

which it has gone down due to our measures.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : Is our planning in darkness ? I want to know whether Government have any statistics with regard to this.

Shri A. C. Guha : How can I furnish statistics of the amount of smuggling going up or down. We can only make some guess. We cannot have statistics on these matters. We can make some intelligent guess or surmise. That I have indicated, that at the Indo-Pakistan border at Attari there might have been some increase in smuggling of gold.

Superannuated Officers in the Central Government

*867. **Shri Chandak :** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number of superannuated officers at present (Ministry-wise) in the Central Government;

(b) the main reasons for reappointing them (person-wise) after retirement;

(c) whether any attempt was made to get suitable persons from within or outside the Government departments; and

(d) how long these superannuated officers are likely to continue in office ?

The Minister is the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar) : (a) Since last year the concurrence of the Ministry of Home Affairs is required only in the case of Class I and Class II officers other than Technical or Scientific Officers. According to our records 93 such officers who have attained the age of superannuation are at present employed in the Offices of the Central Government. This does not include information relating to officers under the Railway Ministry or Class II Officers of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department.

(b) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 31]

Shri Chandak : May I know whether it has become a rule to appoint such superannuated officers or these are exceptions ?

Shri Datar : There can be no such rule at all. Ordinarily all superannuated officers have to retire. But in certain cases where their services are indispensable or where substitutes cannot be properly found, either the services are extended or re-employment is given.

Shri Chandak : Do these officers enjoy the same facilities in respect of pay, houses, leave etc. as before retirement ?

Shri Datar : So far as extension is concerned, I would broadly say that they continue to enjoy the benefits. So far as re-employment is concerned, the matter depends upon the conditions then existing.

Shri Chattopadhyaya : I find that out of 93 superannuated officers re-employed by Government, there are only two re-employed as a 'special case', one of whom happens to be a Private Secretary to the Minister of Education. May I know the reasons for the re-employment of a retired person as Private Secretary as a 'special case', and what, if any, is the speciality of the case in question ?

Shri Datar : That particular case depends upon the exercise of his discretion by the Minister.

Shri N. M. Lingam : From the statement, I find that many who have attained the age of superannuation have been appointed on compassionate grounds. May I know the factors that qualify these Class I and II officers for the visitation of compassion by Government ?

Shri Datar : So far as these compassionate cases are concerned, they are mostly related to displaced persons. In some cases, they did not get any pension at all. Therefore, out of considerations based on compassion, their service is slightly extended or re-employment given.

Shri V. P. Nayar : I find from the statement that out of 93 officers, re-employed after retirement, very few are technical officers, and in the column denoting whether any inquiries have been made as regards the availability of suitable substitutes I find the answer, without exception, 'Yes', 'Yes'. May I know what, if any, have been the steps taken to find whether suitable candidates can be had, especially in the case of such common officers as income-tax officers, conservators of forests and other non-technical officers ?

Shri Datar : All these matters are considered by the various Ministries or departments. Circulars have been issued that, as far as possible, we should not encourage either re-employment or extension. Only in exceptional cases are they so re-employed or their services are extended.

Oplum Factory, Gasipur

*869. **Shri Bhabha Nath Roy :** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether Government have any proposal under consideration for uti-