

question of a grant being given to them.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS

*1223. **Shri Ramananda Das:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state how many Scheduled Castes Assistants have been taken as Assistant Superintendents under the Central Secretariat Service (R. and R.) Scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Two.

Shri Ramananda Das: May I know the total number of Scheduled Caste Assistants in the Central Secretariat?

Shri Datar: I can give the figure of Scheduled Caste officers only. In Grade I there are 2, in Grade II there is 1, in Grade III there are two and in Grade IV there are 40.

Shri B. N. Kureel: May I know the total number of Assistants who have been taken as Superintendents?

Shri Datar: I should like to have notice.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether Government propose to appoint Superintendents on a probation basis?

Shri Datar: Superintendents should be appointed on the basis of seniority as also on the basis of a departmental test.

Shri Nanadas: I want to know whether Government propose to appoint Superintendents on a probation basis?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Whether they are recruited on a probation basis?

Shri Datar: No.

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know whether it is a fact that the Home Ministry has made it a condition that only those who have joined service in 1942 when there was no reservation, etc., would be considered for this post?

Shri Datar: Not to my knowledge.

Shri E. Iyyani: What is the minimum period of service required for promotion as Assistant Superintendents?

Shri Datar: Five years.

Shri Nanadas: What further steps Government propose to take to fill up the gap for the Scheduled Castes?

Shri Datar: So far as Scheduled Castes are concerned, there is reservation in respect of competitive examinations but there is no reservation in the case of promotions.

EXCISE DUTY ON TOBACCO

*1224. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central excise duty on the Tobacco crop is being realised in Gopalgunj and Siwan sub-divisions of the district of Saran and other parts of Bihar, although the crop has been almost completely destroyed by the hailstorm during December, 1952 and January 1953; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the growers put in their formal representation for exemption from payment of excise duty on tobacco destroyed by this natural calamity and that this representation is not being attended to?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) It has been reported that certain areas of Gopalgunj and Siwan sub-divisions of the district of Saran and the northern part of Samastipur sub-division of Darbhanga District were visited by a severe hailstorm on the night of the 16th January 1953. Government have no information regarding damage to tobacco crops in these localities in 1952. Central Excise duty is only chargeable on tobacco when after harvesting it has been 'cured' i.e. made fit for marketing and manufacture; duty will therefore not be charged on the tobacco crop which has been destroyed but only on the actual quantity cured.

(b) Applications have been received from some grower-curers in the affected areas reporting damage of tobacco crop by hailstorm; they are being attended to promptly and the survey of the fields cultivated with tobacco is being made to estimate the damage and to assess the curer's liability on the actual quantity cured by him.

Shri T. N. Singh: It is said that due to hail storms there is deterioration in the quality of the crop. Have Government made any allowance for the deterioration in the quality and the consequent lower price when duty is charged?

Shri A. C. Guha: The position is that when the tobacco is cured—is marketable and capable of use for a certain purpose—then only it is taxed according to the categories for which it is capable of being used.

की विनूति निज : क्या चम्पारन में भोला पड़ा है या नहीं और पड़ा है तो कितने की क्षति हुई है ?

Shri A. C. Guha: The question relates to these two areas and I have information only for these two areas.

Shri T. N. Singh: My question has not been answered.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That will be taken into consideration. The hon. Minister said that duty will be charged on only cured tobacco of a particular variety.

Shri G. P. Sinha: If the actual value of the produce is less than the cost of production, is there any chance of getting relief from the Excise Department?

Shri A. C. Guha: Relief is given on specific cases when there are representations on them.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में कोई जांच करा रही है कि किसानों की कितनी क्षति हुई है ?

Shri A. C. Guha: I have not followed it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member knows English, let him speak in English.

Shri A. C. Guha: I can follow Hindi.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may kindly speak a bit slowly, more distinctly and definitely.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार जांच करा रही कि किसानों की ओले से कितनी क्षति हुई है ?

Shri A. C. Guha: Yes, when the crop is damaged, there must have been some loss to the cultivators. But only when the tobacco is cured and is going to be marketed, will the tax be collected.

REORGANISATION SCHEME IN MAHARAJ BIR BIKRAM COLLEGE, AGARTALA

*1225. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Re-organisation Scheme is being introduced in Maharaj Bir Bikram College of Agartala, Tripura; and

(b) if so, whether any of the existing staff of the College, permanent, temporary or probationary, will be retrenched as a result of this re-organisation?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes.

(b) The question is under examination and no final decision has yet been taken.

WINDING UP OF REGIONAL OFFICES AND CENTRAL TREASURY BRANCHES IN PART 'B' STATES

*1226. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have decided to wind up the regional offices and Central Treasury branches in Part 'B' States?

(b) If so, by what time will the winding up be completed?

(c) Do Government propose to publish a White Paper on the services rendered by these offices so far?

(d) How many persons are expected to face unemployment as a result of the abolishment of these offices?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) No general decision regarding Regional Offices has been taken. As regards Central Government treasuries, these will be wound up as their functions are taken over by the local State treasuries.

(b) and (d). Do not arise.

(c) No.

श्री बलचन्त सिन्हा महता : क्या आप बता सकेंगे कि जिस मकसद से इन की नियुक्ति की गयी है वह मकसद पूरा हो रहा है या हुआ है ? इस का उत्तर नहीं छपा ह ।

डा० काटजू : आप खजाने के बारे में दरियाफ्त फरमाते हैं या रीजिनल आफिसर के बारे में ?

श्री बलचन्त सिन्हा महता : रीजिनल आफिसर के बारे में ।

डा० काटजू : कुछ प्रान्तों में उठ रहे हैं, कुछ में बाकी हैं ।

श्री बलचन्त सिन्हा महता : जितने बाकी हैं वे कब तक उठ जावेंगे ?

डा० काटजू : अभी तो चलते रहेंगे भाषा यही है ।