.f. to certificate, produced or otherwise

20. If member of a Trade Union name of Union and of which a member

22. For official use.

21. The information recorded over leaf and above has been read over to me, and I certify it to be true.

Signature.

Date.		Regn. Renewed		Submission for vacancies					
Intl.	Date.	Date.	Date.	Particulars of Employee (or Vacancy Office)	Salary Offered	Trade Index No. of vacancy	Order No.	Date Submitted	Result (if placed give date, if rejected give reason)

Taken from - to Date Filed

Date	Reason	Intls.

STANDARD CONFIDENTIAL REPORT (ANY CODE No.)

1. Name (in block letters)
 2. Date from which the person will be available for re-employment
 3. Report by employing Department on the work and experience of the person—
Whether—
 - * (a) Very suitable for permanent Government post and deserving immediate consideration.
 - (b) fit for Government service.
 - (c) unsuitable for Government service.
 4. General (here make any other comments considered necessary)
- *Strike out whichever is not applicable.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE CARD INDEX ENVELOPE (FORM X-1)

The card in the form of an envelope is designed to provide a complete personal and service record of an individual which will enable the Employment Exchanges to render the fullest possible assistance in the resettlement of the discharged employees. The envelope pattern is used so that any correspondence or other documents relating to the individual may be placed inside the envelope portion. Each card will thus form a complete record of the individual.

2. Cards will be completed only for these individuals who wish for assistance in finding employment.

3. Much of the value of a card will depend upon the care taken in its preparation. Slipshod completion of the forms may render it difficult for the Employment Exchange to place the workman in suitable employment. The following instructions should be carefully observed :—

Items 1, 6 and 10.—These are for completion at Employment Exchanges.

Item 2.—The name must be entered in full and in block capitals.

Item 4.—Delete inapplicable entries. The letters 'M', 'W' and 'S' are abbreviations for 'Married', 'Widower' and 'Single' respectively.

Item 5.—Under the heading 'Usual trade or Occupation' the occupation in which the employee is at present employed by the Government should be entered. Under the heading 'Alternative Occupation(s)' should be entered details of any other occupations for which the employee is considered suitable.

Item 9.—The fullest possible address must be recorded so that there may be no difficulty in informing the registered person of any suitable vacancies which may occur.

Item 13.—Height and weight need not be filled in all cases, but only where the particulars are readily available or can be ascertained.

Item 15.—It will not be sufficient merely to ask the employee whether he is willing to work anywhere and to record his answer. Efforts should be made to judge, by intelligent questions regarding his domestic ties and other similar matters whether he would in fact be likely to accept employment at a distant place from his home or not and the likely places, e.g., neighbouring provinces, etc., to which he is willing to move. The opinion so formed as well as the employee's reply should be recorded.

Item 16.—Record the minimum salary the individual is prepared to accept bearing in mind the salary he is employed at in the Department.

Item 18.—This is the most important section of the form and particular attention should be paid to the adequate completion of this item. It is not sufficient to know what a man's usual occupation is. The extent of his knowledge is necessary to complete the picture. The details entered in the 'qualification space' should complete the picture. Such items as shorthand speed, typing speed, knowledge of special filing systems, experience in accountancy etc., should be recorded. The examples are by no means exhaustive as the type of information desirable will vary for each occupation, but care should be taken to record as much useful information as possible under this heading.

Item 19.—The individual's record of service will be given under this item. Under "Name of Factory" the names of the offices (both private and Government) or Employing Departments in which the individual has served will be given in chronological order, together with the type of work performed and the period of service.

Item 20.—The date on which the discharged worker will be available for other employment will be entered under this item.

NOTE.—All entries on the form should be made in ink.

Any additional information which cannot be entered in the columns provided on the card index envelope may be entered on form X-1A which should be filled inside the envelope.

COMMISSION TO ENQUIRE INTO INDIAN PRESS.

649. *Lala Deshbandhu Gupta: Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the finance, control, management and ownership of the Indian Press as has been done by the House of Commons for the British Press? If so, what would be its terms of reference, and when is the Commission likely to be appointed?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: The Government have no such proposal under consideration at present.

INDIANISATION OF DEFENCE FORCES.

650. *Shri D. P. Karmarkar: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of non-Indian Officers in the Indian Army, the Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force; and

(b) what steps Government are taking for the complete Indianisation of the said personnel in the Defence Forces?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: (a)

Royal Indian Navy	376
Indian Army	21,891
Royal Indian Air Force	Nil

(b) As announced in a press communique issued on the 13th November 1946, Government have appointed a Committee to advise them on the ways and means of nationalising the Armed Forces of India within the shortest time possible.

RE-EMPLOYMENT OF DEMOBILIZED INDIAN OFFICERS.

651. *Shri D. P. Karmarkar: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian Officers and personnel demobilised after the cessation of hostilities;

(b) what opportunities are given to demobilised Indian Officers to get re-employment in the Indian Forces; and

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of Indian Officers have served during the recent war with distinction, if so what efforts are made to reabsorb them in the Defence Forces?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: (a) The total number of Indian personnel demobilized since the cessation of hostilities up to the 1st October 1946 is 9,58,563, comprising 5,005 Officers and 9,53,558 Other Ranks.

(b) Demobilized Indian Officers are eligible to apply for permanent commissions and Short Service Commissions in the Indian Armed Forces, provided they satisfy the conditions prescribed therefor.

(c) Yes, Sir; and none of those officers who wished to stay on have been compulsorily released unless they were otherwise disqualified. The question of re-absorption does not, therefore, arise.

GRANT OF COMMISSION TO OVERAGE EMERGENCY COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

652. *Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer: (a) Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state if it is a fact that a large number of over age Emergency Commissioned Officers, on being granted regular Commissions, have been given seniority over pre-war regular officers of many years service and experience?

(b) Are Government aware that this policy is detrimental to the standard of efficiency in the Army?

(c) If more senior officers are urgently required to hasten the process of Indianisation, why are existing regular officers not given accelerated promotions instead of filling the senior ranks of the Army with over age Emergency Commissioned Officers?

(d) How is it proposed to replace the senior British Officers who may be leaving the Indian Army within the next year or so?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: (a) No, Sir; out of 770 regular Commissions so far granted, only 36 officers who were over 25 at the time of the grant of Emergency Commissions have been approved for Regular Commissions. This was found necessary in order to retain a few officers who had rendered really outstanding service during the war. The date of seniority of these officers is ante-dated to their 23rd birthday so as to place them in their correct age group with the regular officers and thus avoid their serving under younger pre-war Regular Officers.

(b) No, Sir; far from being detrimental to efficiency this policy is calculated to make full use of the services of outstanding officers who on account of their age would otherwise be lost to the Army.

(c) Senior ranks are filled by selecting the most suitable officers irrespective of whether they were originally granted an Emergency or a Regular Commission. The number of over age Emergency Commissioned Officers is so small that it cannot be said they are filling the ranks of the Army.

(d) It is proposed to replace the senior British Officers leaving India by promotion of the most suitable Indian Officers.

MUSLIMS IN THE MILITARY ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT.

653. *Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer: (a) Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state whether the communal proportion of 25 percent allotted to Muslims in the Military Accounts Department has been observed? If not, what is the percentage of Muslims (excluding menials) at present in the Department?

(b) In view of the paucity of Muslims in the Department, have all the Muslims now serving in the Military Accounts Department been absorbed permanently?

(c) Do Government propose to ensure that no Muslim from the Military Accounts Department is retrenched until the allotted quota is filled?

(d) What is the percentage of Muslims in the Military Accounts Department in the following grades:

(i) Clerks 'A' Grade, (ii) Accountants, and (iii) Deputy Assistant Controllers?

(e) In view of the small representation of Muslims in the above grades, do Government propose to ensure that special concessions are given to Muslims in the matter of promotion to the above grades?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e). According to the latest figures available the percentage of Muslims in the Military Accounts Department are as under:

(i) Superior Service Officers	12·1%
(ii) Others	15·9%

The percentage of Muslims in the following grades is as below:

(i) Clerks 'A' Grade	8·3%
(ii) Accountants	7·7%
(iii) Deputy Assistant Controllers	6·1%

The question of the steps necessary to secure adequate representation of Muslims in the Military Accounts Department is under consideration.

DIPLOMAS OF THE DELHI POLYTECHNIC.

654. *Sardar Mangal Singh: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Education be pleased to state what steps have been taken by Government to secure recognition for the All-India Diplomas awarded by the Delhi Polytechnic from the Federal Public Service Commission and Provincial Governments so far, and with what results?

(b) Why have the students of the Engineering Department of the Delhi Polytechnic refused to take their final All-India Diploma Examination, and what steps have Government taken to redress their grievances?

(c) Are the Government of India prepared to accept this Diploma as equivalent to a degree for recruitment in their own Departments like Works, Mines and Power, Railways, Posts and Air, All-India Radio, etc.?

(d) When do Government propose to hold the Recognised All-India Diploma Examination?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: (a) The present position in regard to recognition of All-India Diplomas has been outlined in statement "A" laid on the table in connection with my reply to starred question No. 512 by Shri Mohan Lal Saksena.

(b) The students of the Engineering Department of the Delhi Polytechnic refused to take their final All-India Diploma Examination in September on the plea that the Diploma was not recognised by the Indian Universities and the Federal Public Service Commission. Steps taken in this connection are outlined in reply referred to in (a).

(c) The matter is under active consideration of the Government of India Departments, concerned with the employment of Engineers.

(d) The position regarding recognition has been explained in reply to part (a). A special All-India Diploma examination to be held during the last week of January 1947 has been arranged and it is expected that the students who kept away from the last examination will take advantage of the special facilities extended to them, and it is hoped Honourable Members interested will help in getting the students to attend and pass the examination so that their prospects may be put on safe ground.

INCOME-TAX ON TOTAL PROFITS OF STERLING AND DOLLAR COMPANIES IN INDIA.

655. *Mr. B. P. Jhunjhunwala: (a) Will the Honourable the Finance Member please furnish a list of Sterling and Dollar companies carrying on business in British India?

(b) What are the names of the companies whose British Indian profits exceeded foreign profits during the years 1943-44, 1944-45 and 1945-46?

(c) Have these companies been treated as resident under Section 4A(c) of the Indian Income Tax Act and assessed to income tax on the total profits, i.e., including profits earned outside British India? If not, why not?

(d) Have all these companies been asked to submit a return under Section 19A? If not, why not?

(e) Have these returns been received? What is the number of foreign shareholders who were in receipt of dividends amounting to Rs. 25,000 and above?

(f) Has any attempt been made to assess these persons to super-tax at the appropriate rates? If so, what is the amount of super-tax realised from them? If no attempts have been made, why?

(g) Were any prosecutions lodged against any of these companies for failure to submit a return under Section 19A? If so, with what result?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: (a) to (g). The information asked for is being collected and will be laid on the table in due course.

POST OF JOINT DIRECTOR GENERAL IN OFFICE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY.

656. *Mr. Muhammad Rahmat-Ullah: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Education please state if it is a fact that the Office of the Director General of Archaeological Survey, has now been divided into sub-sections, each under a separate Class I officer, such as Excavation, Conservation and Publications, etc.?

(b) Why has a new post of Joint Director General been created, when the work of the Director General has been so divided?

(c) Will he please lay on the table a statement showing the extra work for which an officer of the rank of Joint Director General is appointed?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: (a) No, there is no new division of the functions of the Director General of Archaeology in India into sub-sections although a certain number of appointments have been made or revived during the last two years to provide more adequately for control of various activities of the Archaeological Survey, *i.e.*, exploration, excavation, publication, conservation etc.

(b) and (c). The post of Joint Director General of Archaeology was created not on account of the division of work as alleged but for the reasons given in reply to question No. 1653 asked in this house on the 8th April, 1946.

Dr. Mortimer Wheeler was Keeper and Secretary of the London Museum when he agreed to serve the Government of India. He was Lecturer in British Archaeology, University College, London, Honorary Director, Institute of Archaeology in London University, a Governor of the National Museum of Wales, Member of the Ancient Monuments Boards for England and Wales, and Fellow of the University College of London, Vice President of the Society of Antiquaries from 1935 to 1939. It would be false economy to bring out an eminent person on a four year contract for the place of Director General of Archaeology and then to compel him to devote the greater part of his time to mere administrative duties.

It had long been felt that the admitted failure of the Department in the past to fulfil adequately the vitally important duties of conservation and exploration entrusted to it was due in no small measure to the inability of any Director General of Archaeology to maintain sufficiently close contact both with work in the field throughout India and with Government at New Delhi or to carry out the urgent task of training new entrants and remodelling the circles.

An Officer who possessed extensive administrative experience at headquarters and had a full knowledge of the scope and nature of the current re-organisation had to be retained at headquarters to assist the Director General of Archaeology in his task and to relieve him of a number of existing administrative duties. The present Joint Director General of Archaeology has the special qualifications and experience essential for this task having served at headquarters under two successive Directors General of Archaeology.

EXPENSES ON TOUR OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY TO PERSIA AND AFGHANISTAN.

657. *Mr. Muhammad Rahmat-Ullah: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Education please state if it is a fact that the Director General of Archaeology in India went to Persia in 1945?

(b) What were the reasons for his Persian tour? Was any report prepared and published by him? If so, do Government propose to lay a copy of that report on the table of the House?

(c) Is it also a fact that recently the Director General went to Afghanistan? What was the purpose of his going to that country, who bore the expenses, and who accompanied him on this tour?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: (a) Yes, the Director General of Archaeology in India went to Iran in 1945 along with Dr. Mohammad Nazim, Superintendent of the Frontier Circle of Archaeological Survey.

(b) The Iranian tour was undertaken by the Director General of Archaeology in India at the invitation of the Iranian Government as a return visit for the Iranian Cultural Mission which visited India in 1944. A report on cultural contact between the two countries was submitted to the Government of India by the Director General of Archaeology, but it was withheld on account of references in it to Russian obstruction to which it was considered not wise to give publicity in an undue degree.

The mission to Iran had the warm approval of the members of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology in which there are seven members of the Legislature. I may add that the members of the Board had copies of the report referred to in (b).

(c) The Director General of Archaeology in India made an Archaeological and cultural tour of Afghanistan at the invitation of the Afghan Government. He was accompanied by Mr. Justice N. G. A. Edgley, President of the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal and Mr. M. A. Shakur, Curator of the Peshawar Museum, who represented the Government of the North West Frontier Province. As the members of the mission were the guests of the Afghan Government, that Government met the major part of their expenses. Incidental expenses of the Director General of Archaeology in India and of Mr. M. A. Shakur were of course met by the Governments of India and the North West Frontier Province respectively.

DESTRUCTION OF AEROPLANES BY GOVERNMENT AFTER THE CLOSE OF WAR.

658. *Pandit Balakrishna Sharma: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state:

- if it is a fact that a large number of aeroplanes in good order were deliberately destroyed by Government as not needed after the close of the war;
- the reasons for such destruction; and
- the use to which the broken materials were put?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: (a) No, Sir. No aircraft belonging to the Government of India were destroyed. A number of aircraft belonging to the United States Government and H.M.G., however, were destroyed under orders issued by those Governments.

(b) The aircraft destroyed were all "combat" aircraft and useless for civil purposes, since they were designed entirely for operations.

(c) The produce from such machines, as for all unserviceable aircraft, is disposed of by the Salvage Organization. This is mostly bought as raw material by industry but some portions are brought back into the armed forces for further use.

SUPPLY OF QUININE AND CINCHONA TO PROVINCES.

659. *Sreejot Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: Will the Secretary of the Health Department be pleased to state the quantity of quinine and cinchona powders and tablets supplied to different Provinces in India during the years 1942-43, 1943-44, 1944-45 and 1946 and the incidence of death from Malaria in these Provinces during the period?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: Statements showing the allotments of quinine sulphate and cinchona febrifuge made by the Central Government to the various provinces during 1942-43 to 1945-46 and the number of deaths reported to be due to malaria during the years 1942 to 1946 are laid on the table of the House. Separate figures in respect of powder and tablets are not readily available.

Statement showing allotments of quinine and cinchona febrifuge to Provincial Governments for 1942-43

	Quinine lbs.	Cinchona febrifuge lbs.
Madras	17,739	6,491
Bengal	50,951	17,283
Bombay	6,155	...
Punjab	9,255	...
United Provinces	8,300	960
Bihar	6,861	1,946

	Quinine lbs.	Cinchona febrifuge lbs.
Orissa	852	410
Central Provinces and Berar	4,284	1,455
Assam	4,782	2,435
Sind	3,756	
North West Frontier Province	1,672	448
Ajmer-Merwara	133	30
Baluchistan	283	187
Delhi	483	
Coorg	619	398
Total	116,135	32,043

Statement showing allotments of quinine and cinchona febrifuge to Provincial Governments for 1943-44

	Quinine lbs.	Cinchona febrifuge lbs.
Madaas	36,265	7,867
Bengal	89,150	24,800
Bombay	10,900	..
United Provinces	10,300	2,450
Punjab	10,800	
Bihar	10,450	
Orissa	1,600	900
Central Provinces & Berar	6,050	1,450
Assam	6,950	2,570
Sind	4,300	
North West Frontier Province	2,350	450
Ajmer-Merwara	375	40
British Baluchistan	475	215
Delhi	1,100	
Coorg	850	400
Total	191,915	41,342

Statement showing allotments of quinine and cinchona febrifuge to Provincial Governments for 1944-45

	Quinine lbs.	Cinchona febrifuge lbs.
Madras	17,000	19,000
Bengal	65,000	30,000
Bombay	10,000	
United Provinces	10,000	2,500
Punjab	10,000	
Bihar	10,500	
Orissa	2,000	600
Central Provinces & Berar	5,000	1,250
Assam	5,500	2,500
Sind	3,000	
N. W. F. P.	2,000	400
Ajmer-Merwara	200	50
British Baluchistan	300	200
Delhi	1,000	
Coorg	400	200
Total	141,900	56,700

Statement showing allotments of quinine and cinchona febrifuge to Provincial Governments for 1945-46

Provinces	Quinine Sulphate (lbs.)	Cinchona febrifuge (lbs.)
Madras	19,000	20,000
Bengal	80,000	40,000
Bombay	7,200	
United Provinces	7,000	3,000
Punjab	9,000	
Bihar	11,000	
Orissa	1,000	600
C. P. & Berar	4,000	1,250
Assam	6,000	2,500
Sind	4,000	
N. W. F. P.	2,000	400
Ajmer-Merwara	400	100
Br. Baluchistan	300	200
Delhi	800	
Coorg	400	200
Total	155,450	68,250

Statement showing reported Malaria Deaths in British Indian Provinces.

Province	Total	C. P.	Total
Madras.			
1942	1827*	1942	285573
1943	1787*	1943	254109
1944	2376*	1944	264607
1945	†	1945	309245
1946	†	1946	†
Bombay		Assam	
1942	28206	1942	256**
1943	32819	1943	290**
1944	41925	1944	487**
1945	41631	1945	†
1946 (Jan. to Aug.)	18683	1946	†
Bengal		N. W. F. P.	
1942	426573	1942	67*
1943	688404	1943	70*
1944	763220	1944	66*
1945	516099	1945	30†
1946 (Feb. to Aug.)	175932	1946	†
U. P.		Orissa	
1942	747462	1942	378*
1943	800694	1943	769*
1944	747949	1944	564*
1945	723414	1945	507*
1946 (Jan. to Aug.)	396389	1946	†
Punjab		Sind	
1942	17938	1942	2911
1943	6861	1943	2496
1944	8796	1944	2776
1945	5640	1945	2004
1946	†	1946 Jan. to June.	328
Bihar		Ajmer-Merwara	
1942	†	1942	436*
1943	672*	1943	137*
1944	1658*	1944	97*
1945	†	1945	20*
1946	†	1946	†

* For urban areas only.

† Not available.

** Only certain towns.

‡ In hospitals only (including political Agencies).

1946 figures are compiled from monthly returns and are liable to revision.

Coorg	Total	Delhi	Total
1942	†	1942	1149
1943	†	1943	952
1944	†	1944	1164
1945	†	1945	788
1946	†	1946	

* Not available

TERMS AND CONDITION OF AGREEMENT FOR ENGAGEMENT OF R. I. A. F. PERSONNEL

660. *Sreejut Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: (a) Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state if it is a fact that the members of the R. I. A. F. personnel have been called upon to sign an agreement to serve in regular engagement by the 30th November, 1946, although they have not been supplied with terms and conditions of their post-war service?

(b) Are Government aware that for this reason most of the R. I. A. F. personnel have refused to sign the agreement and that, consequently, their services will be terminated by the 31st March next?

(c) Are Government aware that these people are prepared to sign the agreement if an assurance is given to the effect that sympathetic considerations will be given to the questions of pay and prospects and that no discrimination will be made between I. O. R. and B. O. R. in the R. I. A. F. services?

(d) If so, do Government propose to retain the services of these experienced men instead of taking new recruits to replace them as they are doing at present?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: (a) No, Sir.

The Honourable Member's question may have arisen from the scheme which has recently been introduced whereby airmen may, if they so desire, defer their release for periods of six, twelve or fifteen months. Applications to extend their service under this scheme have to be submitted by the 30th November 1946 and the date from which the periods of deferment begin is the 1st January 1947. Under this scheme the present pay scales will not be altered until the new pay code comes into force. From that date the new scales will be applied, with the proviso that if existing pay, including war service increment, is greater than that admissible under the new pay code, the existing pay will continue during the period of deferment until the recipient becomes eligible for a more favourable rate (for example by promotion) or until the 1st April 1948 whichever is earlier. It is not the intention of Government to compel any airman to sign on for a regular engagement. They will however be asked to volunteer when the new conditions of service and pay have been announced.

(b) In view of the answer to (a), this does not arise.

(c) All ranks of the R.I.A.F. are aware of the fact that a committee appointed by the Government of India is considering the question of pay for all ranks of the Armed Forces. The longest period of deferment of service is for 15 months from the 1st January 1947. As explained in the answer to (a), Indian airmen who wish to defer their release are aware that whatever the post-war pay may be, they will not, during this period of deferment, receive less than they do at present. There are no British airmen in the R.I.A.F. and therefore the question of discrimination does not arise.

(d) The majority of Indian airmen are serving on temporary engagements. It is not the intention of Government to retain in the Service, any longer than is absolutely necessary, any airman who has not signed a certificate signifying his desire to defer his release. It is necessary to enlist new recruits to replace men who wish to be released and others whose regular engagements may be expiring.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF PAY COMMISSION *re* PERSONNEL OF R. I. A. F.

661. *Sreejot Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state when the Pay Commission is expected to make recommendations regarding the pay and allowances of the personnel of the R. I. A. F.?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the Press Communiqué dated the 20th September 1946 on the subject, a copy of which is laid on the table.

The Services Post-War Pay Committee are considering scales of Pay for all the three Services; these scales will be inter-related. Their recommendations for the R.I.A.F. will be made at the same time as their recommendations for the Army and the R.I.N. It is also the policy of Government that the rates of pay for the Armed Forces should, in future, bear a relationship to civilian wages and it will be appreciated that the linking of service rates of pay with the pay of civilian Government servants is a very complicated matter. The new rates of pay for the Armed Forces will however be issued as soon as possible after Government have reached a decision on the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission.

Press Communiqué, dated the 20th September 1946.

"The Services Post-War Pay Committee has been working for some months on a new Pay Code for the Indian personnel of the three Services. The policy of the Government of India is that the rates of pay for the Armed Forces shall in future bear relationship to civilian wages in India.

Now the Government of India has set up a Central Pay Commission to enquire into the future pay and conditions of living of civilian servants of the Government.

Obviously the conclusions arrived at by the Central Pay Commission must be linked with those of the Services Committee. This means that it is unlikely that any decision will be reached before the end of this year, and that it will not be possible to announce the new Services Pay Code before the end of the year or perhaps for several months after it."

B. O. R.'s IN R. I. A. F.

662. *Sreejot Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state how many B. O. Rs. have been taken in the R. I. A. F. during the last three months?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: None, Sir.

REGULATIONS *re* USE OF HEAD LIGHTS IN MOTOR CARS IN NEW DELHI.

663. *Shri Sri Prakasa: Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) the authority that prescribes the conditions under which motor vehicles are allowed to be run on the roads of New Delhi;

(b) whether there is any regulation as regards the use of dim lights and head lights in motor cars;

(c) whether there are any orders prohibiting the use of head lights and directing the use of dim lights only in particular cases;

(d) whether Government are aware that the motor cars in New Delhi do not use dim lights, and that this often endangers the safety of pedestrians and others; and

(e) whether Government propose to issue instructions requiring motor cars coming from opposite directions to switch off their head lights and switch on their dim lights instead, when approaching each other?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) The Chief Commissioner, Delhi

(b) and (c). Yes. Rule 6-15(1) of the Delhi Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, requires motor drivers so to manipulate the lights that no undue inconvenience or danger is caused to any person by dazzle.

(d) Yes.

(e) The question of issuing instructions forbidding altogether the use of dazzling head-lights within the Municipal limits of Delhi, New Delhi, the Notified Area Committee and the Fort Notified Area Committee, is under consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HINDI URDU RADIO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

664. *Pandit Sri Krishna Dutt Paliwal: Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state:

(a) whether Government have arrived at any conclusions as regards the recommendations of the Hindi Urdu Radio Advisory Committee; if so, what;

(b) whether Government propose to lay a copy of the Report of the Committee on the table of the House;

(c) whether it is a fact that the representative of the Urdu Anjuman advocated the broadcasting of news in Hindi and Urdu separately; and

(d) whether Government propose to assign to Hindi its place according to the numbers of Hindi-speaking people?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the reply given by me on the 13th November 1946 to Seth Govind Dass's question No. 482.

(b) I shall consider the question of publication of the report of the Committee when a decision is reached on its recommendations.

(c) and (d) These are matters covered by the recommendations of the committee and will naturally claim my attention during the consideration of the whole subject.

CONVICTION OF INDIAN ENEMY AGENTS IN INDIA

665. *Sree Satyapriya Banerjee: Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) the number, names and addresses of Indians who have been executed as Enemy Agents;

(b) the number and names of Enemy Agents who came from East Asia and have been convicted as such in India;

(c) the number and names of persons who collaborated with those persons in India and were convicted for such collaboration;

(d) the number and names of those who have been convicted by a court martial and have not yet been released; and

(e) the policy of the Government of India with regard to the persons referred to in parts (b), (c) and (d) above?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) Thirteen persons were executed as a result of their trial under the Enemy Agents Ordinance, 1943. A statement giving their names and addresses is laid on the table.

(b) The number, including those mentioned in (a) above, is 26. A list of their names is laid on the table.

(c) There were two such persons, namely, Jyotish Chandra Bose and Haridas Mitra.

(d) My information is that no enemy agent has been convicted by a Court Martial.

(e) The Government of India have already released ten persons who were undergoing imprisonment and were convicted in Delhi. The Government of

Madras have released one person who had been convicted and was detained in Madras. The cases of the four remaining persons have been referred to the Government of Bengal with a recommendation for release as they are the concern of the Provincial Government.

(a) Names and addresses of Indians who have been executed as Enemy Agents, as a result of trials under the Enemy Agents Ordinance.

Serial No.	Name	Address
<i>Madras Case No. 1</i>		
1	Vava Kunhu Ahmad Abdul Kadir or V. M. A. Kadir s/o Vavakunhu Vakkom.	Vakom, Chirayankizh, Travancore, Madras.
2	S. C. (Satyendra Chandra) Bardhan, S/o Dinesh Chandra Bardhan.	Bitgarh, Tippera, Bengal.
3	Fauja Singh S/o Bent Singh.	Marhara, District Amritsar, Punjab.
4	Parasubhavan Thaikat Abhijanand or S. A. Anand S/o M. Parasu Pillay.	Thykad, Trivandrum Town.
<i>Madras Case No. 2</i>		
5	T. P. Kumaran Nair <i>alias</i> Kumaran Nair S/o K. Krishna Panikkar.	Village Nellikode, P. O. Putbiyara, Amsam, Calicut Taluq, District Malabar, Madras.
6	Ramu Thevar <i>alias</i> Apparao, S/o Ramalinga Thevar	Thumbadakki Kottai, Paramakudi Taluq, Ramnad District, Madras.
<i>Delhi Case No. 1.</i>		
7	Ajaib Singh S/o Sunder Singh Jat (Ghang)	Village Kallha, P. S. Taran Taran, District Amritsar, Punjab.
8	Zahur Ahmad S/o Ghulam Qadir	Village Theor, Chak No. 117, P. O. Sangla, District Sheikhupura, Punjab.
9	S. L. Mazumdar S/o Nagindas Lal Mazumdar (Dead).	South Katoli, P. O. Paha Katoli, P. S. Dubal Muring, District Chittagong, Bengal.
<i>Madras Case No. 3</i>		
10	Nandu Kandi Kanan <i>alias</i> Ghosh, S/o Kelappan.	Payyoli, Kurumbanad.
11	Tulasi Ramaswami <i>alias</i> Muthamani, S/o Ramia Pillai	Singapore.
12	Ratnam Pillai <i>alias</i> Murti. S/o Thulasi	Thirumangala Kottai, Pattukottai Taluk.
13	Sethu <i>alias</i> Krishna, S/o Dhanakoti Chettiar	Manjur, Paramakudi Taluk.

(b) Names of Enemy Agents who came from East Asia and have been convicted as such in India. (The list includes the names of those who have been executed).

1. V. M. A. Kadir; 2. S. C. Bardhan; 3. Fauja Singh; 4. S. A. Anand; 5. Bonifacio B. Pereira; 6. T. P. V. Kumaran Nair; 7. Ramu Thovar *alias* Apparao; 8. Ajaib Singh; 9. Zahur Ahmad; 10. S. L. Mazumdar; 11. Sham Lal Pande; 12. Audeshwar Rai Pande; 13. Sohan Singh; 14. Ganga Singh; 15. Sadhu Singh; 16. Sukhchain Nath Chopra; 17. Ram Dulare Dube; 18. Sri Bhagwat Upadhyaya; 19. Kartar Singh, Electrician W. O. Coy., I.A.O.C.; 20. 4793 Sowar Kanwal Singh, 2 R.L.; 21. Pabitra Mohan Ray; 22. Amrik Singh Bill; 23. Nandu Kandi Kanan *alias* Ghosh; 24. Tulasi Ramaswami *alias* Muthamani; 25. Ratnam Pillai *alias* Murti; 26. Sethu *alias* Krishna.

**ARREARS OF PAY AND THE APPOINTMENT OF INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY MEN IN
BRITISH INDIAN ARMY**

666. *Sree Satyapriya Banerjee: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state:

(a) the arrears of pay of Indian National Army men who were in the British Indian Army during the period of their status as prisoners of war, and the reasons for withholding payment;

(b) the policy of the present Government of India regarding the payment of these arrears; and

(c) the policy of the Government of India with regard to the appointment of Indian National Army men in the British Indian Army?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: (a) There are now no arrears of pay due to the I.N.A. men.

(b) and (c). The Interim Government have not yet considered these matters.

ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF DELHI PROVINCE

667. *Lala Deshbandhu Gupta: Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the continuance of undemocratic conditions in the Chief Commissioner's Province of Delhi is greatly resented by the people of the Province;

(b) whether Government are aware that a demand for the appointment of an Advisory Council consisting of elected representatives of the people with a view to advise the Chief Commissioner on all important administrative questions has been made by the people of Delhi from time to time;

(c) whether Government are aware that Mr. Asaf Ali, the then Member for Delhi, had also addressed a letter to the Chief Commissioner on the subject; and

(d) if the answers to parts (a), (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, do Government propose to appoint an Advisory Council with a view to democratise the present system of administration in Delhi, if so, how long it will take, and what will be the nature of the Advisory Council, and whether its advice would be normally binding on the Chief Commissioner?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) and (b). The Government of India have received representations expressing dissatisfaction with the present administrative structure in the Province of Delhi.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to my reply given on the 8th November 1946. to starred question No. 345 by Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava.

CIRCUIT HIGH COURT AT DELHI.

668. *Lala Deshbandhu Gupta: Is the Honourable the Home Member aware of the long standing demand of the people of Delhi, for a Circuit High Court at Delhi? If so, do Government propose to do anything in the matter?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Such proposals or proposals of a similar nature have been brought to the notice of the Government of India at intervals between 1923 and 1937, but have hitherto been rejected on both technical and practical grounds. No representations on this subject have been received from popular bodies since 1937. The Chief Commissioner has, however, recently reopened the question in correspondence with the Lahore High Court and I will in due course examine the proposals which result from this correspondence.

LOAN OF SERVICES OF AN OFFICER AS DIRECTOR OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN HYDERABAD STATE.

669. *Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer: (a) Will the Honourable Member for Education please state if it is a fact that some time back the Hyderabad Durbar asked through the External Affairs Department for the services of a certain officer in the Archaeological Department on loan for appointment as Director of Archaeology in that State

(b) What action was taken by that Department in this matter, and how does the matter now stand?

The Honourable Sri C. Rajagopalachari: (a) and (b). A demi-official enquiry has been received on behalf of the Hyderabad State in regard to the loan, in certain contingencies, of the services of an officer of the Archæological Department for appointment as the Director of Archæology in the State. A reply has been sent but there is no commitment on either side. No request has so far been made officially in the matter.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE TO PENSIONERS

87. Raizada Hans Raj: (a) Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state if it is a fact that the concession of dearness allowance has been given to Government Pensioners drawing pensions up to Rs. 100? If so, at what rate and on what principles?

(b) Is dearness allowance allowed to pensioners drawing pensions between Rs. 100 and Rs. 250? If not, what are the reasons therefor?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: (a) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, the rates of the temporary increase in the pensions are as follows:—

Pensions not exceeding Rs. 20 p.m.—Temp. increase of Rs. 4 p.m.

Pensions exceeding Rs. 20 p.m. but not exceeding Rs. 60 p.m.—Temp. increase of Rs. 5 p.m.

Pensions exceeding Rs. 60 p.m. but not exceeding Rs. 100 p.m.—Temp. increase of Rs. 6 p.m.

Pensions exceeding Rs. 100 p.m. but not exceeding Rs. 106 p.m. receive such increase as will bring the total pension to Rs. 106 per mensem.

These rates are based on the suggestions made by the Provincial Governments who are vitally concerned in the matter.

(b) The reply to the first part of the question is in the negative. As regards the second part, it is considered that retired official drawing pensions between Rs. 100 and Rs. 250 p.m. are not in the same need of relief as are those drawing pensions below Rs. 100 p.m. Moreover the heavy expenditure involved precludes any further liberalisation of the existing scheme, the additional cost of which is already about Rs. 127.5 lacs.

NON-RECOGNITION OF A. M. S. DIPLOMA OF THE BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY BY MEDICAL COUNCIL OF INDIA.

88. Seth Govind Das: Will the Secretary of the Health Department please state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the A. M. S. Degree of the Benares Hindu University is awarded after proper training and examination by the said University in modern medical subjects including Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, Medicine, Surgery, Pathology, etc.;

(b) whether it is a fact that Degrees and Diplomas of this University are recognised by the Government of India; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the A.M.S. Degree of the said University has not yet been recognised by the Medical Council of India; and if so, the reasons for withholding this recognition?

Mr. S. H. Y. Oulsnam: (a) Government are aware that instruction is given in the subjects mentioned.

(b) Yes.

(c) The A. M. S. degree of the Benares Hindu University has not been recognised under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933. The authorities of the University have not so far applied for the recognition of this qualification.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

FORWARD TRADING IN GOLD AND SILVER

Mr. Manu Subedar: (a) Have Government received a complaint or representation with regard to the future trading in gold and silver?

(b) Have their attention been drawn to a leading article in the *Times of India*, dated the 8th of October 1946?

(c) In view of the international importance of gold and silver, will Government have the entire machinery for forward trading in these articles examined in consultation with the Provincial Governments?

(d) Will Government have the question examined whether Government of India cannot interfere in order to lay down just and proper standards of trading, including deliveries against contracts?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Government are aware that the existing methods of forward trading in some of the bullion exchanges are highly undesirable and require to be rectified. Regulation of trading on the exchanges falls mainly under item 27 of the Provincial Legislative List, but legislation can be undertaken by the Centre if all Provinces agree to this course. It is realised that proper regulation of exchanges is impossible without uniform and simultaneous action in all Provinces and that Central legislation would be the best way of achieving such uniformity. The Government of India have, therefore, already instituted enquiries into the working of stock exchanges and have asked all Provincial Governments whether they would agree to Central legislation for their regulation. Similar action in regard to bullion exchanges is contemplated. The Government are also bringing to the notice of the Bombay Government the desirability of taking early steps to check the speculative activities of the bullion exchange in Bombay.

Mr. Manu Subedar: Since Government are going to have a co-ordinating law for the whole country if the Provincial Governments agree, may I also bring to the notice of the Honourable the Finance Member that there are two or three places in Indian States where also forward dealings in future transactions of gold and silver are taking place (*An Honourable Member!* No.) and it would be desirable—by negotiations no doubt—to bring them also to accept the same rules and conditions which would prevail in British India?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: All that I can tell my Honourable friend here is that the States will also be consulted in this matter and it can only be on their voluntary co-operation that anything can be done.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know from the Honourable Member if forward contracts are not in the interest of this country so long as Government is not able to purchase gold from foreign countries, and it is not desirable to allow merchants to get, as much gold bullion as possible?

The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan: That is also one of the matters that will be examined.

USE OF FIRE ARMS BY HOOLIGANS IN BENGAL AND AMENDMENT OF INDIAN ARMS ACT

Mr. K. C. Neogy: (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state whether the policy to be followed by the present Government in regard to the Indian Arms Act has come up for consideration with a view either to its repeal or substantial amendment? If so, when is any action in this direction likely to be taken?

(b) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the use to which rifles, guns and revolvers have been and are being put in different parts of Bengal by hooligans in the commission of crime in connection with the communal riots?

(c) Is it any part of the duty of the Central Intelligence Bureau to keep watch over unlawful acquisition and use of arms of this character? If so, has

the Bureau kept Government regularly informed about the extent of the mischief now prevailing, indicating the possible sources of supply of these arms?

(d) Do Government propose to take into early consideration the desirability of repealing or amending the Indian Arms Act, so as to facilitate the possession of arms by law-abiding citizens for purposes of self-defence?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) No. The second part of the question does not arise.

(b) I have seen press reports to this effect.

(c) The Central Intelligence Bureau is concerned only with securing information regarding loss or theft of certain categories of arms and ammunition. The matters referred to by the Honourable Member are primarily the concern of Provincial Governments.

(d) The matter will be considered and if in the light of the decision reached it becomes necessary, the question of amendment of the Act will be examined.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: With regard to the Honourable Member's answer to part (c) of my question, do I understand that the functions of the Central Intelligence Bureau are strictly limited to the extent that the Honourable Member has indicated, and that it is not open to the Government of India to extend the scope of the activities of the Central Intelligence Bureau so as to bring the enquiry that I have indicated within that scope?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: As I understand it, the scope of the Central Intelligence Bureau is limited to the position that I have stated.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: May I know under what authority has the scope of the activities of the Central Intelligence Bureau been thus limited?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Under the authority under which the Central Intelligence Bureau exercises its functions.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: Is it a Statutory authority which cannot be amended by any Government or Legislature?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: All acts can be amended by the Legislature.

Shri Sri Prakasa: In view of the Honourable Member's promise made earlier this morning that he would repeal the Arms Act if every one turned into a burglar, and in view of the further fact that almost all of us are becoming stabbers, will the Honourable Member consider the desirability of repealing the Arms Act?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: All Members of the Central Assembly have licences to keep arms but many of them do not have arms.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: With regard to my Honourable friend's answer to my last question, may I know whether Government propose to take up the question of revising the scope of the functions of the Central Intelligence Bureau in the direction indicated by me?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: The functions of the Central Intelligence Bureau are being shrivelled up instead of being expanded.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: Will the Honourable Member kindly indicate the reasons for thus restricting the scope?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: The reason is the expansion of Provincial Autonomy.

Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer: Since most of the Members of the House do not possess arms, will the Honourable Member endeavour to make available to the Honourable Members arms and ammunition for which they will be prepared to pay?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: They will get them if they apply to their Provincial Governments.

Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer: May I remind the Honourable Member that the Bombay Provincial Government has prohibited the sale of arms?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: That prohibition does not apply to the Honourable Member or the Members of the Central Legislature.

Mr. Sasanka Sekhar Sanyal: Will the Honourable Member be pleased to advise what a Member of this Assembly has to do when his application for arms to his Provincial Government is neither granted nor refused, but kept pending?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: In that case the remedy is to take steps to influence the Provincial Government.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: The Honourable Member in reply to a previous question advised the people to organise self-defence instead of depending on the police. May I know what advice the Honourable Member has to give to those law-abiding people who are confronted by hooligans armed with firearms?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: The Government of the Province is responsible in that behalf.

Khan Abdul Ghani Khan: In view of the fact that most of the victims of these riots are poor people who have not money for firearms, will the Honourable Member take that into consideration?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Every voter in the North-West Frontier Province is entitled to keep arms!

Sjt. N. V. Gadgil: May I know from the Honourable Member that in view of the disturbances all over the country if respectable people are armed will not the disturbances be fewer?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: I cannot express any opinion. It occasionally happens that the dacoits or goondas snatch away arms from those who have licences.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: With regard to the gradual restriction of the scope and the activities of the Central Intelligence Bureau, as referred to by my Honourable friend, will the Honourable Member be pleased to refer to the relevant recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee in regard to the functions of this very body, where the importance of the work left to it in regard to detection of terrorist activities, has been mentioned?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Those activities were of a very different nature.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: Do I take it that what is happening in the country cannot come within that description?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: They dealt with political terrorist activities.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: What steps does the Honourable the Home Member propose to take, as the Member in charge of the Centrally Administered areas, to safeguard the life and property of the poor people?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: All necessary steps will be taken to protect the life and property of people in the Centrally Administered areas.

Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth: Will the Honourable Member just tell me what is the position with regard to the possession of swords by almost every Sikh in Delhi? Is that freely allowed or are other communities also allowed to possess swords?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: The Sikhs are allowed to keep the kirpans on religious grounds.

Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth: Is a sword a kirpan or not, because every Sikh is now wearing a sword?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Different places have different conditions. In the Punjab a Sikh is allowed to keep a sword and a kirpan. But in the Centrally Administered areas the Sikhs are allowed to keep kirpans.

Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer: Will the Honourable Member inform the House whether in this province the size of a kirpan has increased to that of a sword?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: There is no scheduled size.

Khan Muhammad Yamin Khan: Will other members be allowed to keep kirpans?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: If other communities adopt the Sikh religion, certainly they will be allowed.

Khan Mohammad Yamin Khan: If a kirpan can be used as a weapon and it can be used for terrorising people, then why should other people, for their protection, not be allowed to keep kirpans, if one community is allowed to keep kirpans as an emblem of religion.

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: If the other communities do not consider it a religious duty to keep such weapons, then they are not allowed to do so.

Khan Mohammad Yamin Khan: Does the Honourable Member mean that, if some communities think that peaceful living is part of their religion and other people think that keeping of arms, by which they can kill the peaceful people, is part of their duty, he will not allow the peaceful people to protect themselves?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: In a country inhabited by many sects and different religions, the different religious susceptibilities of people are respected by the laws and customs of the country.

Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad: During the regime of Sir Fazl-i-Hussain the point rose about the definition of the kirpan and it was said that its length would be in inches. But now it has extended to feet. It has now ceased to be a kirpan and it has become a regular sword.

Mr. President: That is an observation!

Shri Sri Prakasa: Are Sikhs allowed only to keep kirpans and also to use them?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: They are allowed for both purposes.

Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth: My Honourable friend said that in the Punjab members of all communities are allowed to wear swords. In view of that, will my Honourable friend consider allowing others to wear swords in Delhi as a defensive weapon?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: I am informed that Sikhs are allowed to do so. But they are not allowed to keep swords in the Centrally Administered Areas.

NON-RETURN OF CASH AND THE VALUABLES REMOVED FROM PERSON OF ARRESTED I.N.A. MEN

Lala Deshbandhu Gupta: (a) Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state whether it is a fact that some cash deposits and valuable articles such as watches, fountain pens, etc., belonging to the I.N.A. prisoners were removed by the British Military Police at the time of their arrest in personal search with the avowed object of depositing the same in the safe custody of the Camp authorities, and that in some cases their value amounted to several thousand rupees, but this property was never returned to the prisoners at the time of their release and that no record or accounts are available to show that the cash and valuables so recovered, were deposited with the Camp authorities?

(b) Is it a fact that some petitions were actually filed before the Court Martial Tribunals but the Tribunals invariably replied that there was nothing on record to show that any private property belonging to the prisoners have been recovered in personal search?

(c) Is it a fact that a sum of Rs. 5,200 was recovered from the person of Mr. S. M. Bashir, (whose number at Jikargatchha Camp was L. 3070 and at Kabul Lines, Delhi, B. 1265) on the 29th June, 1945, at Calcutta Jetty and that he was told while he was at Jikargatchha Camp (near Calcutta) that the money had been deposited with the Camp Commandant, but this money was not paid back to him at the time of his release on the 27th December 1945. from Kabul Lines, Delhi?

(d) Did he send several applications to the Military authorities in this connection and also made a representation to the Honourable the Defence Member in September 1946?

(e) If the replies to (a) to (d) above be in the affirmative, what action has been taken, or do Government propose to take, in the matter? Will they order an immediate enquiry?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: (a) In conformity with the prescribed procedure, all prisoners were searched before their arrival at the Holding and Enquiry Centres and money in their possession was removed by the Interrogation authorities. A receipt was invariably given for articles and money so removed. A record does exist of cash deposits and articles, etc., which were taken away from the I.N.A. prisoners and the property belonging to these personnel was in the majority of cases returned to the owners on their release. In the remaining cases every effort has been made to trace and forward articles and money to those who did not receive them when released. The reason why some I.N.A. men did not receive their articles is that in several cases the men gave fictitious or incorrect addresses with the result that money orders and articles sent to them were returned.

(b) The Holding and Enquiry Centres where the majority of personnel were held have now been disbanded and it is therefore not possible to ascertain whether petitions were actually filed before the Courts. There is, however, no mention of such petitions in the Court of Enquiry proceedings.

(c) A sum of Rs. 4,965 was taken from Mr. Bashir and it has not been returned to him so far. Enquiries are being made and the question of paying him this sum of money known to have been taken from him is being considered.

(d) Yes, Sir; Mr. Bashir did make a statement to the effect that a sum of Rs. 5,200 was removed from his person in July, 1945. This statement was made by him in a letter addressed to the Honourable the Defence Member on the 29th of September, 1946.

(e) Government are enquiring into the case of Mr. Bashir.

Lala Deshbhandhu Gupta: May I know from the Honourable Member the number of cases in which money orders were returned unacknowledged or unaccepted?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I must ask for notice of that question.

Lala Deshbhandhu Gupta: May I know the reason for the delay in making the payment to Mr. Bashir? What is the difficulty?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: Government have to satisfy themselves that there are no claims outstanding against the person concerned before making the refund of the money taken from him.

Lala Deshbhandhu Gupta: How long will it take the Honourable Defence Secretary to make the refund?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I hope, not very long.

INVITATION TO MR. COMPTON MACKENZIE, TO WRITE HISTORY OF INDIA'S WAR EFFORT

Lala Deshbhandhu Gupta: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report published in the *Hindustan Times*, dated the 6th November, 1946, on page 2, and column 6 saying that Dr. Compton Mackenzie has been selected to write a short popular history of India's War Effort;

(b) whether it is true that he has been selected by the Government of India for this job; if so, the special reasons which led the Government of India to entrust this important task to an outsider; and

(c) whether he will be paid for by the Government for this job; if so, what will be the amount that will be paid to him?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of India sent to the U. K. a representative empowered to discuss with publishers of good standing the question of obtaining the services of an author whose name was sufficiently well known to ensure good sales for a popular history of India's war effort. The decision to invite Mr. Mackenzie to undertake this task was taken by the publishers in consultation with the Government of India's representative. The publication of this work will be undertaken by the publishers and will involve no expense to the Government of India who will merely provide facilities for the author. No Indian author of repute was found who was prepared to undertake the work on these terms; but Mr. Mackenzie has stated that as soon as an Indian author could be found who would be willing to undertake the work on these terms, he would make no difficulty about the withdrawal of the contract made by him with his publishers.

Lala Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know what steps were taken by the Government to find out whether any Indian author of repute was willing to undertake this work or not?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I might mention that Mr. Panikkar, who is a well known historian was addressed on the subject and I understand that he did not show much interest in this matter.

Mr. Ahmed E. H. Jaffer: May I know whether the Honourable Member took pains to consult the Education Department and also the various Universities in India on the subject to find out if one of their Professors in History was prepared to undertake this job?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: The historical section of the G.H.Q. made the necessary enquiries from the persons they considered competent to advise in the matter.

Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad: Is the Honourable Member aware that Mr. Panikkar ceased to be a professor many years ago and has never been a Professor of History?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I do not think it is necessary to go into the merits of Mr. Panikkar.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know whether any University Professors or other historians have been addressed on the matter?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I am afraid I have not got that information with me at the moment; but in the press communiqué which was issued it was stated that attempts to interest Indian authors privately and through the press have hitherto been without result.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: False.

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I do not think that the Honourable Member should say that it is false

Lala Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know if Government will now take steps to invite Indian authors of repute to undertake this work?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I have already said that if any Indian author of repute comes forward to accept this task on these terms, Government will readily provide the same facilities which have been provided for Mr. Compton Mackenzie.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know if it is not a fact that the Government of India have agreed to arrange to send photographers and other accessories for the purpose to enable this gentleman to gather the materials at the expense of the Central Government?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: This is included in the term "facilities", which the Government of India will provide to the author to enable him to do justice to the task which he has undertaken, namely, the preparation of a popular history which will give an account of India's war effort (that has been considerable and we are specially proud of it) in language which would be creditable to the country.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know what the estimated cost of these facilities is?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: No estimate of the cost is available; but I do not think it can be very much. As I said the cost involved is only the cost of travelling and incidental costs, like what my Honourable friend mentioned, photographs etc.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Will it be some lakhs of rupees—approximately?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I am afraid I have not got the figures.

Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad: In what language does the material exist for writing Indian History and has the Honourable gentleman got any familiarity with that language?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: The material exists in English and Mr. Mackenzie who is an author of world wide fame surely knows English.

Lala Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know if Government have considered the question that a popular history can better be written in an Indian language rather than in English?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: It is the intention of the Government of India to translate this work when it is ready in the Indian languages.

Shri Sri Prakasa: In view of the fact that the Honourable Member has given what may only be called a tendentious answer, may we inquire if the Government have already given tips to this author as to what he should write? When the Honourable Member seems to be very proud of his war effort does he expect the author to be the same? Will he be ready to give me the task? I hold a Tripos degree in History from Cambridge.

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I suggest that it is a matter of opinion—whether the reply I gave was tendentious or not; but I can say straightaway that Mr. Mackenzie himself has made a public statement that if the work he produces does not satisfy the Indian people, he will feel that he has not done his work.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: May I know whether Mr. Compton Mackenzie is a very well known writer of fiction and whether the Government consider that in the writing of history, an author who has distinguished himself in writing fiction is best qualified?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: I think my Honourable friend is not well aware of the works written by Mr. Compton Mackenzie.

Mr. K. C. Neogy: I want to know.

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: In addition to fiction, for which he is famous, he has written a number of memoirs of Greece and other places when he served during the first great war of 1914—1918, and he has also written some historical works.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Will the Honourable Member now circularise and invite applications from professors of history in the various colleges and universities in order to find out if Indian authors of repute are available for this purpose, and offer them the same terms?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: The announcement made in this Honourable House is sufficient publicity to enable any author who is interested in this project to approach the Government of India. I should make it clear that in addition to this popular history the intention of the Government of India is to compile an official factual history which will probably consist of several volumes, which is being written in the historical section, by the Government of India's own officers; there will also be a student's history which will be utilised at the staff college which will not consist of the same number of volumes as the bigger and detailed official history.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is that the intention of the late Government or of the present Government?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: That is the intention of the present Government also.

Khan Mohammad Yamin Khan: When the Honourable Member said that besides fiction this gentleman has written some historical works, what historical value have these works got? Have they any historical value?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: That is a matter of opinion. Surely Mr. Mackenzie is a gentleman of world wide fame and I suggest that works written by him are prized works.

(Some honourable members rose to ask questions.)

Mr. President: Order, order: I am calling the next question. This has been sufficiently discussed.

STORE PURCHASE RULES FOLLOWED BY THE ARMY DEPARTMENT.

Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad: Will the Secretary of the Defence Department please state:

(a) whether the Store Purchase Rules are followed by the Army Department in respect of orders placed abroad; if not, why not;

(b) whether it is correct that foodstuff and machinery now available in India are not purchased by the Army Department and imported from abroad; and

(c) whether the National Government have changed the policy of encouraging Indian Industry?

Mr. G. S. Bhalja: (a) The Store Purchase Rules have been followed by the Defence Department subject only to certain modifications necessitated by the war.

(b) No, Sir; Demands for machinery and warlike stores have been placed on the India Office only for those stores which could not be produced in India. All items which can be produced in India according to the required specification are procured from indigenous sources through the Industries and Supply Department. Indigenous foodstuffs purchased for the Armed Forces in India are obtained for the Defence Department by the Food Department in accordance with the estimates given by the Quartermaster General, India. The only foodstuffs imported are those which cannot be produced in India to the required specifications or in the required quantity.

(c) No, Sir, there has been no change whatsoever. The policy, as before, is to encourage Indian industry as much as possible. An Inter-Departmental Committee is actually now considering the question of defining what types of military equipment and stores can be locally procured through the Industries and Supply Department.

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATE

Secretary of the Assembly: Sir, the following message has been received from the Council of State:

"I am directed to inform you that the Council of State at its meeting held on the 15th November, 1946, agreed without any amendment to the following Bills which were passed by the Legislative Assembly at its meeting held on the 11th and 12th November 1946, namely:—

1. A Bill further to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

2. A Bill to provide for the continuance during a limited period of powers to control the production, supply and distribution of, and trade and commerce in, certain commodities.

3. A Bill to make provision for the constitution of a special police force for the Chief Commissioner's Province of Delhi for the investigation of certain offences committed in connection with matters concerning Departments of the Central Government for the superintendence and administration of the said force and for the extension to other areas in British India of the powers and jurisdiction of members of the said force in regard to the investigation of the said offences."

RESOLUTION RE RUNNING OF CIVIL AVIATION AS A STATE
DEPARTMENT—*contd.*

Mr. M. R. Masani (Bombay City: Non-Muhammadan Urban): Sir, it is generally considered to be a difficult position for a man when his convictions conflict with the interests of an organisation with which he may be connected. I have come to the conclusion that it is an even more difficult position when one's convictions happen to coincide or not conflict with the call of the organisation to which one may happen to belong. I happen to belong to a firm, which in its turn happens, among its multifarious activities, to run one of India's airlines; and so last week, when this debate was on, I desisted from speaking; and I would still have done so if it had not been for the fact that the debate on the last occasion widened from a discussion on civil aviation to a wider discussion on the pros and cons of nationalisation of all industries and services. One of the Honourable members, my friend Khan Abdul Ghani Khan, went so far as to say that our decision in this case would be a test for similar decisions to be taken in the case of other industries and services. It is that which induces me to put before the House a few considerations, and I trust that the Honourable House and, in particular, the Mover, Sardar Mangal Singh, and those who support him will accept my assurance that what I say here is based on my own views, previously expressed in writing on various occasions and over a long time, and are solely in furtherance of my duty to my own constituency and to the country.

On February 26 this year, when this House was debating the question of road-rail co-ordination, I had occasion to oppose the scheme on the ground that it smacked of monopoly. This is what I said on that day:

"I say this scheme savours strongly of monopoly. I would like to oppose the very conception of monopoly as applied to our transport service. I do so though I am a socialist. According to my socialist faith, I do not believe it is necessary to support any and every measure of nationalisation. Nationalisation, after all, is an instrument, a means to an end, and if it impedes social justice, if in a particular case it impedes the spreading of democracy to the economic sphere of life, then, I Sir, would oppose it."

I then went on to say:

"India is big enough for more railways, more roads, more shipping and more air lines. We want healthy competition between all these modes of transport. That is the only guarantee that new technical developments will be utilised and that efficiency will be maintained on both sides. Therefore, if the railways fear competition, their first duty is to put their house in order."

Now, Sir, these considerations in opposing monopoly apply with even stronger force than in the case of road transport to the development of civil aviation in our country. There was a certain amount of loose talk about nationalisation on the last occasion. The word was used in two diametrically opposite senses. The first meaning was that given to the term by Sardar Mangal Singh and his supporters and they understood nationalisation to mean State ownership and management. On the other hand my friend Diwan Chaman Lal, in moving his amendment, made it clear that he understood nationalisation to include State ownership or State control and he said that in that sense he also supported nationalisation.

I have taken the trouble of looking up the dictionary in trying to decide as to whether my friend Sardar Mangal Singh or Diwan Chaman Lal was right, and this is what the Oxford Dictionary says. It defines 'nationalisation' to be "the action of bringing land, property, industries under the control of the nation". To 'nationalise' is "to bring under the control of to convert into the property, of, the nation"; and Webster endorses this by saying—to 'nationalise' is "to vest the control, ownership, or the like, of in the nation". It is perfectly clear therefore that the correct meaning of the word 'nationalisation' is the meaning given by Diwan Chaman Lal and in that sense we of the Congress Party are committed to nationalisation. We propose to remain committed to

[Mr. M. R. Masani]

it and we propose to implement our pledges in this behalf. The Congress Election Manifesto is clear on this point. It says:

"It will be necessary to plan and co-ordinate social advance in all its many fields, to prevent the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of individuals and groups, to prevent vested interests inimical to society from growing, and to have social control of the mineral resources, means of transport and the principal methods of production and distribution in land, industry and in other departments of national activity, so that free India may develop into a co-operative commonwealth.

The State must, therefore, own or control key and basic industries and services, mineral resources, railways, waterways, shipping and other means of public transport."

This makes it perfectly clear that we of this party do not accept nationalisation in the narrow sense of State ownership and management. We have very wisely left the door open to social ownership or control as the needs of the situation may dictate.

Our industries and services are developed in very varying degrees. Some are old established and have made great advance. Others are nascent. They have just been born and are still at an elementary and rudimentary stage, and to apply the same footrule and standard of measurement to all these various industries and services would not only be dogmatic and doctrinaire but also disastrous to the country. The only test one can apply is the test which my Honourable friend, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, mentioned when he was Minister for Industries and Supplies, and that was that India's biggest need today is increased production. We want much more of goods and much more of services and the only test, and the supreme test, by which we can decide what form of social control we shall apply to any particular industry or service is whether or not it will give us more production or better service, because that is India's prime need.

Judged by that test, my attention would turn first to the administrative machinery that we possess at present. I shall not comment on it beyond saying that we have inherited from the British Raj a very rudimentary machinery of Government confined primarily to law and order and the collection of revenue. I would ask the House to accept the statement of the present Minister for Industries and Civil Supplies, Dr. Matthai, who in the recent debate on controls expressed himself as follows:

[At this stage Mr. President vacated the Chair which was then occupied by Mr. Deputy President (Khan Mohammad Yamin Khan).]

"Here we had to put into operation the system of controls through an administrative system which had grown up through the years, with an entirely negative outlook. We had at present an administrative organisation in the country built up over a period of 20 years, the main business of which during this period had been to prevent things being done and to maintain law and order. It was a police Government on the foundation of which they had to erect a system of regulation rather than prevention."

The Honourable Mover of this Resolution and his supporters want exactly this police government, this rudimentary government, which has still to be built up, to be vested with the day to day management of a highly specialised service of this kind. (*An Honourable Member*: What about Railways?) I shall come to that. It is already an overburdened service and what you are doing now is to place on the Government the additional burden of running our airlines. That, Sir, is fair neither to the administrative apparatus nor to the country. And I was not surprised that in the Statement of Policy made by the predecessor in office of the present Honourable Member for Communications on September 30, a frank admission was made by Government; and we were told in answer to a question on the 6th instant that it was then the policy of the Government of India as a whole. That statement said that Government "machinery is not as yet so highly developed as to enable it to undertake actual operations in aviation". The then Communications Member went on to express the hope that "on account of private enterprise, greater facilities, efficiency and courtesy will be available to the passengers than if the services were to be nationalised at this stage".

The real issue before us today is not between private enterprise in an unregulated sense and State enterprise. The issue is a narrow issue between two different forms of nationalisation, namely, State ownership and management or State control without ownership and management. (*An Honourable Member*: What about profit?) I shall presently come to that. During the last ten or fifteen years, many socialists in various countries, who had sworn by State ownership and management, have had occasion to revise their views in view of the menace of totalitarian dictatorship that has sprung up in that period, and I shall quote to the House the views of Professor G. D. H. Cole, an eminent socialist, whose name is well known as an expounder of Marxism and socialism during the last two decades. This is what he says in his book *Great Britain In The Post-War World*:

"There is no need to socialise at once all the forms of production it may prove desirable to socialise some time: nor is there any reason why a form of production socialised at first, should not be handed back, under proper safeguards, to private enterprise if socialisation does not yield good results. Within a single branch of production there may be some parts which it is desirable to socialise and others which are best left under private ownership and control. The more gigantic the essential instruments of power become, the greater grows the danger that in centralising their administration, we may be drawn to create a political machine too vast and complicated to be amenable to any real democratic control, and may thus become ourselves the victims of the very power-mania, which we are organising ourselves to defeat. It is a clear lesson of recent history that democracy cannot be real unless it rests on small groups as its basic units—on groups all enough to be competently administered and led by men of normal stature and mental make-up."

Mr. Deputy President: The Honourable Member has two minutes more.

Mr. M. R. Masani: I have not taken more than ten minutes now by my watch, and the clocks in the House hence stopped. May I therefore have another five minutes?

Mr. Deputy President: The Honourable Member must finish in two minutes.

Mr. M. R. Masani: If that is so, Sir, I shall now come to the kernel of the matter. My friend here talked of profits. My Honourable friend should know that measures have already been taken to see that excessive profits are not made in aviation by the industrialists. Under the present system of licensing, many forms of control are already in existence in regard to types of aircraft, the qualifications of the crew, the frequency of the services, the time tables, and fares, and so it follows automatically that profits can also be controlled through the control of fares. And I hope they will be controlled. But there is no need for State ownership in order to control profits. In fact, in so trying to hurt the man who is making profits, you will be hurting the country a hundred-fold.

The Honourable the Home Member really came to the root of the matter in his very brief but cogent intervention on the last occasion. He pointed out that our feet are not yet on solid ground and that therefore this is not the time to launch on hazardous ventures in the air. That is true not only politically and administratively, but also economically. Our primary duty to the people of this country is to meet the basic needs of life,—food, clothing, housing, hospitals and schools. Have we performed that duty? Has our administrative machinery been developed sufficiently to give our people even their basic needs? And if, unfortunately it is not, are we entitled to fritter away our energies on projects like this when we are failing in our primary duties? That is the real problem. And I do think that if we apply the test as to whether State control on the one hand or State ownership on the other will give better results in civil aviation and if we put aside pre-conceived ideas about this 'ism' or that, there is only one answer,—and I am confident that Government, when they consider the matter, must come to it,—and that is that the present system of strict regulation of every department and aspect of this service will give the best results. And if they do that, we can then concentrate on our task of doing first things first.

Mr. M. A. F. Hirtzel (Bengal: European): Mr. Deputy President, civil aviation is a subject in which my Group and I have neither any financial or any managing interest. We are interested solely as members of the public, as users and we are anxious that this debate should not come to a conclusion without our paying tribute to the excellent pioneering work which has been done by civil aviation in recent years. That is a fact, that is an achievement of the greatest importance to which we wish to pay our tribute of praise. And we are most anxious to see that this good work which has been begun and is going ahead should not be ended or impeded or sacrificed to any loose thinking regarding the question of nationalisation. We view this matter strictly from the practical angle. We have a good service and we want to go on having a good service and that, I suggest, is the best test of any transport system.

What has been the history of State management in India? My Honourable friend Mr. Joshi interpolated in the last speech: "What about the railways?" What about the railways, indeed! I suggest that any impartial critic who takes the trouble to go into the history of railway management will come to the same conclusions that have been come to recently, in a study of the subject, by Professor Natesan. I do not propose to follow Professor Natesan through all the details of a closely reasoned study, but it is very important, I think, that the House should have in mind the main conclusions which Professor Natesan, an impartial Indian critic, comes to. His final conclusion is that three charges can be sustained against State management. In the first place, administrative inefficiency and the creation of vested interests of the administrators in the continuance of a particular type of administration. Secondly, that State services are less responsive than privately operated services to public opinion. Thirdly, that there is a lack of initiative and flexibility.

Now, Sir, these are factors which must strike at the root of any loose and doctrinaire thinking or speaking on the subject of nationalisation, and I suggest that, if these considerations are not taken into account, the future of civil aviation will be equally vitiated. These are considerations which are not primarily political or constitutional. It is reasonable and proper that they should be debated in this House, but the decisions will be the worse rather than the better for the intrusion of political and constitutional considerations. These are administrative problems which require the utmost and most careful consideration.

What, Sir, again, has been the history of road transport? As a result of premature action and premature discussion, road transport today is in a state of suspended animation, if it is not actually dead. That, I consider, is a most unfortunate thing for this country. Road transport held out great hopes for the development of communications in areas where railways and other forms of transport cannot penetrate. But what is going to happen now? When are we going to have a policy? When are we going to have any enterprise? Then, what has been the history of our telephone systems? As you are aware, the telephone system in Calcutta has recently been nationalised. The result has been not an enormous increase in efficiency, but an enormous decrease in efficiency and an enormous increase in complaints. These are all administrative problems and they must be given most careful and most balanced consideration before any decision is taken.

Now, Sir, Diwan Chaman Lall, and the last speaker also, wisely pointed out that time is essential for active consideration and that there are various types of nationalisation, the respective merits of which must be fully weighed. Any mistake at this stage will be fatal not only to civil aviation but to a much more important thing, the building up of that reserve of fully qualified technical manpower which is essential to the even more important subject of India's defence.

For these reasons, we fully support the arguments put forward by Diwan Chaman Lall when moving his amendment that the problems should be fully investigated. In the meantime, we beg the House not to upset the rate of efficient development of civil aviation which is actually taking place. On this

note I would end. We are getting what we want; do not take it away from us! Sir, I support Diwan Chaman Lall's amendment.

Mr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqi (Calcutta and Suburbs: Muhammadan Urban): Mr. Deputy President, if for no other reason then for the very good reason of the Calcutta telephones, I would certainly oppose the nationalisation of anything. But the problem goes a bit beyond the inefficiency of State management. Our country has so far been treated as a raw material producing country and our rulers have never taken care of our interests as the ruled. There has been a definite divergence and opposition between the two interest. Now, with the advent of the new Government and I hope with the advent of the new Constitution as and when it comes, we shall have to begin work from the very beginning, and for doing that I would ask the Honourable the Mover of the Resolution to realise that the State will need the assistance of the people, —call them capitalists, call them labour or call them what you like. Money and labour will be required and, therefore, the State may deal with the wider problems affecting our people leaving smaller affairs to private enterprise.

Sir, nationalisation creates a sense of fear in me. We have not yet arrived at any clear definition of the word "nation" in this country. Different people have different nations of "nationhood". If we follow the principles and institutions which have rendered valuable service elsewhere and try to transplant them into our country, they may not give fruitful results. Until, therefore, we have arrived at a clear definition of what the word 'nation' in India, as to what it means and how the rights and privileges of the many component parts of the people inhabiting this land are going to be safeguarded against possible dangers from huge majorities "nationalisation" will have to be considered

rather carefully by the Honourable Mover and by me. Sir, I appreciate that if the Honourable Mover understands by nationalisation "Indianisation" of civil aviation, then I am entirely with him.

Sardar Mangal Singh (East Punjab: Sikh): I do not mean that.

Mr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqi: If he does not mean that, then he is taking us in to a direction which the Persian Poet has described as:

Ein rah ke tu meravi ba Turkistan ast.

(The road thou art walking upon leads to Turkistan—that is to destruction and death.) What I am trying to impress upon the Sardar Sahib is that instead of state ownership or state management, let us consider and think in terms of state control. Speaking as a Muslim, I should have supported this doctrinaire principle of nationalisation because I would have got my communal ratio of 25 per cent. in state owned civil aviation. But I would like the Sardar Sahib and other Honourable Members in the House to realise that the worm called the Muslim is gradually but steadily turning. He is now paying attention to the economic aspect of life of the country. There are 16 aviation companies out of which 3 are Muslim. I hope they will increase. I feel that if nationalisation comes, we shall not be able to push Muslims into this field. If we do not stop here and the process goes on, we shall remain where we have been kept, by the combination of British and Bombay and Calcutta capitalists, in the position of workers and the coolies. Let us have a chance of expanding our activities in this line and also in the general industrial and economic life of the country.

May I also draw your attention to the fact that air travel is a very expensive and exclusive type of travel? It will touch an infinitesimal number of our people. They will want everything that is best. I doubt, after what the Honourable Member representing the European Group in the House, has said whether this expensive travelling will be supplied by the State. Why not leave this small matter, perhaps one per cent. of our people, in the hands of private enterprise, capitalists if you like, and certainly technical experts whom they can afford to employ for this highly specialised service. Sir, aviation is progressing and improving from day to day and governments as a rule are hide-bound. If measures of safety, speed and comfort for the travellers can be

[Mr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqi.]

found, then let the matter go to private enterprise. May I also, Sir, suggest that till now these private companies have not demanded any subsidy? That shows that the Indian tax-payer is not likely to be called upon to pay any money for internal services. After the agreement signed three days ago with America, Government had better be asked to devote attention to external services. We shall allow Americans to come and land in our country but I should like to live and see an Indian plane landing at La Guardia aerodrome, in New York. The two aspects of the matter can go along together. The capitalists or the company and the Government can come to an arrangement by which the profits may be controlled but more than that, the State should control the comfort and safety of the travellers and improvement of aviation in the country from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin. If the private companies would agree to reduce the fares many more would travel by air and, it may be possible that a higher percentage of profits may be available to them. I would ask the Honourable Mover to agree to the suggestion that state control of the most rigid type be imposed and not to insist on state ownership and management. It is being done to-day by the Licensing Board over which sits a Judge of the High Court. If the percentage of profits is controlled and the amount is kept low, we shall be able to serve the interests of that very small number of citizens of India who wish to travel by air without injuring those of the vast majority by wasting public funds.

Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha (Darbhanga *cum* Saran: Non-Muhammadan): I move:

"That the question be now put."

The Honourable Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar (Member for Communication): Member's right of reply. The question is:

"That the question be now put."

Mr. Deputy President: I accept the closure subject to the Government Member's right of reply. The question is:

"That the question be now put."

The motion was adopted.

The Honourable Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar (Member for Communication): Sir, at the outset I apologise to Honourable Members of this House for being absent at the time of discussion on the last occasion of this important Resolution. But I am sure they will excuse me because my absence was unavoidable. I had gone to Bihar to do my little bit for the poor victims of Bihar tragedy. It is a thing which is now uppermost in the mind of everybody and therefore I am sure that they will not consider my absence due to my not attaching any importance to this Resolution. As I have already submitted, the Resolution is a very important one and it relates as the Honourable Member has put it to the nationalisation of civil aviation. I believe by civil aviation he means air transport, because certain aspects of civil aviation already are owned by the State. So far as the amendment moved by my Honourable friend Diwan Chaman Lall is concerned, I am gratified to note that it gives a breathing time to the Government so that they may be able to fully consider the pros and cons of this important question and then arrive at a conclusion. It is known to Honourable Members that the interim Government came into office just three months ago and I, as a Member of the Muslim League bloc assumed office less than three weeks ago. After assumption of office for three or four days I tried to understand the machinery that I was called upon to administer and to know the horse which I have to ride. Not only that, I found myself confronted with a very important question that is the Indo American agreement regarding civil aviation. Our negotiators were negotiating an agreement with the representatives of America, and in that connection I had to devote a lot of time for discussions with our own negotiators as well as the representatives of the other side. Meanwhile I had to go to Bengal and from there to Bihar. For one night I came but had again to go back to Bihar. When I came back again the same question was staring me in the face and I had to tackle it; and Honourable Members know that it was finished only day before yesterday when the agreement was concluded and signed. In these circumstances I think Honourable Members will appre-

ciate that I had no opportunity whatever to fully consider the implications of this important Resolution; and therefore I am sure no Member of this House will expect me to make a declaration of policy, because policies that are declared without any consideration and very hastily are also forgotten very hastily. And if we are determined to carry out a policy the best and wisest course is that we should fully consider it before making a declaration. Any promises that are given cheaply are also broken very cheaply.

So far the policy of Government has been that which was announced perhaps in May last year, and it is to this effect:

"The policy of the Government of India is generally to promote the development and operation of air transport services, internal and external, by a limited number of sound and reliable private commercial organisations with their own capital and operated under normal commercial principles. In selected cases Government will take a financial interest, but not a controlling interest, in the concerns operating their services and appoint a director on the board. This policy does not, however, rule out the operation by the State itself of any air transport service or services in particular cases, and such operation may be by the Central Government, a provincial Government or the Government of an Indian State."

In pursuance of this policy certain rules were framed and, as has been referred to by certain Honourable Members, a Licensing Board has been set up with an eminent judge of the Lahore High Court presiding over it and with experienced members, to consider the question of grant of licenses. Many applications have come to them; I will deal with them later on, but for the time being I must point out that so far as the question of control is concerned, in those rules some controls are provided. I am not in a position to say whether they are sufficiently effective but I believe they are fairly effective. *Inter alia* they provide for fixation of a per mile rate with a minimum and maximum, fixation of stoppages, approval of frequencies, approval of type of aircraft and equipment, financial stability of those who want to get licenses, and also approval of the personnel even if it is adequate; and even if these gentlemen have got licenses, unless they are up to the mark the Licensing Board will probably not grant licenses.

This is the position in which we find ourselves. But it appears—and it is quite natural in a poor country like India where an overwhelming majority is of the havenots and only a few gentlemen have swollen pockets—that there is a cry for nationalisation of industries and not of civil aviation only,—nationalisation of all industries, particularly the bigger industries. The phrase "nationalisation of industries" is given different interpretation by different person. Like the Chancellor's foot, its meaning differs from man to man. Some say nationalisation means this, some say nationalisation means that; and it was even said on the floor of this House this morning by Mr. Masani that there is great difference about the interpretation of the word between the compilers of dictionaries. But the fundamental principle, as it appears to a layman like myself, is this that people want that these industries should not be under the control of State and the profit from such concerns should not go into the pockets of private enterprisers. That is the spirit of the phrase.

Mr. Deputy President: It is now time for Lunch adjournment, but as I am told there is no other Resolution to be moved, I propose that we may sit a little longer and finish this so as not to come back after Lunch. The Honourable Member may proceed.

The Honourable Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar: I was giving my interpretation of the word 'nationalisation'. What I understood by the term is that the real object is to have control vested in a national organisation which is the State, and the object is that the profit that accrues from such concern should go to the public exchequer so that it may be utilised for the service of the poor. How to achieve it is a question which requires thorough examination. It is not very easy to suddenly take up these questions. Rome was not built in a day though nowadays it can be destroyed in a day. But we are here for construction and not for destruction. Therefore I submit that this House, composed as it is of very responsible and learned gentlemen, will support me in this view that Government should be given sufficient time to consider this question and to examine it.

[Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar].

In connection with nationalisation several suggestions have been put forward from time to time. One is that there should be State control; another party says there should be control plus financial participation; a third section says we must have control as well as controlling interest; a fourth class says that there should be completely State-owned services; yet another class says that for the time being we may allow internal civil aviation to be developed by private enterprise; and as we have no external aviation at present the Government may consider that so far as this part of civil aviation is concerned it should start as a State-owned service. Such and similar other points have been put forward from time to time for the consideration of Government. Then there are many other things which socialists like my Honourable friend Sardar Mangal Singh would like to be nationalised. The question is, what should be the time for a particular kind of industry to be nationalised and which industry should be given priority in this respect, because we are not to consider a thing bit by bit. We have to consider the whole field—and the socialists particularly should consider the whole field—and select and give priority to those things which have got greater implications and which apply to a greater number of people. Therefore so far as the question of priority is concerned, from that point of view also I think the Honourable Mover of the Resolution will concede to Government this much right that they should decide which particular industry should be nationalised first and which should be nationalised later on. If it is expected that everything is to be nationalised all at once then I must point out to him with all humbleness that so far as this Government is concerned, it is not so rich, it has not got such unlimited resources that it can take up the whole of the programme all at once. These are some of the difficulties that I want to point out for the consideration of the Honourable Member and it would appear after considering them even cursorily that the question is not so easy as some gentlemen think, and therefore I would submit that the Honourable the Mover will agree with me that it is not desirable at present to tie the hands of Government. In his speech the Honourable mover said that he did not want to embarrass the Government, and I am thankful to the Members of this House that they also said that they did not want to tie the hands of the Government and they did not want to embarrass the Government. Of course everybody was at liberty to put forward his suggestions for the guidance of the Government. If I have got a correct copy of what my Honourable friend, Mr. Joshi, said on this question, namely that the House has got the right to make suggestions for the guidance of the Government, let me tell him that I concede that right to the House. Even if I do not concede, the House has got the right to guide the Government, and the Government will certainly give full consideration to whatever is said on the floor of the House.

I would not deal with some of the criticisms that have been made about State-managed affairs. Here this morning, the Honourable Member representing the European Group said "look at the fate of Calcutta telephones", look at the fate of this, and look at the fate of that—it deteriorated because of nationalization. So far as nationalization of Calcutta telephone is concerned, may be that it was not on account of nationalization that the telephone service is not working properly it may be due to war because it was nationalized during the war. Like other things it was probably the effect of war which did not sufficiently make the enterprise a success. I am not prepared to admit that because State got it, it deteriorated.

Sir, so far as the remarks of my Honourable friend, Mr. Abdur Rahman Siddiqi, are concerned about the word 'nation' and 'nationalization' I will tell him that everything is in the melting pot. Nobody knows that when the question of state-ownership comes up—I will avoid the word nationalization—it will be the state ownership of the Centre, or the state ownership of a province, or a group or any other unit. This nobody can say. But so far as the fundamental principle of nationalization is concerned, I for one—and here I am speaking on my own behalf—consider it to be an absolutely salutary one. And, Sir, I think there are very few people in India—I mean Indians—who will be opposed to this

principle, but as I pointed out the only question is the method, the manner and the time of achieving this objective.

Sir, in view of all these things I appeal to my Honourable friend, Sardar Mangal Singh, to kindly withdraw his Resolution and not insist upon its passage at this juncture. So far as the amendment of my Honourable friend, Diwan Chaman Lall, is concerned, the views that I have expressed will clearly show that I am in general agreement with the substance of it, but there are certain words in this amendment which would embarrass the Government—on the question of time, and in some other manner also—and therefore I would request him also, since I have declared on behalf of the Government as a Member in charge of this Department that the Government is in general agreement with the substance of his amendment, not to press his amendment to vote.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar (Madras Ceded Districts and Chittoor: Non-Muhammadian Rural): The amendment is innocuous.

The Honourable Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar: If he reads it again I think my Honourable friend will find that if the object is to give sufficient time to the Government to consider it, then the amendment does create some difficulty.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: 'Early' is a matter of interpretation.

The Honourable Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar: Yes, 'early' is a vague term, and it might be interpreted in different ways. Therefore, I would submit that as I have announced on behalf of Government that the Government agrees with the substance of the amendment, then why tie down the Government to a particular phraseology and press for it.

Before closing my observations, I will make a few submissions regarding the points that were raised by various speakers on the last occasion. The Honourable Sardar Mangal Singh wanted to know how many applications have been submitted to the Licensing Board. I might inform him that 86 applications by 17 companies for 74 routes have been submitted.

Another point about which he wanted an assurance from the Government was that if internal aviation is for the time being left to the private enterprise, then in that case this House will have an opportunity of discussion if there is any air crash. I would point out for his information that under the Rules certain duties have been cast on the Civil Aviation Department of the Government—the duties of inspection, of approval about the air worthiness of aircrafts, and all that—and in that connection I am sure the members will have an opportunity to discuss such points on the floor of the House.

Seth Govind Das Sahib referred to Govan Brothers who were managing agents of one of the two big companies dealing with civil aviation. My information is that the interests of Govan Bros. now vest mostly in Indians, and some big financier of India has purchased their interests. So far as the Directors are concerned, all of them are Indians. Doctor Zia Uddin Sahib wanted information about control of rates and fares. I have already submitted that under the present rules the Licensing Board can control the rates and fares. Moreover there will be no question of monopoly of which he had some misapprehension.

My brother from the Frontier Province, Khan Abdul Ghani Khan of course referred to the basic principle of nationalization and about that I have already made remarks.

Rao Bahadur Siva Raj suggested that there should be some training of the pilots. For his information I may point out that the Government are subsidising flying clubs and very shortly a training centre will be opened. Opening of other training centres is also under consideration. So far as these Centres are concerned, they will train pilots, radio staff, aerodrome staff, and engineers.

There is one small point in the speech of Honourable Diwan Chaman Lall. While he was supporting his amendment, he made a casual remark that in India there is no arrangement for manufacturing even a small part of an aeroplane.

[Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar].

With due respect I would submit that probably the information of the Honourable Member is not correct. There is the Hindustan Factory at Bangalore, two-third of the interest of which vest in the Government of India and one third in the Mysore Government. Over and above this two third interest the Government have invested some more money in it. Very material parts are manufactured in that factory.

There was one matter which probably the Honourable Mr. Siva Raj mentioned and that was about communal representation. One of the arguments that is advanced in support of nationalization is this that if it becomes a state-owned affair, then every community will get representation according to quota fixed for each. At present complaints are that some of the communities are taboo. I would only sound a note of warning to those who are dealing with civil aviation that they should take note of such complaints and should not give any cause for complaint to any particular community. At this stage this is all that I can say in this connection.

I am very thankful to the Honourable Members for their learned and informative speeches in connection with this resolution. Different points of view have been very ably expressed and I assure them that all the points that have been raised will be fully considered and when the Government has to form conclusion and the time is ripe enough for the formulation of policy, then all these points will surely prove as guiding factors in the formulation of such policies.

Sardar Mangal Singh: Sir, I have the right of reply.

Mr. Deputy President: That was when I put the question and the closure was accepted, not after the Government Member has spoken.

Sardar Mangal Singh: The question was not put. Nobody knows that the question was put.

Mr. Deputy President: The Honourable Member on the Government Benches has replied.

Sardar Mangal Singh: The question was not put. The Chief Whip shouted that the question be put and as no other speaker got up you did not put the question and under these circumstances I have a right of reply.

Mr. Deputy President: I have put the question. I was told by Honourable Members that there was no other Member getting up and therefore I need not divide the House. Otherwise I would have taken the votes. I said "The question is that the question be now put" and I looked towards the Honourable Member and he did not get up.

Diwan Chaman Lall (West Punjab: Non-Muhammadan): On a point of order, Sir, if closure is carried the only person who has got a right of reply is the mover of the motion.

Mr. Deputy President: The Mover has got a right of reply. After the Mover has replied, then the Government Member has got the right of reply: otherwise not.

Several Honourable Members: No, No.

Mr. Deputy President: The Standing Order says:

"A member who has moved a motion may speak again by way of reply, and if the motion is moved by a non-official member, the Member of the Government to whose department the matter relates may, with the permission of the President speak (whether he has previously spoken in the debate or not) after the mover has replied."

The words are "after the mover has replied".

Diwan Chaman Lall: Therefore the position is this: if the mover of the Resolution desires to exercise his right of reply in spite of the fact that the Honourable Member has spoken, the Honourable Member will then be given, if you so desire, his right of reply again.

The Honourable Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar: Sir, I am not an expert of parliamentary procedure but if I have correctly understood it, the standing order which you have read out means this: that the Member of Government has got a right to speak once before the closure motion is made and once after the closure motion is carried, in that case he can speak after the reply of the mover, if he wants to give a reply. When I got up after the closure motion the learned mover would have been perfectly within his rights to say that he has a right to reply. When I got up after the closure the Honourable Mover could have said that he wanted to exercise his right to speak and that I should speak later on. I have spoken now and though I do not grudge him that right if Mr. Deputy President accords him. Under the Standing Order he cannot speak. I am only giving my reading of this rule. It gives the last word to the Member of the Government after the closure motion.

Mr. Deputy President: I have given my ruling as the rule has been interpreted in this House on many occasions. As a matter of fact this happened in my own case in 1921 and I was debarred by Sir Frederick Whyte at that time and since then I have seen that the same ruling has been applied in this House. I am afraid the Honourable Member has lost his chance, which he had.

Sardar Mangal Singh: The closure motion was neither put nor carried. Ask the Reporter.

Mr. Deputy President: The Honourable Member knows perfectly well that the Chair did put the question "The question is that the question be put." and from all sides of the House nobody wanted to get up. I did not think it necessary to take the vote of the House but the question was put. Of course if the Honourable Member had got up then, under this rule he had the right to speak. On the present occasion the Honourable Member comes under this rule and I am afraid this cannot be allowed. If however the Honourable Member wants to withdraw his resolution, then I may permit him to do so.

Sardar Mangal Singh: I have not been given an opportunity to reply to the debate and I cannot say anything now.

Sri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: There is no difference in this particular case, because the Honourable Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar is not a member of this House. He has no right to speak except that he has got the right to address this House. But he cannot exercise the right of a Member of the House. He can only address the House and the Honourable the Mover has the right of reply.

Mr. Deputy President: The Honourable Member probably did not listen to the wording of the Standing Order. The wording is not a member of the House but the wording is "member of the Government to whose department the matter relates." It is not necessary that the member should be a member of this House.

The Honourable Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar: Sir, with your permission, I would submit that if the Honourable the Mover feels inclined to withdraw his Resolution, then it will be in the interest of the House if you in exercise of your special powers give him the right to explain why he is withdrawing his Resolution.

Mr. Deputy President: That can be given, but not the right of reply. If the Honourable Member desires to withdraw the Resolution he can explain why he wants to withdraw.

Sardar Mangal Singh: Sir, I am at a disadvantage when I have to address a hungry House and I do not propose to detain Honourable Members longer here. In view of the remarks made by the Honourable Members on the Treasury Benches that they have taken charge of the Government at a difficult time and that they have had no time to consider all these things, I do not want to hustle the Government into a position about which they have had no time to

[Sardar Mangal Singh].

consider. But I would request them while they are considering this question to keep in view that certain lines should be operated by the State and certain lines may be given to private companies. We will then be able to judge the results after sometime.

Another point which I would like to urge is that in entering into contracts with the companies the contracts should be short ones, so that we may be able to review the policy if necessary.

With these words I seek the permission of the House to withdraw my Resolution and if I may say so, I would like to accept the amendment moved by my Honourable friend Diwan Chaman Lal.

(The Resolution was, by the leave of the Assembly withdrawn.)

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, the 18th November, 1946.