

the Public Accounts Committee in 1950-52 has been accepted by Government?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, when will it be introduced?

The Minister of Revenue and Expenditure (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (b). The system of Administrative Audit as in vogue on the Military Engineering Services side is proposed to be tried in the Central Public Works Department as recommended by the Public Accounts Committee. Its financial implications were still under my Ministry's examination, it is difficult to fix the date of its introduction.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know, Sir, what are the difficulties in applying the system to all the Ministries?

Shri Tyagi: As I have said, the financial implication of the scheme with regard to its application to other departments has to be examined and we have to examine also whether it will not be duplication of work.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Has it come to the notice of the hon. Minister that certain grants made to one Ministry have been utilised by other Ministries?

Shri Tyagi: That is never the case.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Has it come to the notice of the hon. Minister that in the report of the Public Accounts Committee the attention of Government has been drawn to this aspect?

Shri Tyagi: I am afraid I have not got that information. If the hon. Member will point out such a thing I will take whatever suitable action can be taken.

Mr. Speaker: Does the Public Accounts Committee make a statement to that effect?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: The Public Accounts Committee in its report has said that the grants made by one Ministry have been utilised by other Ministries without taking the formal approval of the Parliament.

Mr. Speaker: That goes into a different question. It must be within the financial rules. How can they go beyond those rules?

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the system of administrative audit is also applied to the Irrigation and the Central Public Works Departments?

Shri Tyagi: As I said, Sir, it is not yet decided as to how far this should be applied or enforced in these departments.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it true that the Public Accounts Committee in its report stressed that questions of finance should not stand in the way of proper administrative audit arrangements?

Shri Tyagi: They have.

Shri T. N. Singh: Do the Government even then want to withhold the implementation on financial grounds?

Shri Tyagi: After the recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee was received, the Government appointed an inter-departmental committee of officers to suggest to us the manner in which this should be applied. They have recommended that this should be applied only to the Public Works Department to start with. The Public Works Department have therefore been consulted and we are just awaiting their reactions to it. It is proposed to apply it in the next financial year but its financial implications are still under examination.

RE-APPOINTMENT OF RETRENCHED MILITARY AND CIVIL OFFICERS

*224. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the number of applications for re-appointment received from retrenched and surplus military and civilian officers up to the 31st March, 1952?

(b) How many of such applications have been scrutinised and how many rejected?

(c) How many persons have been absorbed and how many are on the waiting list?

(d) What is the policy adopted by Government as regards such absorption?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) 2996.

(b) All the 2996 applications were scrutinised early this year with reference to the appointments which were vacant at the time and for which the applicants were being considered. 1372 of the applicants did not satisfy the qualifications prescribed for the appointments. Of the remaining, 58 were selected and the rest (i.e., 1568) rejected. I should, however, like to make it clear that those rejected on the last occasion will continue to be

borne on the register and will be considered as and when vacancies arise in the grades for which they are qualified.

(c) Twenty-five officers have so far been absorbed while acceptance of the offer of appointment made to five others is still awaited. Seven officers are on the waiting list and will be absorbed as more vacancies occur.

(d) The policy is to accord priority to retrenched surplus Government servants and to find alternative employment for as many of them as possible.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact, Sir, that there is haphazard retrenchment in one and recruitment in another department still going on? If so, what arrangements have been made by the Government to avoid this anomaly?

Dr. Keskar: I am not aware, Sir, of any haphazard recruitment. I would be very grateful to the hon. Member if he points out specific instances of such recruitment.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether in the retail section of the Canteen Stores Department, which has recently been taken over by the military, the Defence Department had given chances to these officers and employees to be absorbed?

Dr. Keskar: As I said, the general policy that has been followed is that whenever vacancies arise, as for example, in the section to which my hon. friend has referred, first priority will be given to retrenched personnel.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether in selecting these retrenched persons, the only criterion is their past records or are other things also taken into consideration?

Dr. Keskar: The past record of the candidate's service and also his performance at the interview, because the interview is by the Selection Board which consists of a Member of the UPSC and other officers.

Shrimati Maydeo: Is it a fact that officers and retrenched officers having been informed several times by the Resettlement and Employment Department about existing vacancies they are still left unemployed?

Dr. Keskar: I am afraid that this perhaps refers to some other depart-

ment and not to the Defence Department.

Mr. Speaker: I think she is referring to the Defence Department.

Shrimati Maydeo: Yes, I am referring to the Defence Department. They were informed by the Resettlement Department about vacancies, but never asked by the Public Service Commission to come for interview and therefore nothing further materialised.

Dr. Keskar: As far as my information goes it is not so. I will certainly look into such instances if they are brought to my notice.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Is the policy regarding retrenched personnel uniform for the personnel of the Indian Army and the State Forces retrenched consequent on integration?

Dr. Keskar: I would require notice, Sir.

Dr. Jaisoorya: I wanted to ask the same question whether the same things are taken into consideration in the case of applications from ex-State Army Personnel?

Dr. Keskar: That is a repetition of the same question.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Are the Government aware that there is a complaint from the South Indians that the Army Selection Board tries to exclude by fair or foul means the South Indians as a class?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether before any retrenchment is initiated proper enquiries are made about their absorption in any other department?

Dr. Keskar: They are eligible in other departments also. In fact, in the case of absorption in the Defence Ministry, retrenched personnel from other departments are also eligible.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the Union Public Service Commission has rendered any help in the selection of these persons?

Dr. Keskar: The selection and the procedure adopted for the selection have always been effected with the assistance and advice of the Union Public Service Commission.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.