

seen by the Member in charge of Customs and the revisions emanating from the Customs side are looked into by the Member in charge either of Income-tax or the Central Excise.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Quite apart from the special pleading indulged in by the hon. Minister, is it the policy of Government to accord to officers the right of promotion to certain other jobs, even after specific strictures, as admitted by the hon. Minister, have been passed by the High Court?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid this question is too general. In all the strictures and the nature thereof and in this case, so far as I have seen the extracts supplied by the hon. member, there is no moral turpitude or any such thing that is attributed to the officer concerned. It is only his failure to observe natural justice.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Is Government aware that the said Collector of Customs has also been responsible for the dismissal of many permanent employees whose grievances are that they have not had opportunities for defending themselves against the charges preferred against them.

Shri Tyagi: No, Sir. As far as dismissal of Government servants is concerned, the rules have always been that they must be told what the charges were and no such case has come to my knowledge where any Government officer was dismissed or any punishment given to him without his knowledge or without being asked to explain his position.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Is it a fact that in the regime of this Collector of Customs, Customs officials were required to work very much longer hours than are possible for anybody to put in and that the Labour Commissioner of West Bengal was in great difficulty over this matter because he did not appear to have any jurisdiction over the activities of the Collector of Customs?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): May I know if this is an inquisition of the Customs Officer or such a question of public importance which was decided by the High Court? We are not in a position to answer questions in regard to what happened to the staff of the Custom House, how an officer was promoted, what he did in the year 1950 and things like that. We require notice of those questions.

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

KHADAKWASLA DEFENCE ACADEMY

***2365. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) when the construction of the Defence Academy at Khadakwasla is likely to be completed; and

(b) what is the estimate of cost involved in the construction of that academy?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) The project is expected to be completed by 1956.

(b) The project has been sanctioned for Rs. 5.87 crores.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, whether the original estimate of the cost of construction of the Academy was the same as given by the hon. Minister?

Shri Gopalaswami: I have not seen any other figures, Sir. That is the only estimate I have.

Shri Pataskar: When was the Academy expected to be completed originally?

Shri Gopalaswami: By the time now indicated by me. Of course, that depends on our being able to find funds which will be required for expenditure each year.

CONDUCT OF GOVERNMENT CASES IN SUPREME COURT

***2366. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases conducted in the Supreme Court on behalf of the Central Government and the State Government (separately) during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52;

(b) the number of Counsels engaged and the amount of remuneration paid to them; and

(c) the names of States on whose behalf the cases were conducted and who bore the cost?

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): (a) The number of cases are as follows:—

| | 1950 | 1951 | Upto |
|----------------|------|------|----------|
| | | | 1-7-1952 |
| Union of India | 33 | 50 | 32 |
| Bombay | 27 | 35 | 29 |
| Madras | 8 | 49 | 12 |
| Punjab | 17 | 103 | 38 |
| Bihar | 8 | 21 | 6 |
| Orissa | 8 | 15 | 6 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 17 | 37 | 15 |