

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether there is any proposal to introduce a measure in the Parliament defining the powers and duties of the Auditor-General?

Shri Tyagi: The powers and duties of the Auditor-General are statutory powers.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But how does this question arise here? Only the form of accounts is mentioned here. The question put by the hon. Member refers to a wider matter.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: My question has not been answered, Sir. I want to know whether any day is allotted for the discussion of the report of the Public Accounts Committee, which sees the accounts of the Government of India from time to time.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This also does not arise out of this question.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that Government have appointed committees of their own officials in one or two Departments to look into the system of accounting and nobody from the audit side is being represented on such committees?

Shri Tyagi: I must confess that I have not been able to scrutinise fully the system of accounting of the Government of India monies and also the organisation thereof, but from the reports that we receive, I am of the view that the whole system of accounts and the rules and regulations which guide the keeping of accounts require a thorough enquiry. But, as I have said, the Government of India can only proceed on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor-General who is responsible both for audit as well as for accounts.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it true that at Hira-kud the Account Code was to be examined and a new system to be evolved by a committee appointed by Government called the McKelvie Committee?

Shri Tyagi: That pertains to a matter of departmental account keeping and does not pertain to the offices of Accountants-General who are working under the direct control of the Auditor-General.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the original code, which is sought to be amended now, was evolved by, or in consultation with the Auditor-General?

Shri Tyagi: To give a complete answer I would ask the hon. Member to kindly put an independent question for that.

ADULT EDUCATION

*918. **Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether Government have invited any American educationist for adult education in rural areas?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): Under the U.S.A. Technical Co-operation Administration Dr. Frank C. Laubach, the well-known American expert on adult literacy training, is now in India and is preparing literacy lessons specially adapted to the needs of the Community Development Projects. Dr. Laubach is also assisting the State Governments in the production of Social Education literature in their regional languages and in training their officers in his system of teaching adults.

Shrimati Benu Chakravartty: Does he know the regional languages, Sir?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I think he does.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami: May I know whether the Government of India is contemplating seeking the advice of the expert on the introduction of compulsory education to factory and other labourers?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Because the factory labourers are all adults.

Shri K. K. Basu: Before bringing this United States expert, did Government make any attempts to bring experts from Soviet Russia where adult illiteracy has been so successfully combated in recent years.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Dr. Laubach's system of adult literacy is so very well-known that we thought we might not go anywhere else.

Shrimati Benu Chakravartty: Has any effort been made by the Ministry of Education to have a Conference or Committee of adult education experts to go into the whole matter before we invite people who do not even know our conditions or regional languages?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The whole question was gone into. This is a specialised subject and in our country there are not very many experts. Under the Laubach system teaching is imparted quickly and in an interesting way. So we thought we might take advantage of Dr. Laubach's experience.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: Is it a fact that the theories of science accepted in Soviet Russia are so different from those prevailing in other parts of the world?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members are giving information from this side and that side.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether the All-India Adult Education Association has been consulted before extending invitation to these experts?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: All those whom the Government could consult were consulted.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Has the Ministry of Education laid down any process or method, whereby Dr. Laubach may also get all the information and all the ideas which our own experts have?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I presume there are arrangements under which the experts of our country and Dr. Laubach will exchange their experiences and ideas

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Apparently there are various systems of adult education followed in different countries. Have Government studied all those systems and found the American system, or the one advocated by Dr. Laubach, to be the best?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am not aware of all the different systems of adult education prevalent in the world. But we have thought it proper to call Dr. Laubach here and to take advantage of his system.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Have they compared this system with other systems?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Government which is in power want to do certain things regarding adult education, elementary education and so on to the best of their knowledge. After studying the pros and cons and the material available in this country they send for experts from abroad. There is a limit to these questions. If they are not satisfied with the relative merits of these experts, they may come here

one day and get along with the administration as they like.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. I am not going to allow any more questions. It is not a non-confidence motion. Almost every question is a question of non-confidence motion in this House.

VETERINARY PARTIES IN RURAL AREAS OF TRIPURA

***919. Shri Dasratha Deb:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) how many veterinary Centres there are in the rural areas of Tripura; and

(b) whether there was heavy loss of cattle this year in the hill areas due to epidemics?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katiya): (a) The veterinary dispensaries at the three divisional headquarters at Agartala, Udaipur and Kailasahar look after the needs of the rural areas. Whenever required, mobile parties are sent out from these headquarters.

(b) No.

Shri Dasratha Deb: Do Government consider the present number of veterinary centres adequate and if not whether there is any scheme to open more centres?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Government are going to open in all ten centres during the next five years of which three have already been opened.

Shri Dasratha Deb: May I know what amount of money the Government has spent on these veterinary centres?

Shri Datar: I should like to have notice.

Shri Damodara Menon: Are Government considering the advisability of getting a foreign expert to advise them on veterinary questions?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question hour is over.