

this hydrant to apply for water connections which would be sanctioned. In the meantime the Corporation have asked the police to keep vigilance on this place so that Municipal property is not mishandled by unauthorised people.

Cremation Ground at Nauroji Nagar

678. **Shri Ram Garib:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1125 on the 8th December, 1959 and state the nature of progress made in regard to the proposal to shift the temporary cremation ground near the quarters in Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): The Corporation have since decided to prohibit cremation of dead bodies at the site near the quarters in Nauroji Nagar. A permanent alternative site to serve as cremation ground for the neighbouring areas has not been selected so far and will be selected when the recommendations of the Master Plan for Delhi are known. In the meantime the Corporation propose that the existing temporary cremation ground to the South West of Safdarjung Hospital should be utilised by all the inhabitants of the surrounding areas.

Delhi Milk Supply Scheme

679. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cow's milk is being sold from the milk depots of the Delhi Milk Supply Scheme from the 13th February, 1960;

(b) whether it is also a fact that cow's milk is being sold at the same rate at which the buffalo's milk is sold; and

(c) the reasons for selling the cow's milk at the same rate as that

of buffalo's milk while it is generally sold at a cheaper rate by other dairies?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes, sale of a limited quantity of cow's milk from the milk depots of Delhi Milk Scheme started on the 13th February, 1960.

(b) Yes.

(c) The cost of procurement of cow's milk is about the same as that of buffalo's milk.

12 hrs.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

TERMINATION OF SERVICES OF SOME EMPLOYEES OF THE MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of an adjournment motion from Shri Banerjee about the

"Immediate need to discuss the termination of services of 100 employees working under the Ministry of Rehabilitation and another batch of 200 employees whose services are to be terminated this month. These men have been and are being retrenched without alternative employment which would lead to starvation and unemployment. (*Times of India*, dated 2-3-60)."

Cannot this be discussed when we have general discussion on the General Budget? What is the hurry for this?

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I was prepared for it. But these men have already been sent out—about 7 Upper Division Clerks, 84 Lower Division Clerks and 51 peons and so on. They have all been discharged from service on the 29th of February and they have not been given any alternative job. Another 200 employees have been served with notice that their services are likely to be terminated in

March itself. It was said by the Home Ministry that they would be absorbed in other Ministries. The other Ministries where vacancies exist have refused to have these men. I only wanted to know whether an assurance can be given that their services are likely to be absorbed anywhere else.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): May I add, Sir, that this matter has created a lot of confusion not only in the minds of Members of Parliament but also in the paper-reading public? I would suggest that both the circulars may be placed on the Table so that before we discuss the Grants of the Rehabilitation Ministry and also the Grants of the Home Ministry we may consider what the policy is. It is a matter of basic policy. (*Interruption*)

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister.

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): Sir, so far as my Ministry is concerned, it is a temporary Ministry. For about a year, in this House and outside, I have made repeated statements that the work is coming to an end and that the Ministry would be wound up.

In reply to a question or a notice of Shri Naushir Bharucha, a couple of months ago, I said I had laid down a certain target as to the winding up of the work of this Ministry.

The number of those working in the compensation organisation is round about 7,000. I have to pay compensation to 4,85,000 persons; and compensation cases to the extent of about 4,65,000 have already been disposed of. My disposal, from about 10,000 cases a month has come down to 2,000 or 1,000 cases and the work is fast coming to an end. The result has been that notices have been served on a number of the staff who are temporary and their services are being terminated. In fact the number may be in the vicinity of 800 or 1,000 this month; and this process will go on for further 3 or 4 months.

We have tried to do what is possible under the circumstances. I will state

the steps that have been taken by my Ministry to absorb the retrenched personnel. I repeat they are temporary and they are liable to termination of their services at a month's notice. They are not permanent. The first step is that the Special Cell of the D.G.R.E. organisation has to be provided by the Ministry of Rehabilitation with a list of all the employees who are likely to be retrenched irrespective of their date of retrenchment or date of employment.

The second step is that the U.P.S.C. would select suitable persons out of the list of retrenched employees forwarded to them by the Special Cell of the D.G.R.E. for comparable posts before advertising such posts and anybody selected by the U.P.S.C. would be released by the Ministry of Rehabilitation irrespective of the consideration whether he was likely to be retrenched in the near future or not.

Thirdly, the Ministry of Home Affairs have offered to absorb all the retrenched personnel of the Ministry of Rehabilitation who had the requisite qualification for the Secretariat staff.

Now, the staff in the Ministry has to be divided under two heads; those who are working directly under the Ministry and those who are working in the attached and subordinate offices. There is a line of demarcation. As regards the Ministry staff who have done good work and whose reputation is good and whose record of service is fair, the Home Ministry has told me that they would be able to consider absorbing these men. Those who are in the Custodian's organisation and the C.S.C.'s organisation, as these are attached offices and subordinate offices, the retrenched staff can only be absorbed in the attached and subordinate offices. This is the position. Perhaps, the vacuum in the attached and subordinate offices is not so big or so large that it can take the overflow of thousands of persons.

[Shri Mehr Chand Khanna]

Hardship is there. There is no denying the fact. But one thing has to be remembered that the life of any Ministry which was created to do a specific job of work has to come to an end.

In fact, I have been accused in this House of slowing down the pace of the winding up of the Ministry. And, now that the question is being taken up, I hope the House would help me in seeing that the work of the Ministry is wound up as early as possible.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): My question is how these people are to be given jobs. The question is not whether the Ministry should be wound up or not. It should be wound up as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will suggest how these people have to be provided with jobs. They will have an opportunity, certainly, when the Rehabilitation Ministry Grants will come up for discussion.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, one clarification. I want to know whether these people who have already been sent out on the 29th February—whether any of them—have been reabsorbed.

Mr. Speaker: The point is this. Hon. Members must be clear in their mind that this Rehabilitation Ministry is a temporary Ministry and the sooner it is wound up the better. Shall we have all these compensation claims for ever and ever without being disposed of? If the work is over, then, naturally, they will have to be sent out or reabsorbed somewhere else. The Home Ministry and the other Ministries are willing to absorb them. If they are so many that they cannot all be absorbed, then, what has the hon. Minister to do? Can the Minister go on keeping them without getting any work from them? So far as this Ministry is concerned, this is a new Ministry and

it will soon cease to exist. It may be that other Ministries are already full. I will appoint a committee of Members of Parliament and let them suggest methods. I am really surprised that we are trying to hunt with the hound and run with the hare. The Ministry cannot continue to exist merely to keep a number of persons employed. Let any hon. Member who makes this suggestion think that he is the Minister. So far as these matters are concerned, I do not think the House makes any difference between the right and the left and I have been pleased to find very often that Government values any reasonable suggestion that comes up. In these circumstances, I would urge upon hon. Members to bring out their suggestions during the general discussion on the Budget and also on the discussion of the Grants of the Rehabilitation Ministry.

I have just brought this to the notice of the House. In the newspaper report the reference is only to hundreds and I do not know how thousands come in. Unfortunately, if thousands have to go out, I am sure the hon. Minister and all the Ministries together will do their best to absorb them. Instead of recruiting from the open market they will try to absorb these people. So, I will leave it at this stage. I will allow ample opportunities to hon. Members to discuss this matter on the demands of the Rehabilitation Ministry and the Home Ministry. I do not think it is necessary for me to give my consent to this motion.

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta-East): Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be retrenched or absorbed? (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order. order.