

REVISED ESTIMATES, 1954-55 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1955-56 OF DELHI STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Revised Estimates for the year 1954-55 and Budget Estimates for the year 1955-56 of the Delhi State Electricity Board under sub-section (3) of section 61 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. S-157/55]

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS.

FIFTH REPORT

Shri Raghuramaiah (Tenali): I beg to present the Fifth Report of the Committee on Petitions.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Speaker: The Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House in its Ninth Report has recommended that leave of absence may be granted to the following Members for the periods indicated in the Report:

- (1) Shri Sanaka Buchhikotaiah
- (2) Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra
- (3) Mulla Abdullahai Mulla Teherali.
- (4) Dr. N. M. Jaisoorya
- (5) Shri Sibnarayan Singh Mahapatra.

Do I take it that the House agrees with the recommendations of the Committee?

Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The Members will be informed accordingly.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

USE OF HINDI IN U.P.S.C. EXAMINATIONS

Shri N. M. Lingam (Coimbatore): Under Rule 216, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The policy of the Government of India in regard to the use of Hindi in U.P.S.C. examinations for All India Services."

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): I beg to make the following statement:

The question of progressive introduction of Hindi as a medium for competitive examinations for recruitment to various public services with which the Union are concerned has been engaging the attention of the Government of India for some time. In 1953, the Nagpur University proposed that Hindi be adopted as an alternative medium for the all-India services competitive examinations and subsequently the Universities of Patna and Lucknow made similar proposals. These were considered by Government in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission, and an Office Memorandum of which a copy was placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 5th April 1955 in answer to a question asked by Shri T. S. A. Chettiar, was issued, and communications on the lines of the Office Memorandum were sent to the State Governments as well as to the Inter-University Board, for eliciting their views on the subject.

Government have decided to be guided on the subject by the principles contained in the resolution entitled "Examinations for All-India Services" which was passed by the Congress Working Committee on the

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5th April 1954 and which runs as under:

"In view of the fact that the Constitution of India has recognised Hindi as the All India national language and has fixed a period of 15 years for the transition to Hindi for official all-India purposes, it is desirable that progressive steps should be taken to make Hindi the language of examinations for the all-India Services. These steps should be so phased as not to cast any undue burden on the candidates from any part of the country where the regional language is other than Hindi. While Hindi as well as the regional languages must be given every encouragement to develop, it must be remembered that a knowledge of foreign languages, and more especially, English, will continue to be essential for persons in the higher services.

2. The Working Committee recommend that progressively examinations for the all-India Services should be held in Hindi, English and the principle regional languages, and candidates may be given the option to use any of these languages for the purpose of examinations. In the event of a candidate choosing Hindi or a regional language for the purpose of his examination, he should pass separately in English also.

All candidates who have been successful in these all-India examinations will have to pass a test in Hindi at an early stage, unless they have already taken Hindi in the examinations previously.

3. The next stage should be a continuation of option to use Hindi, English or the regional languages in these examinations in the manner stated above, but with the addition of a compulsory paper on Hindi for such candidates whose language is other than Hindi, and a compulsory paper in some other Indian language for candidates whose language is Hindi.

In both cases, English will be a compulsory subject for those who appear in the examinations in Hindi or the other regional languages.

4. In this way, Hindi should progressively replace English as the language of examinations for the all-India Services."

A detailed scheme will be prepared by Government, if necessary after consulting the Hindi Commission which is to be appointed shortly.

CITIZENSHIP BILL

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): I beg to move for leave introduce a Bill to provide for the acquisition and termination of Indian citizenship.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the acquisition and termination of Indian citizenship."

The motion was adopted.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I introduce the Bill.

INDIAN TARIFF (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1934.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1934."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I introduce the Bill.

HINDU MARRIAGE BILL—Contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the Hindu Marriage Bill.

*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.