

Shri L. B. Shastri: No, but the Shroff Committee report had suggested that the checking may be made in the case of a few Railways at least, so that future checking may be made on the same pattern by the Railway officers.

Shri S. C. Samanta: With reference to the answer to part (a) of the question, may I know how much stores were directly purchased by the Railway department, how much through the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and how much through the Communications Ministry?

Shri L. B. Shastri: I shall require notice.

ALIPORE POST AND TELEGRAPH FACTORY

*1483. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to shift the Alipore Post and Telegraph Factory;

(b) if so, details of the changes proposed; and

(c) the estimated expenditure involved in the removal?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

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

SCHEDULED TRIBES (LITERACY)

*1484. **Shri R. B. Parmar:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of literacy among the Scheduled Tribes in the different States; and

(b) where it is the highest and the lowest?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). The information asked for is not available at present.

श्री आर० बी० परमार: क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि संविधान के अनुसार दस वर्ष में आदिवासियों को समान दर्जे पर लाने के लिये सरकार ने कोई योजना बनाई है या बनाने की इच्छा रखती है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय: मैं समझता हूँ कि इस के बारे में जानरेबिल मेम्बर ने अलग से कुछ क्वेश्चंस टेबिल किये हैं। Is that so ?

श्री आर० बी० परमार: मैं ने तो नहीं किया।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: तो किसी दूसरे ने किये होंगे।

डा० काटजू: सवाल तो यह है या था कि परसेंटेज क्या है, जवाब यह है कि मालूम नहीं। अब मेरे दोस्त यह पूछ रहे हैं कि योजना बनी है। शायद आप को मालूम है कि हर एक स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स ने शिक्षा के प्रबन्ध के लिये योजनाएँ बनाई हैं, और उन पर काम चल रहा है।

Shri Natawadkar: May I know whether it is a fact that the Government of India have declared a war against illiteracy among the tribals in this country with the help of the State Governments?

Dr. Katju: I thought we were very peace-loving people. We are trying to do our best to eradicate illiteracy.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know what steps the Government have taken in order to assess the illiteracy amongst the tribal people?

Mr. Speaker: He does not want figures; he wants to know the steps.

Dr. Katju: I mentioned just now that schemes have been prepared to eradicate illiteracy at the earliest possible time within practicable means. My hon. friend knows that grants are made by the Central Government and the State Governments also spend moneys on the schemes. Progress depends very much upon the enterprise of the State Governments and social welfare workers.

Mr. Speaker: We go to the next question.

Shri Velayudhan: One question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: These questions are beyond the scope of this particular question.

Shri Velayudhan: It is a very important question.

Mr. Speaker: May be; but these are not within the scope of the question. Next question.

Shri Velayudhan: It is very important.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; it is a matter of opinion. Next question.

MADRAS HARBOUR

*1486. **Shri N. P. Damodaran:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for the expansion of the Madras Harbour is under the consideration of Government;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the scheme; and

(c) whether any amount has been sanctioned for the scheme and if so, how much?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) Yes.

(b) The Scheme consists of two Stages. The first stage comprises the following works at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.15 crores:

- (i) Conversion of the North quay into a general cargo berth plus a passenger depot;
- (ii) Construction of a new collier berth south of the East Quay to be called South Quay IV; and
- (iii) Construction of an additional berth for handling ore and non-dangerous oils to be called South Quay III; and construction of a new spending beach under South Quays III and IV and a small reclaimed area for storing ore between the eastern breakwater and the Sand Screen.

The Second Stage contemplates the construction of a wet dock capable of accommodating four ships of 600 ft. in length drawing 30 ft. each and of ancillary facilities.

This Stage of the Scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 4.90 crores.

(c) Yes. Rs. 1.15 crores for Part A of the Scheme. The expenditure will be met by Madras Port Trust from their own resources.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: Is it a fact that by this expansion of the Madras harbour the world famous Marina beach is going to be affected adversely?

Shri L. B. Shastri: That is not our information.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: May I know whether the work of expanding the harbour has already commenced?

Shri L. B. Shastri: It has not yet commenced.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: May I know how long it will take to complete the work? There must be a time limit.

Shri L. B. Shastri: I cannot give precise information on that point. But, it will be possible to answer that question when the work has actually commenced.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that there was a huge volume of opposition to expanding the harbour towards the south in the city of Madras?

Shri L. B. Shastri: About that, of course, I cannot say anything. But the Ports Technical Committee which considered the requirements for Major Port development went into this case and they have made this recommendation and on the basis of that recommendation we propose to proceed ahead.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is the Minister aware that in the Legislative Assembly of Madras there was a question raised on this, and the Government promised to communicate the views of the Members there to the Central Government, as regards the damage that would be caused if the port were extended towards the south?

Mr. Speaker: The point is whether they have received any communication from the Madras Government as promised on the floor of the House.

Shri L. B. Shastri: I do not know about that; but I am prepared to look into it.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether the development scheme of the Cochin port is inter-connected with the development scheme of the Madras Port?

Shri L. B. Shastri: I do not think it is inter-connected. They will be extended and improved separately.

Shri Venkataraman: Are the Government aware of an equally very strong opinion that the Madras harbour is not able to accommodate all the vessels calling and so it is absolutely necessary to extend the harbour?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; it is only giving information.