

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is a matter which refers more to the Irrigation and Power Ministry. I do not know if they have arrived at any conclusions in regard to losses, which means excess over estimates when the work was first undertaken. But I believe the matter is being examined, say, in the Hirakud project.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, Sir, whether the Special Financial Adviser of the Government, now in charge of the Damodar Valley Project, has been taken from the Government of India or from any State Government?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: He is an officer of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, apart from the Joint Secretary of the Finance Ministry attending the meeting whether the Finance Ministry has got any day-to-day control over the administration?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The day-to-day control is not required over the projects and if we were to have a day-to-day control through the Finance Ministry, then no project would ever be executed.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, if the Finance Ministry has got any control over the expenditure side?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Indeed it applies only to expenditure. The process is that there is first a project estimate which is approved by the Government concerned. Then that project estimate is taken up into detailed estimates in the order in which the works are undertaken. Then in regard to all those detailed estimates the financial powers of the various officers from the Chief Engineer downwards are defined. When a matter is beyond the control of the highest Executive officer viz. the Chief Engineer then only a reference is made to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power and it is at that stage that the Finance Ministry comes into the picture.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, since what time this question of decentralisation of accounts on River Valley Projects has been pending and by what time is the report from the Comptroller and Auditor General of India or his Adviser likely to be received?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The position is this, Sir. The suggestion was made in the report of the Public Accounts Committee—I forgot now which year it is—and they recommended the separation of the post of Financial Adviser from the Chief Accounts Officer—I think sometime in March last. That recommendation has been accepted in principle and I believe that was contained in a statement which the Minister of Irrigation and Power placed before the House.

So far as the accounting procedure is concerned, it was stated that we were prepared to abide by the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. He has visited the project and has made on-the-spot study and we are awaiting his report. In regard to the separation of financial advice from accounts, the details are being worked out in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

WELFARE OF CRIMINAL TRIBES

*441. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been able to formulate a scheme for the amelioration of conditions of former criminal tribes;

(b) what are the proposals, if any, submitted by the All-India Conference for the Welfare of Criminal Tribes for spending the sum of Rs. 30 lakhs being the Central grant for the year 1953-54;

(c) whether Government have accepted these proposals;

(d) whether any portion of the grant has been utilised so far; and

(e) if so, in what way?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). The hon. Member is, presumably, referring to the Conference of representatives of State Governments and interested social workers held in New Delhi on the 21st March, 1953. If so, as a result of the deliberations of the Conference, it was decided to utilise the sum of Rs. 30 lakhs provided in the budget for the year 1953-54 as grants-in-aid to the State Governments for the amelioration of the conditions of these tribes. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has also been allotted to the Vimukta Jati Sevak Sangh of the Servants of the People Society for the same purpose. The State Governments have also been told that they should spend the amount as far as possible through recognised non-official agencies and to submit their schemes to the Central Government for approval before incurring any expenditure.

(d) and (e). As explained above, only ceilings have so far been allotted to the various State Governments except that in the case of Vimukta Jati Sevak Sangh a sum of Rs. 49,000, representing 50 per cent. of the cost of the schemes submitted by them, has already been placed at their disposal.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, if the Government are aware that the Criminal Tribes called the Vimukta Jati were transported to Andamans before we achieved Independence and after Independence when they came to India they found that conditions were unfavourable for them? May I know what steps Government are taking to prevent the Police from inciting members of Criminal Tribes to commit dacoities?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Any general aspersion of that kind that the police in this country are inciting the Criminal Tribes to commit dacoities is not right. We are here to elicit information and nothing more.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether all the schemes submitted by the State Governments have been complied with?

Shri Datar: Schemes have been supplied only by four or five States. Other states have not yet supplied the schemes. We are sending reminders to them.

Shri Dabhi: May I know, Sir what amount Bombay State is allotted for the amelioration of the conditions of the ex-Criminal Tribes?

Shri Datar: Rs. 4 lakhs.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, Sir, how much money has been allowed for Madras State and whether the Madras State has submitted its schemes?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: May I suggest to the hon. Minister that he should get a statement and place it on the Table of the House? It will show how much is allotted to each State.

Shri Datar: I have already placed it, Sir.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know, Sir, whether there are any suggestions to call these criminal tribes by a new name and have they been accepted by the Government?

Shri Datar: That was done by the Servants of the People Society. They had invented this name Vimukta Jati Sevak Sangh for the former Criminal Tribes.

Shri B. S. Murthy: The latter portion of my question has not been answered whether the Government of Madras has submitted schemes for the amelioration of the Vimukta Jati?

Shri Datar: We have not yet received any schemes from Madras Government but we are awaiting the formation of the new province for dividing this Rs. 4 lakhs between the two States.

Shri Nanadas: May I know what is the total population of the ex-criminal tribes?

Shri Datar: In the neighbourhood of 35 lakhs.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether these Rs. 30 lakhs will be spent for lands or for small-scale industries?

Shri Datar: They will be spent for various measures which are in the interests of the welfare of these tribes.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: What are the practical steps taken by the Government to improve the morals of these people?

Shri Datar: The morals will be improved provided education is spread among them.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know what special steps are taken by the Government, the Central Government as well as the State Governments in order to give them more education?

Shri Datar: We are starting some more schools; we are starting small-scale industries for them; and other necessary steps are also being taken. Especially in respect of the housing problem greater attention is being paid.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is a Criminal Tribes Enquiry Committee Report: The proceedings of the conference are also there. Hon. Members, in the off-session time, will kindly go through all this material and come prepared and elicit some more information which is not available in the literature kept in the Library instead of putting questions again and again on matters which can be found in the literature available in the Library.

NEW PROCESS FOR MAKING FERTILIZERS

*442. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state whether Government have considered the possibilities of working out the prospects of the new process to make fertilizers—a process for converting low grade phosphatic nodules obtained in Trichinopoly and Singhbhum into useful fertiliser without the use of sulphuric acid which is in short supply—which has been developed in the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (**Shri K. D. Malaviya**): The technical details of the process worked out by the C.S.I.R. at the Indian Institute of

Science, Bangalore, were made available to the Governments of Madras and Bihar free of cost in December 1944 with a view to the establishment in those States of a small scale industry. The Madras and Bihar Schemes did not materialise. C.S.I.R. have now published in the Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research a note giving technical information regarding the process for general information with a view to attracting industrialists to exploit the process on a commercial scale.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know if any experiment is being conducted anywhere to manufacture this fertilizer, through the new process in bulk?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir, the National Chemical Laboratory is still engaged in conducting experiments on the phosphatic nodules from Singhbhum and Trichinopoly. They have completed the process. It is now with the Commerce and Industry Ministry to find out if some industrialists would take it up.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Will the cost per ton of the new fertilizer, as compared to the old fertilizer, be somewhat less?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am afraid I cannot give any idea about the cost.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether Government has sought expert advice in the matter?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir, expert advice is already available to us. We know all about it.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether the Minister is in a position to give us the total quantity of these phosphatic nodules which are obtained in Trichinopoly?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The raw material.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Sir, I cannot give any quantitative estimate of the raw material which is available in Trichinopoly.

REGIONAL OFFICES FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

*443. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact