

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

Date..... 20/11/52

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Saturday 13th December, 1952

*The House met at a Quarter to Eleven
of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No Questions: Part I not published

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

CENTRAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF
NATIONAL CADET CORPS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the House that upto the time fixed for receiving nominations for the Central Advisory Committee of the National Cadet Corps, five nominations were received. Subsequently three Members withdrew their candidature. As the number of the remaining candidates was thus equal to the number of vacancies in this Committee, I declare the following Members to be duly elected:

1. Prof. Diwan Chand Sharma.
2. Shri Joachim Alva.

MOTION RE. REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): I beg to move:

"That the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending 31st December, 1951, be taken into consideration."

I am very glad indeed that this report is going to be discussed this morning at length and I look forward to the receiving of many helpful suggestions which I have no doubt will be calculated to promote social welfare and advancement of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled

Castes, an object which has been very dear to all of us ever since the Father of the Nation devoted his attention to it.

Before I make a few observations, which I propose to do in the beginning, I am sure that the House will share with me the very keen and deep appreciation of the labours of the Special Officer appointed by the President under article 338 of the Constitution, as they are indicated by this report. He has worked hard, he has travelled extensively, and as many Members would be aware this is not his first essay in this particular field of activity. He has devoted very many years of his life towards the cause of Harijans and I was happy indeed some time ago to visit at Dohad, on the borders of Gujerat, an institution which Shri Srikant has founded and worked in for very many years.

We are now practically at the end of the year 1952 and I hope that the report which the Special Officer will submit after the conclusion of this year within a few months will also be found helpful to the Members of the House. The amendments indicate the various points which will come up for discussion. All of us here, particularly on this side of the house, have worked in this field and we have got our own notions. We know the details, we know the hardships under which our people, whom Gandhiji has called 'Harijans' live. For thirty years Gandhiji tried very hard to ameliorate them. Then come the tribal people living far away in the hills and forests and their conditions are not as familiar to us as the conditions of our brethren the Harijans. I am sure the House will welcome a very full description of the conditions under which the tribal people live, work and suffer from. They are a little different. While the Scheduled Castes and other backward classes live in our villages, share the daily