

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know whether it is a fact that in some areas, extra allowances were being given to Government employees, but now they have been withdrawn, as, for instance, in the coal-field areas?

Shri M. C. Shah: This question is in regard to the compensatory allowance in Assam. In whichever districts it was necessary, we have already agreed to give compensatory allowance.

General Elections

*79. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether any re-polling was held on account of mistakes of the polling staff in the second General Elections; and

(b) if so, their number and the names of places?

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 39. A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 17].

Shri Wodeyar: May I know whether such mistakes had occurred in the last elections in 1952?

Shri Biswas: Mistakes did occur in the last elections as well. But as to whether the mistakes are of a similar nature in every case, I cannot say.

राजमाता कमलेश्वरिणी शाह : क्या यह सत्य है कि चुनाव अधिकारियों को एक उम्मीदवार ने यह एकचुम्बली डिमॉस्ट्रेट करके दिखाया कि सील किये हुए बैलेट बाक्सेज को खोला जा सकता है और उनको टैम्पर किया जा सकता है?

The Minister of Legal Affairs and Civil Aviation (Shri Pataskar): I could not follow. Will the hon. Member repeat her question?

Rajmata Kamalendu Mati Shah: Is it true that the ballot boxes were opened by a candidate, and it was demonstrated that even if they were sealed, they could still be opened?

Shri Pataskar: It cannot be true.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether any training is given to these officers who are engaged in this polling business, before they actually take over the work, and if so, what is the nature of that training?

Shri Pataskar: I think they were given sufficient instructions.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Were they given any training?

Shri Pataskar: No further training was necessary.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Of course, the instructions are there on paper. But was any training given to them in polling work before they actually took over the work, so that they could become conversant with the work of polling?

Shri Pataskar: I do not know what to call it, but I think they were called to some places, and all possible instructions were given and actual demonstrations were held in their presence as to how the work should be done.

श्री भक्त वरदान : क्या गवर्नमेंट के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि कुछ पोलिंग स्टेशनों में दुबारा पोलिंग इसलिए की गई कि वहां पर मतदाता सूचियां यानी वोटर्स लिस्ट्स नहीं पहुंच पायीं, जिससे कि उम्मीदवारों और गवर्नमेंट का दुबारा खर्चा हुआ, तो क्या वह खर्चा उन रिटर्निंग आफिसर्स या सम्बन्धित अधिकारियों से बसूल किया जायगा?

Shri Pataskar: There is no such information before Government as yet.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that in some places the ballot boxes contained ballot papers before polling took place, and if so, what action has been taken?

Shri Pataskar: That is not true, according to the information received by Government so far.

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : प्रिजाइडिंग ऑफिसर्स या पोलिंग ऑफिसर्स के बारे में जो लिख कर शिकायतें दी गई हैं, क्या गवर्नमेंट द्वारा उन पर कोई ऐक्शन लेने का विचार किया जायगा या उसको रद्दी की टोकरी में फेंक दिया जायगा?

Shri Biswas: If hon. Members are so anxious to have information on these points, I can lay on the Table a statement of all the instances and circumstances in which these mistakes had occurred. I have got that statement, but since it is a long one, I could not read it out. If hon. Members are so anxious, I can place that on the Table. If you give me the permission, I shall lay it now on the Table of the House.

Shri Jhunjunwala: There may be other mistakes as well.

Mr. Speaker: I would suggest one thing to all hon. Members. Elections were held all over India, and there may be various kinds of mistakes, wherever they have occurred. The hon. Minister cannot be taken by surprise here.

In view of what the hon. Minister has said, namely that even without being asked, he is prepared to lay on the Table of the House a list of all the mistakes that had occurred and the reasons therefor, I would urge hon. Members to write to him and bring to his notice individual cases. And if they do not get any reasonable answer with which they can be satisfied, of course, when we assemble next time, they can ask all these questions, and I shall, if possible, allow even a particular day for that matter.

In the meanwhile, let them send whatever has come to their knowledge to the hon. Minister.

Shri Mohiuddin: I request that the mistakes may be circulated to all hon. Members.

Shri Pataskar: No.

Mr. Speaker: That will be an encouragement to Members to find out mistakes.

Shri Pataskar: The position is that the elections have concluded only recently, and Government are in possession of only certain complaints that have been received or certain mistakes that have occurred. If an exhaustive analysis is required, I think that will take some time, and it would be done in due course.

Mr. Speaker: There is no harm if the Minister places on the Table the statement that he has got with him. He may do so.

Shri Pataskar: Yes. I lay a statement on the Table. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 18.]

Mr. Speaker: If that is done, then hon. Members will have an opportunity to study it. All those hon. Members who have got any difficulties or who have come across any particular mistake which has occurred may kindly inform the hon. Minister of the same.

Shri Kelappan: The announcement of some results was postponed because certain boxes were found damaged. What is the position in regard to that?

Mr. Speaker: How can the hon. Minister know about every detail in the whole of India. The hon. Member may kindly write to him.

Finance Bills

*81. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry has been held into the transactions in Tata Iron and Indian Iron shares which took place immediately before the introduction of Finance Bills No. 2 and 3