

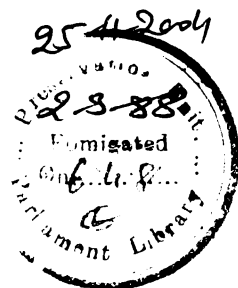
Monday, 16th September, 1929

THE
COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

VOLUME II, 1929

(16th September to 28th September 1929)

SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE
SECOND COUNCIL OF STATE, 1929



SIMLA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1929

Council of State.

President :

THE HONOURABLE SIR HENRY MONCRIEFF SMITH, KT., C.I.E.

Panel of Chairmen :

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS, C.I.E.

THE HONOURABLE SIR SANKARAN NAIR, KT.

THE HONOURABLE MR. K. B. HARPER.

THE HONOURABLE SAYYED MOHAMED PADSHAH SAHIB BAHADUR.

Secretary :

THE HONOURABLE MR. L. GRAHAM, C.I.E., I.C.S.

Assistants of the Secretary :

MR. D. G. MITCHELL, C.I.E., I.C.S.

MR. A. DE C. WILLIAMS, I.C.S.

Committee on Petitions :

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS, C.I.E.,
Chairman.

THE HONOURABLE RAJA SIR RAMPAL SINGH, K.C.I.E.

THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER, KT.

THE HONOURABLE MR. P. C. DESIKA CHARI.

THE HONOURABLE SIR MANMOHANDAS RAMJI, KT.

CONTENTS.

PAGES.

MONDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER, 1929—

Members Sworn:	1
Questions and Answers:	1—30
Death of Maharajadhiraja Sir Rameshwara Singh of Darbhanga.	30—31
Message from His Excellency the Governor General ..	31
Committee on Petitions	31
Governor General's assent to Bills	31—32
Bills passed by the Legislative Assembly laid on the Table ..	32
Motion for the Election of a Panel for the Standing Advisory Committee for the Department of Commerce	32
Indian Territorial Force (Amendment) Bill—Introduced. ...	33
Indian Cotton Cess (Amendment) Bill—Introduced	33
Indian Registration (Amendment) Bill—Introduced: ...	33
Burma Salt (Amendment) Bill—Introduced	33
Guardians and Wards (Amendment) Bill—Introduced: ...	34
Provident Funds (Amendment) Bill—Introduced	34
Indian Succession (Amendment) Bill—Introduced.	34
Congratulations to Members on the Honours conferred on them	35
Statement of Business	35

TUESDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER, 1929—

Resolution <i>re</i> Establishment of a Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in India—Negatived	37—51
Resolution <i>re</i> most suitable Location for the Central Medical Research Institute, etc.—Negatived	52—68
Resolution <i>re</i> Accountants in Post Offices—Withdrawn ..	68—72

WEDNESDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER, 1929—

Indian Territorial Force (Amendment) Bill—Passed	73—74
Indian Cotton Cess (Amendment) Bill—Passed	74
Indian Registration (Amendment) Bill—Passed	74—75
Burma Salt (Amendment) Bill—Passed	75
Guardians and Wards (Amendment) Bill—Passed	75—76
Provident Funds (Amendment) Bill—Postponed	76
Indian Succession (Amendment) Bill—Passed	76—77
Election to the Panel of the Standing Advisory Committee of the Department of Commerce	77

THURSDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER, 1929—

Member Sworn	79
Bills passed by the Legislative Assembly laid on the Table ..	79
Resolution <i>re</i> Export Duty on Rice—Withdrawn	79—88
Resolution <i>re</i> Grievances of the Non-Gazetted Staff of the Currency Offices in India and Burma—Negatived ..	88—105
Resolution <i>re</i> Free Allowance of Luggage to Passengers on State Railways—Withdrawn	106—13
Resolution <i>re</i> Prevention of Floods—Negatived	114—22
Statement of Business	122—23

MONDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER, 1929—

Question and Answer	125—26
Short Notice Question and Answer	126—29
Prohibition of Export of Cattle Bill—Introduced	128—30
Resolution <i>re</i> Export Duty on Oil-cakes, Bones, Fish Manure, etc.—Negatived	130—50
Resolution <i>re</i> Reconstitution of the Central and Provincial Legislatures on a uni-cameral and entirely elected basis— Negatived	150—62
Resolution <i>re</i> Construction of a new Central Railway Station at Allahabad—Negatived	163—67
Resolution <i>re</i> Jail Administration in British India—Negatived	167—82

TUESDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER, 1929—

Questions and Answers	183—207
Bills passed by the Legislative Assembly laid on the Table ..	208
Indian Income-tax (Provident Funds Relief) Bill—Fixing of date for consideration	208—09
Child Marriage Restraint Bill—Fixing of date for consideration	209—11
Provident Funds (Amendment) Bill—Passed, as amended ..	211—17
Indian Soft Coke Cess Bill—Passed	217—19
Indian Boilers (Amendment) Bill—Passed	219
Indian Census Bill—Passed	219—22
Bengal Pilot Service (Centralisation of Administration) Bill— Passed	222—23
Resolution <i>re</i> Fixation of Minimum Wages in certain Trades— Discussion adjourned	224—27
Motion for the Election of a Member to the Governing Body of the Indian Research Fund Association	227—28

WEDNESDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER, 1929—

Questions and Answers	229—34
Cattle Protection Bill—Introduced	234—35
Resolution <i>re</i> Message Rate System of Charges levied by the Bengal Telephone Corporation, Ltd.—Withdrawn ..	235—44
Resolution <i>re</i> Establishment of a Privy Council in India— Negatived	244—50
Hindu Law of Inheritance (Second Amendment) Bill— Introduced	250—51
Election of a Member to the Governing Body of the Indian Research Fund Association	251

THURSDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER, 1929—

Transfer of Property (Amendment) Bill—Passed	253—95
Transfer of Property (Amendment) Supplementary Bill— Passed	295—99
Indian Income-tax (Provident Funds Relief) Bill—Passed ..	299—302
Resolution <i>re</i> Fixation of Minimum Wages in certain Trades— Adepted	302—14
Election of a Member to the Governing Body of the Indian Research Fund Association	314

FRIDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER, 1929—

Questions and Answers	317—19
Short Notice Question and Answer	319—20
Statement laid on the Table	320
Message from the Legislative Assembly	320
Child Marriage Restraint Bill—Consideration adjourned ..	321—82

SATURDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 1929—

Child Marriage Restraint Bill—Passed	383—435
--	---------

THE

COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE
SECOND COUNCIL OF STATE)

VOLUME II—1929

COUNCIL OF STATE.

Monday, 16th September, 1929.

The Council met in the Council Chamber at Viceregal Lodge, Simla, at Eleven of the Clock, being the first day of the Seventh Session of the Second Council of State, pursuant to section 63D (2) of the Government of India Act. The Honourable the President (the Honourable Sir Henry Moncrieff Smith, Kt., C.I.E.) was in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN :

- The Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain, K.C.I.E., Kt. (Education, Health and Lands Member) ;
The Honourable Mr. John Herbert Fyfe (Bengal Chamber of Commerce) ;
The Honourable Mr. Thomas Ryan, C.I.E. (Industries and Labour Secretary) ;
The Honourable Mr. Pratap Chandra Dutt (Madras : Nominated Official) ;
The Honourable Mr. Alma Latifi, O.B.E. (Punjab : Nominated Official) ;
The Honourable Mr. Surpat Singh (Bihar and Orissa : Non-Muhammadan) ;
The Honourable Mr. Clement Wansbrough Gwynne, C.I.E., O.B.E. (Home Department : Nominated Official).
-

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

FURTHER REFORMS FOR INDIA.

1. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :
Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) When the Simon Commission and the Committee of the Central Legislature in India are going to submit their reports about the grant of further reforms in India ?

- (b) When is any Bill about the grant of further reforms in India, if any, going to be introduced in the British Parliament ?
- (c) What, if any, facilities are being given to the representatives of India, for taking any part with the representatives of the British people in framing the ultimate scheme of reforms for India ?
- (d) Whether, and, if so, what, arrangements are going to be made about the ratification of the ultimate scheme of reforms for India, by the people of India, before or after it is passed by the British Parliament ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE : (a), (b), (c) and (d). The Government of India are not in a position to make any statement.

TRANSFER OF THE MILITARY CONTROL OF ADEN TO HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

2. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Will Government be pleased to state whether the opinion of the people of India was taken in any way about the cessation of the military control of Aden to the British Government ? If not, why not ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR CHARLES WATSON : I am not clear whether the Honourable Member has in mind the general question of the transfer of the military control of Aden to His Majesty's Government or the recent legislation in Parliament which gave formal effect to that transfer. He will, however, I think find the answer to both in the Foreign Secretary's reply in the Legislative Assembly on the 29th January, 1929, to a similar question (No. 199) by Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh.

CAUSES OF FLOODS IN INDIA.

3. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Will Government be pleased to state whether any enquiry has been held at any time about the causes of floods in different parts of India during the last five years ; if so, when, and what has been the result of such enquiries ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. RYAN : Matters relating to floods and the steps taken to deal with them are primarily the concern of Local Governments. The Government of India have, therefore, no detailed information regarding enquiries that have been held into the causes of floods in different parts of India during the last five years or what has been the result of such enquiries. But they have every reason to believe that, where necessary, enquiries have been made, or are being made, and that all possible action is being taken. This is certainly the case in areas which are directly administered by the Central Government.

2. I may add for the Honourable Member's information that the Government of India, although not directly responsible, have, on two different occasions recently—namely, in 1924 and 1927—addressed Local Governments and offered to assist them in any way, and in particular in making any investigations they thought necessary. Advantage of this offer has been taken by three Local Governments—by the Bihar and Orissa Government in investi-

gating the flood problems in Orissa, and by Assam and Bengal, both of which provinces have been visited by the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India with a view to advice being given by him regarding flood problems.

FLOODS IN INDIA.

4. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Will Government be pleased to state the number of floods that have taken place in different parts of India during the last five years ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE : I have placed a statement on the table giving the information asked for by the Honourable Member.

Number of serious floods reported to the Government of India during the last five years.

In 1925.—Two each in the Madras Presidency and Orissa and one in the Bombay Presidency.

In 1926.—One in Bengal, three in Burma and one each in Orissa, the Punjab, Assam and the Central Provinces.

In 1927.—One each in the Bombay Presidency, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and Assam. Floods also occurred in the Punjab and the North-West Frontier Province.

In 1928.—One each in the Madras Presidency and the Punjab.

In 1929.—One each in the Bombay Presidency, Madras Presidency, the Punjab, the North-West Frontier Province and Burma, and three in Assam.

SALE OF SILVER IN LARGE QUANTITIES IN ENGLAND.

5. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Has any communication been received by the Government of India from the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, deprecating the policy of Government in respect of their selling silver in large quantities in England lately as being detrimental to the interest of the country ? If so, what steps do Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON : The letter in question has been received. All the points raised in it were fully discussed between the Honourable the Finance Member and the Chamber recently in Calcutta. The Finance Member has given his careful attention to the matter and he hopes to be able to meet the Chamber's views in certain respects. I will give the Honourable Member a copy of statements which Sir George Schuster has recently made on the subject in another connexion, and I hope this will be of some use to my Honourable friend.

ROAD MOTOR COMPETITION WITH RAILWAYS.

6. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Is it a fact that Indian Railways are being greatly affected by competition with road motors ? If so, where and to what extent, and what steps do Government propose to take about it ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : Passenger earnings on Indian Railways have been affected to a certain extent during recent years by road motor competition where metalled roads lie parallel to the railway line.

The general policy adopted by railway administrations is to meet such competition by endeavouring to afford to the public better service than is given by road transport. For fuller particulars, I would refer the Honourable Member to paragraph 69 of the Railway Board's Report on Indian Railways for 1926-27 and paragraph 54 of the Report for 1927-28.

THE PROPOSED ARICHA-DACCA RAILWAY.

7. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : What stage has the construction of the proposed Aricha-Dacca Railway now reached, and what steps do Government propose to take at present for its construction ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : The final location of the line and preparation of land acquisition plans are in progress. Construction will be commenced after the detailed estimates prepared on the basis of the final location survey have been submitted to and accepted by the Railway Board, but it is unlikely that financial considerations will permit of active construction before 1931.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE ISWARDI-SADHUGANJ RAILWAY.

8. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Have Government come to any decision about the construction of the Iswardi-Sadhuganj Railway in the district of Pabna ? If so, what ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : The project is still under consideration.

ALLEGED BAN ON THE NEWSPAPER *Liberty* OF CALCUTTA.

9. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : (a) Has the newspaper *Liberty* published in Calcutta been banned from the Eden Hindu Hostel at Calcutta ? (b) Has Mr. S. C. Ghattak, officiating District Magistrate of Jessore, issued a circular to all Government servants prohibiting them from subscribing to that paper ? (c) If so, why ? (d) Have the Government of Bengal or the Government of India had any hand in the matter ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE : The Government of India had no concern with the action alleged and have no information regarding it.

APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BENGAL BANKERS' FEDERATION TO THE BENGAL PROVINCIAL BANKING ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

10. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : (a) Are Government aware of the existence of the Bengal Bankers' Federation formed by the federation of a large number of indigenous banks in Bengal ? (b) If so, what is its constitution and who are the constituent banks ? (c) Has any representative of that body been appointed to the provincial branch in Bengal of the Banking Enquiry Committee ? (d) If not, why not ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON : (a) The Government are aware of the existence of the Bengal Bankers' Federation.

(b) They have been informed by the Federation that the Federation represents about 600 Banks and Loan Offices in Bengal.

(c) There is no representative of the Federation on the Bengal Provincial Banking Enquiry Committee.

(d) The general scheme for the composition of the Provincial Committees, which was settled, I may say, after consultation with, *inter alia*, a number of representative members of this Council and of the two Associations of Indian and European Chambers of Commerce, provided that the Committee should include a representative of the indigenous banking community. Dr. Narendra Nath Law has been selected for this purpose on the advice of the Local Government. In regard to this whole matter of Provincial Committees the views and wishes of Local Governments have very properly, I think, been given great weight.

ENQUIRY BY THE TARIFF BOARD REGARDING THE SALT INDUSTRY.

11. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : (a) What is the scope and object of the enquiry by the Tariff Board about salt ? (b) Is it to be confined to the definite policy of entrusting the manufacture to private enterprise and that on the West Coast of India alone ?

(c) Do Government propose to publish the report of Mr. Strathie about the matter ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : (a) and (b). I have nothing to add to paragraph 6 of the Resolution of this Department No. 601-T.(1), dated the 25th July, 1929, which was published in the Gazette of India of 27th July, 1929, and to which the Honourable Member's attention is invited.

(c) Mr. Strathie did not submit what can properly be called a report, but wrote a departmental note for the information of the Central Board of Revenue. A copy of this note has been supplied to the Tariff Board for information, and any future publications on the whole subject of salt will now be left over till the Tariff Board's Report on the salt industry has been received.

I may, however, add that the entire matter that this note contained was embodied in the Report of the Central Board of Revenue which was published along with the Government Resolution of the 12th May, 1928.

ASSESSMENT OF COTTON PIECE-GOODS.

12. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : What is the scope and object of the investigation to be held by Mr. G. S. Hardy about the conditions of tariff in respect of imported cotton goods ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON : As stated in the Press Communiqué issued on the 22nd July, 1929, Mr. G. S. Hardy has been appointed to examine the possibility of substituting a system of specific duties for the existing system of *ad valorem* assessment of cotton piece-goods. He will simultaneously ascertain and report what changes have taken place, since the Tariff Board reported, in the volume of imports, classes of goods imported and the extent and severity of external competition with the products of the Indian mills.

CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE OVER THE BRAHMAPUTRA.

13. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :
 (a) Do Government contemplate the construction of a bridge over the Brahmaputra ? (b) If so, where and when ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : There are no proposals for a bridge over the Brahmaputra, but the construction of a bridge over the Meghna river near Bhairab Bazar is under consideration.

OPENING OF AIR MAIL SERVICES IN INDIA.

14. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :
 (a) Do Government contemplate opening air mail services between different places in India ? (b) If so, when, between what places and upon what terms ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. RYAN : (a) Yes ; the matter is at present engaging the attention of the Government of India.

(b) I regret that I am not at present in a position to communicate particulars to the Honourable Member, but these will be furnished to him as soon as possible, and a copy will be placed on the table of the House.

ISSUE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA OF A RESOLUTION REGARDING LAND REVENUE.

15. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :
 (a) Is it a fact that at a conference of Revenue Members of the Provincial Governments it was decided that the Government of India would issue a Resolution on land revenue after consulting Local Governments ? (b) If so, have the Local Governments been consulted ? (c) Are the Government of India issuing any Resolution ? (d) If so, when, and what Resolution ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) and (d). The Government of India hope to issue the promised Resolution as soon as possible.

INDIANISATION ON THE COMPANY-MANAGED RAILWAYS.

16. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :
 (a) Was there any understanding that the Company-worked Railways would also carry out the policy of Indianisation to which the Railway Board had committed itself when the Lee concessions were sanctioned for application to officials on Company lines ?

(b) How far have the Company-managed Railways carried out the policy of Indianisation and how much of it is Anglo-Indian, and how much other than Anglo-Indian ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : (a) Yes.

(b) The Honourable Member will find the information he desires in Appendix G to Volume I of the Annual Reports by the Railway Board on Indian Railways, copies of which are in the Library.

INCREASING THE DEMAND FOR INDIAN COTTON IN ENGLAND.

17. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : (a) What suggestions, if any, have the Indian Central Cotton Committee, in their annual meeting held at Bombay in July last, made to the Indian Trade Commissioner in England with a view to increasing the demand for Indian cotton there ? (b) What steps do Government propose to take about it ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : The proceedings of the last annual meeting of the Indian Central Cotton Committee have not yet been published. It has, however, been ascertained from the Secretary to the Committee that no communication on the subject referred to has been addressed by him to the Indian Trade Commissioner in England, since the meeting was held.

PROCEDURE ADOPTED BY GOVERNMENT FOR LEVYING CUSTOMS DUTY ON GOODS DESTINED FOR INDIAN STATES AND FOREIGN TERRITORIES.

18. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : (a) What is the method adopted by Government of levying custom duties upon goods destined for inland Indian States and foreign territories ? (b) Do Government propose to introduce any change in these methods ? (c) If so, what changes ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON : (a) Goods intended for inland Indian States are liable to customs duty on entering British India and no rebates of duty are granted on re-export to Indian States except in the case of goods intended for the Kashmir State, the duty upon such goods being transferred to that State. So far as goods for foreign territories are concerned no customs duty is levied in the case of goods intended for the Government of Nepal ; full rebate of customs duty is also granted in the case of trade and private goods to that country subject to certain safeguards, *e.g.*, proof of re-exportation. Trade and private goods to Afghanistan are allowed similar concessions. In the case of goods destined for Persia *via* Duzdap, duty is first levied and subsequently a refund of 15/16ths of duty is made. Similarly, in the case of goods destined for China *via* Bhamo and Tengyueh, 7/8ths of duty is refunded when the goods reach their destinations. The deductions of 1/16th and 1/8th referred to above are made in order to meet the expenditure on administration incurred by the Government of India.

(b) and (c). The Government of India do not propose to make any change in the existing procedure except as part of any decision that may be reached on the recommendations of the Butler Committee, which will be considered in due course.

USE OF THE CART ROAD BY THE DARJEELING HIMALAYAN RAILWAY.

19. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Upon what terms is the Cart Road used by the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway and who maintains the said road in repair ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : The terms are contained in the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway Contract, dated 8th April, 1879. This contract is printed at pages 132 to 146 of the "Reprint of Contracts of Hardwar-

Dehra, Sara-Sirajganj and Darjeeling Himalayan Railways”, a copy of which is available in the Library.

PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS AND PROSPECTS OF PRESENT INCUMBENTS OF THE INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE IN CIVIL EMPLOY, ETC.

20. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :

(a) Is it the policy of Government to guarantee to the present incumbents in the Indian Medical Service all the prospects of service and promotion which they had when they joined the service? (b) If so, has a similar guarantee been given in respect of other services as well? (c) What are these guarantees in detail in respect of the different services?

(d) How many European doctors have been stationed in the interior districts in different provinces to afford facilities of treatment to European officers and how many in different headquarters of provinces and how many in hospitals and colleges, respectively?

(e) (i) How many Indian Medical Service men have been placed in Central and Provincial administrative posts? (ii) What proportion do they form of the total cadre? (iii) How many of them are Indians?

(f) Do Government propose to create a provincial cadre of the Medical Service for the minor provinces or to reserve these posts also for the Indian Medical Service men?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (a) The Honourable Member is presumably referring to Indian Medical Service officers in civil employ whose rights require protection owing to the reduction in the number of reserved posts under the reorganization scheme. I would invite his attention to paragraph 8 of the Press Communiqué issued on the 10th May, 1928, a copy of which has been placed in the Library of the House.

(b) and (c). The existing rights and prospects of members of other all-India services operating in the transferred field have also been fully preserved, for instance, it has been provided by rules—

(1) that no person may be appointed without the previous sanction of the Secretary of State in Council to any post borne on the provincial cadre of an all-India service except a person who is either a member of the service or is already holding a post borne on the cadre of that service;

(2) that the cadre of a provincial or a subordinate service may not be increased or reduced without the Secretary of State's previous sanction, if such increase or reduction would affect adversely a member of the corresponding all-India service;

(3) that an all-India service post may not be abolished without the previous sanction of the Secretary of State in Council, if an existing member of the service is likely to be prejudiced thereby, and in no case may a post carrying special pay or a post of the Head of a Department be abolished without the sanction of that authority.

(d) The distribution will be found in the Annexures to the Press Communiqué referred to by me in answer to part (a).

(e) If by the words "administrative posts" is meant such posts as carry the rank of Colonel or Major-General, then the post of Director General, Indian Medical Service, which is under the Central Government, is the only post which is reserved for Indian Medical Service officers under the re-organization scheme announced in the Press Communiqué of the 10th May, 1928. Under this scheme the total number of Indian Medical Service officers required for civil employ is 302. The nine Surgeon Generalships and Inspector Generalships of Civil Hospitals in provinces are also at present held by Indian Medical Service officers, all of whom are Europeans.

(f) If the Honourable Member means that there should be one cadre for all posts held by Assistant Surgeons in all the minor provinces, then I may say that there is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government. The posts reserved for Indian Medical Service officers in the minor provinces will be found in Annexure I to the Communiqué to which I have already referred.

EGYPTIAN SCHEME OF LOANS TO CULTIVATORS ON SECURITY OF COTTON STORED.

21. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :

(a) Has the Indian Central Cotton Committee brought to the notice of the Government of India or the Provincial Governments any scheme proposed by the Egyptian Government of loans being advanced on the security of cotton designed to assist the small producer? (b) If so, what is the scheme? (c) What steps do Government propose to take in the matter? (d) Are similar measures contemplated in respect of jute and other agricultural products?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (a) Yes.

(b) The main features of the scheme are explained in the note of the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee, copies of which are placed on the table.

(c) and (d). The Indian Central Cotton Committee discussed the scheme at its meeting in July last and considered that it was of great interest and importance to India. The information collected by the Committee has been brought to the notice of all Provincial Governments with the request that the details of the scheme may be communicated to co-operative institutes, Central Co-operative Banks and similar institutions in each province interested in the finance and marketing of the cotton crop. The information has also been supplied to the Provincial Banking Enquiry Committees.

It is understood from the information, so far available, that the scheme has not yet been put into practice in Egypt and the Indian Central Cotton Committee is taking steps to keep itself informed of the progress of the scheme and particularly of such experience as may be obtained as a result of its actual operation in the cotton growing tracts in that country. The Government of India have no doubt that Local Governments and the Central and Provincial Banking Enquiry Committees will take suitable action on the information supplied to them by the Indian Central Cotton Committee. A copy of the Honourable Member's question and of this reply will be sent to all the Local

Governments and Administrations and also to the Secretary, Central Banking Enquiry Committee.

Note of the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee.

The scheme is designed to be worked by Government in co-operation with Banks. A nucleus fund of £15,000 is to be deposited by Government with each Bank for the purpose of making advances against cotton deposited by cultivators in approved godowns, compounds, etc. Banks will requisition daily from the National Bank the amount of advances approved on the previous day. The grower may, on depositing his cotton at any of the several places nominated by Government, including bank compounds, warehouses and approved ginning factories, obtain advances on a fixed scale according to the amount of cotton deposited, its variety and class. The limits of the amounts of cotton upon which advances can be obtained are, minimum 5 kantars (6 maunds), maximum 500 kantars (600 maunds). Interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum is required to be paid by cultivators taking advances, but all other charges, e.g., storage, packing, weighing, protection, etc., are borne by Government. Advances are only granted to growers on their own crop and they are required to furnish a declaration to this effect previous to receiving a loan from a Bank. Each cultivator has to sign a contract form before receiving an advance. Advances are sanctioned for a period of four months with the option of extension for four more. The necessary staff, cashiers, agents, warehouse-keepers, etc., are nominated by the Bank but paid by Government. Furthermore, the Banks furnish sacks, etc., at a reasonable cost to borrowers requiring these for the packing and storage of their cotton, the expense in this connection being also met by Government. It is interesting to note that the borrowers have to agree to Government taking charge of the ginning of all cotton deposited and to accept the classification of their cotton made at the place of deposit or ginning factory. The borrower further authorises Government to sell the seed at a price considered reasonable and may authorise Government further to effect the sale of his cotton after ginning in the Bourse of Minst el Bassal. In default of payment at maturity, of capital, interest and expenses which have been advanced by Government to borrowers, Government can proceed to sell the cotton deposited after 30 days' notification of sale; 1 per cent. will be recovered from the proceeds of such sales for the expenses incurred in realizing the security and, from the net price obtained, the advance, principal and interest outstanding, are deducted and the balance sent to the borrower.

ELECTRIFICATION OF CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY.

22. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :

(a) Are there any negotiations going on between the Madras Government and the Railway Board about the electrification of certain sections of the South Indian Railway? (b) If so, what is the proposal and what decision have the Railway Board come to about it?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD: The question of taking electricity from the Madras Government's Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme has been under examination for some time; present indications are that, with the exception of the Nilgiri Mountain Railway, the electrification of which is still under consideration, there is no justification for electrifying any section of the South Indian Railway from the Pykara Scheme.

PURCHASE BY THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY OF CURRENT AT CERTAIN STATIONS TO BE SERVED BY THE UNITED PROVINCES GOVERNMENT'S TRANSMISSION LINES.

23. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :

(a) Are negotiations taking place between the East Indian Railway and the United Provinces Government's electric development scheme? -

(b) If so, what are the negotiations?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD: The Agent, East Indian Railway, reports that he is arranging for the purchase of current at certain railway stations to be served by the United Provinces Government's transmission lines.

ELECTRIFICATION OF THE SUBURBAN RAILWAYS OF CALCUTTA.

24. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY: Do Government contemplate the electrification of the suburban railways of Calcutta at an early date?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD: The matter is still under examination and it is impossible to say when the investigation will be completed.

CASES OF FRAUD, EMBEZZLEMENT AND FINANCIAL IRREGULARITIES ON RAILWAYS.

25. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY: (a) Is it a fact that 60 cases of fraud and embezzlement and financial irregularities have been reported in Mr. G. Kaula's Appropriation Accounts of Railways in India, 1927-28? (b) If so, what are the details of these cases, and what steps do the Railway Board propose to take in the matter?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD: Copies of the Appropriation Accounts of Railways in India for 1927-28 are in the Library and the Honourable Member will find full details of the cases he refers to in that publication. As regards the steps that the Railway Board propose to take in the matter, I would refer him to the evidence given by the Financial Commissioner of Railways before the Public Accounts Committee when this report was discussed by them last month.

UNDESIRABILITY OF PLEADINGS BEING DRAWN BY ATTORNEYS.

26. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY: (a) Is it a fact that Mr. Justice Buckland sitting as a Judge on the Original Side of the Calcutta High Court has repeatedly drawn attention to the undesirability of pleadings being drawn by attorneys?

(b) Is there any law which forbids attorneys from drawing pleadings in suits on the Original Side of the High Courts in India? (c) If not, do Government propose altering the law in any way?

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE: (a) Yes.

(b) High Courts are empowered to frame rules. Government do not propose to alter the law.

NUMBER OF CASES COMPROMISED IN THE COURT OF MR. JUSTICE BUCKLAND OF THE CALCUTTA HIGH COURT.

27. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY: Is it a fact that more cases coming up before Mr. Justice Buckland on the Original Side of the Calcutta High Court are compromised by the parties than before any other Judges?

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE: Government have no information.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE COUNTESS OF DUFFERIN'S FUND, ETC.

28. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMARSANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : (a) How much contribution, if any, is made by the Government of India to the Lady Dufferin Fund Association for the provision of medical aid to women ? (b) How and where are women doctors recruited for the Society ? (c) How many of these doctors are Indians or doctors with Indian qualifications ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (a) An annual contribution of Rs. 3,70,000 is made from Central Revenues to the Countess of Dufferin's Fund.

(b) Recruitment to the Women's Medical Service is made both in England and in India, but with the exception of specialists for teaching posts all recruitment has, since 1926, been made in India. The Selection Committee which recruits in India, consists of the Director General, Indian Medical Service, the Surgeon to His Excellency the Viceroy and the Chief Medical Officer, Women's Medical Service. In England candidates are recruited by a sub-committee of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund consisting of a medical man and two medical women, two members of the sub-committee at least being conversant with Indian conditions. A copy of the general rules and regulations of the Women's Medical Service for India has been placed in the Library of the House.

(c) Of the total cadre of 44 officers in the Women's Medical Service, 22 including 9 Anglo-Indians are of Indian domicile. As regards the qualifications possessed by officers of Indian domicile, one has only an Indian degree and has now proceeded to England for further study in her special subject, two have British degrees, whilst the others have both Indian and British degrees.

INDIAN DOCTORS EMPLOYED IN EUROPEAN HOSPITALS, ETC.

29. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : (a) Are there any Indian doctors employed in hospitals for Europeans ?

(b) If so, how many ?

(c) Do European patients object to being treated by Indian doctors ?

(d) If so, is there a similar objection on the part of Indians to being treated by Indian doctors ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (a) to (d). The Honourable Member has not mentioned whether he wants statistics for military or non-military hospitals. In any case, it would be impossible to answer his question without having a referendum of patients.

CREATION OF AN ALL-INDIA MEDICAL COUNCIL, ETC.

30. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the result of the Conference of Ministers and heads of the Medical Departments of the different provinces recently held at Simla with regard to the introduction of a Bill for constituting an All-India Medical Council ?

(b) If the said Bill has been dropped by Government, why has it been so done ?

(c) Is it a fact that the provincial authorities were against centralisation of control ?

(d) Is it proposed to appoint a whole-time Commissioner of Medical Education? If so, were the various Universities concerned in India consulted and what has been the opinion expressed by them?

(e) If the Universities in India have not been consulted in the matter, do Government contemplate consulting them before coming to any final decision?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :

(a) The views expressed at the Conference are under consideration.

(b) Government have not arrived at any decision.

(c) The opinions expressed by provincial representatives at the Conference were not unanimous.

(d) and (e). The proposal to appoint a whole-time Commissioner of Medical Qualifications and Standards has been accepted by Local Governments. The Government of India did not consult the Universities concerned, and have no information whether these Universities were consulted by Local Governments.

ORGANISATION OF MEDICAL RESEARCH IN INDIA.

31. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :
Do Government propose to take any steps upon the report of the Fletcher Committee on the organisation of medical research in India?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :
Government have approved in principle the recommendation for the establishment of a Central Medical Research Institute at Dehra Dun, but the details are still under consideration. The attention of the Honourable Member is in this connection invited to paragraph 27 of the proceedings of the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee held on the 29th August 1928 and to the appendix referred to therein. Copies of these proceedings and of the Fletcher Committee's report will be found in the Library of the House.

NUMBER OF GOODS VANS RUNNING EMPTY FROM ONE PROVINCE TO ANOTHER.

32. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :
(a) How many goods vans ran empty from one province to another each year during the last five years?

(b) Do Government contemplate the issue of any concession rates for the utilisation of these empty vans?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : No record is maintained of goods stock running empty from one province to another. As empty running is due to the volume of traffic in one direction being greater than in the other, obviously no Railway Administration will refuse to quote concession rates for traffic in the direction of empty running if thereby additional traffic can be created. But, in doing so, they have to take into consideration the fact that, as concession rates quoted for any commodity cannot be restricted to new traffic only, there might be a loss of revenue on the whole, by reason of the lower rates applying to traffic offering at existing rates.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION FOR THE CREATION OF AN ALL-INDIA MEDICAL COUNCIL.

33. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU : (a) Will the Government of India be pleased to state on what grounds the Health Ministers of the various Provinces of India assembled at the recent Health Ministers' Conference in Simla vetoed the introduction of the Medical Council Bill ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House the full proceedings of the said Conference ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state what further action they propose to take in the matter ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (a) and (b). Government regret they are unable to comply with the Honourable Member's request, as the proceedings of the Conference are confidential.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

APPOINTMENT OF A WHOLE-TIME COMMISSIONER OF MEDICAL QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS.

34. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU : (a) Are the Government of India contemplating the appointment of a whole-time Commissioner to supervise Medical Education in this country ?

(b) Will the post be reserved for an I. M. S. officer ?

(c) Are Government considering the advisability of advertising for the said post both in England and India and selecting a suitable candidate, preferably an Indian with British medical qualifications, outside the ranks of the Indian Medical Service ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (a) The Government of India have decided, in consultation with Local Governments, to create the appointment of a whole-time Commissioner of Medical Qualifications and Standards on a temporary footing.

(b) The reply is in the negative.

(c) Government do not propose to advertise the post, nor do they see any reason why officers of the Indian Medical Service should be excluded from consideration merely because of their association with a particular service.

THE MANGALORE-MALPE RAILWAY.

35. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU : (a) Will the Government of India be pleased to state whether the proposed survey of the alternative routes of the Mangalore-Malpe Railway has been completed, and if so, what route, coastal or inland, has been decided on ?

(b) When is the work likely to commence and when is it likely to be completed ?

(c) What will be the approximate cost of its construction ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : The survey has been found more difficult than was expected and a revised estimate has recently been

sanctioned. The survey report has not yet been received. It is, therefore, impossible at present to answer the Honourable Member's following two questions.

ARRIVAL OF THE WEST COAST MAIL AT MANGALORE.

36. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU: (a) Are the Government of India aware that according to the present timings of the South Indian Railway the Mangalore mail reaches Mangalore at 6 P.M. daily?

(b) Are Government aware that letters cannot be delivered on the day of arrival of the mail and that great inconvenience and loss is caused to the public, especially to business men?

(c) Do Government propose to direct the railway authorities to so alter the timings as to remove this disability?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. RYAN: (a) It is a fact that the West Coast mail is scheduled to reach Mangalore at 6 P.M. daily.

(b) Government have not received any representation to the effect that serious inconvenience is caused to the public in regard to their post thereby. A window delivery of the post is effected at 7 P.M., of which the public and the mercantile community avail themselves largely.

(c) The South Indian Railway have now undertaken, with effect from the 15th October, to revise their time tables so that the train will arrive at Mangalore at 4-15 P.M. Ordinarily delivery through postmen is practicable only if the mail arrives at 3-30 P.M., but the Postmaster-General will be asked to consider whether it is not feasible to arrange a postmen's delivery at the later hour if there is any considerable demand for it.

FORMATION OF A SEPARATE KARNATAKA PROVINCE.

37. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU: (a) Are the Government of India aware that the Madras Legislative Council has passed a Resolution at its meeting held on 8th August, 1929, that urgent steps should be taken for the formation of a separate Karnataka Province?

(b) Are Government considering the advisability of appointing a Committee to enquire into and suggest ways and means for the formation of a separate Karnataka Province?

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE: (a) Yes.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

CONVENING OF A ROAD CONFERENCE.

38. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU: (a) Will the Government of India be pleased to state whether they propose to hold a Road Conference to consider the various recommendations of the Road Committee?

(b) If so, when is it likely to be held and where and what will be its composition?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. RYAN: (a) A Conference of the nature indicated was held on the 6th and 7th of this month.

MICPB(CS)

(b) Representatives of all Local Governments, excepting Madras, were present at the Conference.

REVISION OF THE PAY AND PROSPECTS OF THE MINISTERIAL STAFF OF THE CALCUTTA CUSTOM HOUSE.

39. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY (on behalf of the HONOURABLE SRIJUT LOKENATH MUKHERJEE): (a) With reference to the reply given by Government to question No. 196 in the last Session of the Council of State on 30th March, 1929, concerning the revision of the pay and prospects of the ministerial staff of the Calcutta Custom House, is it a fact that while the minimum of the scale of pay of the Printing and Stationery Establishment, Calcutta, is the same as that of the Calcutta Customs, the maximum of the former is higher than that of the latter ?

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for so fixing the scales of pay for two establishments both of which are located in Calcutta ?

(c) Is it a fact that the pay of the Lower Division clerks of the Calcutta Custom House is lower than that of the Lower Division clerks of the Bengal Secretariat as well as of the Bombay Custom House and that the pay of the Superintendents of the Calcutta Custom House is higher than that of the Head Assistants and Superintendents respectively of the Bengal Secretariat and the Bombay Custom House ?

(d) If so, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for this differential treatment ?

(e) Is it a fact that—

(i) the pre-war minimum pay of the Lower Division clerks in the Calcutta Custom House was Rs. 30 whereas in the Calcutta Post Offices it was Rs. 25 ;

(ii) that the present minimum scale of pay of the Lower Division clerks in the Calcutta Custom House is Rs. 45 and that of the Calcutta Post Offices is Rs. 50 ?

(f) If so, will Government be pleased to state what is the reason for fixing such different scales of pays in two branches of their administration ?

(g) Is it a fact that since 1919 the scales of pay of almost all the Central establishments in Calcutta excepting the Customs establishment were revised more than once ?

(h) If so, do the Government propose to make a further adjustment in respect of the rates of pay in the Calcutta Custom House ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON: (a) Yes.

(b) In fixing the rates of pay not only the cost of living but the nature of the duties performed and the chances of promotion to the upper division are also taken into consideration.

(c) Yes.

(d) While rates of pay in the Customs establishment are fixed, so far as possible, in accordance with the rates of pay given by the Local Government to men performing similar duties in the same locality, it is not suitable or indeed possible to have precisely the same graduation as exists in a given office of

the Provincial Government. The graduation has necessarily to be determined with reference to the immediate facts, *e.g.*, the strength and composition of the office, the prospects of promotion, the relative strength of the higher and the lower grades, and so forth.

(e) (i) No : the pre-war pay of the postal clerks also was Rs. 30 per mensem.

(ii) Yes.

(f) The scales of pay in the two branches of the administration were fixed by different authorities, and I have no doubt that to some extent the differences in the scales are accidental, but I would venture to say that the onus lies upon those who would claim that the scales of pay in different branches of the administration should be the same and not different. On the further consideration which has been given to the matter as the result of the Honourable Member's question the Government of India are satisfied that sufficient reason for maintaining the distinction is to be found in the difference in the conditions of service in the two Departments in question.

(g) Yes.

(h) The Government of India are satisfied that there would be grave objections to undertaking a revision of the rates of pay of the clerical establishment of the Calcutta Custom House, unless this could be done as the result of a general survey of the rates of pay of clerks in all Departments subordinate to the Central Government to be undertaken in co-operation with similar surveys by the Provincial Governments.

PROVISION OF AN INTERMEDIATE CLASS WAITING ROOM AT MIDNAPUR ON THE BENGAL NAGPUR RAILWAY.

40. THE HONOURABLE MR. MAHMOOD SUHRAWARDY : With reference to the reply of Government to my question No. 128 (b) in Volume II, No. 6, of the Council of State Debates, dated the 21st September, 1928, will the Honourable Member in charge of the Railway Department be pleased to state what steps have been taken to provide an intermediate class waiting room at Midnapur station on the Bengal Nagpur Railway in Bengal ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : The Agent reports that an estimate for a new intermediate class waiting room at Midnapore station is under preparation.

PROPOSED RAILWAY BETWEEN CONTAI AND CONTAI ROAD STATION ON THE BENGAL NAGPUR RAILWAY.

41. THE HONOURABLE MR. MAHMOOD SUHRAWARDY : (a) Will the Honourable Member in charge of the Railway Department be pleased to state if any provision has been made in the current year's budget for the proposed railway line between Contai and Contai Road station on the Bengal Nagpur Railway in Bengal ?

(b) If the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Member in charge be pleased to state why no action has been taken to lay the line and when do the Government propose to begin the actual work of construction ?

(c) If the answer to (a) be in the negative, will the Honourable Member in charge be pleased to state why no provision has been made in the current year's Budget, and when do the Government propose to make such provision ?

(d) Will the Honourable Member in charge be pleased to state if the Government propose to expedite the work of construction ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : No provision for the line has been made in the current year's Budget, because the available funds have been devoted to carrying towards completion of the many other construction projects in progress. I am afraid it will not be possible to allot funds for the project before 1931.

THE DACCA-ARICHA RAILWAY.

42. THE HONOURABLE MR. MAHMOOD SUHRAWARDY : With reference to my question No. 88, Volume I, No. 19 of the Council of State Debates, dated the 13th March, 1928—

(a) Will the Honourable Member in charge of the Railway Department be pleased to state what steps have been taken to construct the proposed Dacca-Aricha Railway line ?

(b) Will the Honourable Member be pleased to state if the Government propose to take up the work early ?

(c) Will the Honourable Member in charge be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the report of the Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway, regarding this project ?

(d) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the report published in the Town edition of the Calcutta paper *The Statesman* of 26th July, 1929, that a public meeting at Dacca presided over by the Nawab Bahadur of Dacca, urged the Government to complete the scheme by 1932-33 and to provide money in the budget for the same ?

(e) Will the Honourable Member in charge be pleased to state if the Chief Commissioner of Railways received any deputation at Mymensingh in connection with this project ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : (a) and (b). I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply which I have just given to the Honourable Mr. Kumar Sankar Ray Chaudhury on the same subject.

(c) A copy of the report will be placed in the Library.

(d) and (e). Yes.

ENHANCED PRICE OF SALT ISSUED FOR FISH-CURING.

43. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU : (a) Have the fisherfolk of the two districts of Malabar and South Kanara recently submitted a memorial to the Central Government setting forth all their grievances and hardships caused by the doubling of the price of salt issued for fish-curing ?

(b) Have the Madras Government collected from the curers of these two districts alone nearly 4½ lakhs of rupees in four years by doubling the price of salt ?

(c) Have fish-curers suffered heavy loss by having had to buy and use duty-paid salt from the bazaars owing to the failure of the Madras Fisheries Department to make timely deliveries of salt at the yards ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON : (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The issue price fixed in 1918 was 10 annas a maund, and the price was raised to Rs. 1/4 a maund when the yards were transferred to the control of the Fisheries Department. The figure quoted by the Honourable Member is approximately correct as representing the consequent increase in collections during the years 1924-25 to 1927-28. The sale of salt at 10 annas a maund could only be conducted at a heavy loss to the Government, averaging Rs. 1½ lakhs per year during the three years ending with 1923-24 ; and the object of the increase in price was to put an end to this loss. The Government of India forego the duty on this salt, but it would be going outside their sphere to go further and grant a subsidy to the fish-curing industry by selling salt at a loss. It seems unlikely then that the salt could be issued at a cheaper rate if the work were transferred from the Fisheries Department to the Salt Department.

(c) The Government of India have no information beyond that contained in the memorial referred to in part (a) of the question but have made enquiries from the Madras Government upon the point.

TRANSFER OF THE FISH-CURING YARDS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY TO THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

44. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU : Will Government be pleased to state what action has been taken to give effect to the Resolution of the Honourable Mr. Ramadas Pantulu moved on 3rd March, 1927, and adopted by this Council, relative to the transfer of the fish-curing yards in the Madras Presidency to the control and management of the Central Government ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON : The recommendation contained in the Resolution adopted by the Council of State was duly considered by the Government of India in consultation with the Government of Madras. The latter Government pointed out that the transfer of the work of issuing duty-free salt for fish-curing to the Salt Department would not necessarily result in a reduction in the issue price, as I have already explained in my reply to the last question ; while there was no reason to suppose that the existing arrangement was fraught with any risk to the revenue, or involved any duplication of staff and expenditure. On the other side, the Local Government explained that the retention of the control of the yards in the hands of the Fisheries Department contributed greatly to the efficiency of that Department and thus indirectly to the welfare of the fisherfolk themselves. These yards being situated in important fishing villages on the two coasts enable the Fisheries Department to reach the fisherfolk quickly and effectively and to maintain that close and constant touch with them which is essential in order that the Department might accomplish all

the various purposes connected with the social, moral and economic uplift of the fisher community the attainment of which has been accepted by the Local Government as its goal. The Government of India concluded that there was no substantial argument in favour of the transfer and much to be said against it, and therefore decided that it should not be effected.

PAY OF THE NON-GAZETTED TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS OF THE EPIGRAPHICAL BRANCH OF THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT, SOUTHERN CIRCLE.

45. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU: (a) Will Government be pleased to state the existing scale of pay of the non-gazetted technical Assistants of the Epigraphical Branch of the Archæological Department, Southern Circle?

(b) Was any time-scale fixed in their case; if not, what was the omission due to?

(c) Do all these technical Assistants do the same kind of work and are they required to possess University qualifications, a sound knowledge of Ancient Indian History, proficiency in Sanskrit and one or two South Indian languages and aptitude for patient and intelligent research, besides ability to decipher and study old and worn out stone and copper plate records?

(d) Is there any disparity in their starting and maximum salary and, if so, why?

(e) Were memorials submitted to the Government in December, 1928, by this class of officers praying for the introduction of a uniform time scale and the grant of house rent allowance and other concessions?

(f) Were the said memorials returned by the Director General of Archæology with the remarks that they ought to have come through the proper channel?

(g) Was any action taken on their original memorials; if so, what, and if not, why not?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN:

(a) and (b). The existing scales of pay are:—

(i) Senior Epigraphical Assistant—Rs. 150—10—250 per mensem *plus* special pay of Rs. 50.

(ii) Second Epigraphical Assistant—Rs. 100—10—250 per mensem.

(iii) Junior Assistants—Rs. 100—5—150 per mensem.

(c) Yes.

(d) The starting and maximum salaries are different because the posts are divided into senior and junior and the responsibilities attaching to them are not uniform.

(e) One memorial was irregularly submitted direct to Government and others to the Director General of Archæology by individual incumbents of the posts.

(f) The Director General returned the memorials because they were not submitted through the proper channel, *viz.*, the immediate head of the memorialists' office and the Government Epigraphist.

(g) No. for the reason given in (f).

ASSISTANT ARCHÆOLOGICAL SUPERINTENDENT FOR EPIGRAPHY, MADRAS.

46. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU : (a) Was the post of the Assistant Archæological Superintendent for Epigraphy at Madras filled by a reference to the Public Service Commission ?

(b) What are the credentials and qualifications of the officer, selected by the Public Service Commission, which entitle him to the said post ?

(c) Have the claims of the officers already in the Department been considered before appointing this new incumbent, and, if not, why not ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :

(a) Yes.

(b) The officer appointed is an M.A. in History and Economics of the Madras University, received technical training in Epigraphy under Rao Bahadur H. Krishna Sastri, the late Government Epigraphist, and is the author of many articles and papers upon epigraphical and other archæological subjects.

(c) Yes. The latter part of the question does not arise.

THE SWEDISH MATCH FACTORY.

47. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :

(a) Was the Swedish Match Factory asked by Government and compelled to issue shares to the public in India and to base their business on a rupee capital and to include a majority of Indian directors ?

(b) If so, what is meant by the word "Indians" ?

(c) Are similar conditions going to be imposed upon other concerns existing at present or to be opened in future for working the resources of India ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

RATES FOR PASSENGERS AND GOODS ON THE DIFFERENT STATE RAILWAYS.

48. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :

(a) Will Government be pleased to state in a tabular form the rates for passengers and goods of different classes on the different State Railway systems ?

(b) Are these rates uniform ?

(c) If the answer to (b) is in the negative, why are they not uniform ?

(d) Is the variation due to competition ; if so, with whom is such competition in each particular case ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : (a) A statement of the rates for passengers on all Class I Railways, including the State Railway systems, was laid by Mr. Rau on the table of the Legislative Assembly in connection with his reply to Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh's question No. 1440 to the 3rd April, 1929. As regards rates for goods the information required

by the Honourable Member may be obtained by reference to the General Classification of Goods published by the Indian Railway Conference Association and to the printed Goods Tariffs of the different Railway Administrations. To compile and tabulate this information would involve the publication of a bulky volume.

(b) and (c). Entire uniformity is impracticable as financial circumstances and other conditions vary on different State Railways.

(d) Certain variations in rates and fares are due to competition with other railways and with other modes of transport. The preparation of a statement to cover each particular case would involve a very great amount of labour which is not considered to be justified.

SCOPE OF INQUIRY TO BE MADE BY THE INDIAN CENTRAL BANKING INQUIRY COMMITTEE.

49. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Does nationalised banking system form part of the scope of inquiry of the Banking Committee. If not, why not ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON : I have inquired and I understand from the Honourable Member that the object of his question is to ascertain whether the establishment of a system of State banks throughout the country comes within the scope of the inquiry to be made by the Banking Committee. I have already supplied the Honourable Member with a copy of the Government of India, Finance Department, Resolution No. F. 2 (4)-F./29, dated the 22nd July, 1929, giving the terms of reference to the Committee. These terms were decided upon by Government after consultation with the Indian Central Banking Inquiry Committee, and I am sure, Sir, that the terms of reference are wide enough to cover the head of inquiry suggested by the Honourable Member.

IMPORTS OF COTTON CLOTH FROM ITALY.

50. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY ; (a) Have Italian manufacturers of cotton cloth invaded the cloth trade of India ?

(b) If so, to what extent ?

(c) Do Government contemplate taking any steps in the matter, and what steps ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : (a) Imports of cotton cloth from Italy have increased during the past few years.

(b) The extent of the increase may be ascertained from the detailed statistics recorded in the sea-borne trade accounts in the Library.

(c) The Government do not propose to take any special steps in the matter.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE IMPERIAL LIBRARY, CALCUTTA.

51. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the names of persons appointed to the Imperial Library Committee, and how many of them are Indians ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state who selects the members of the Imperial Library Committee from the different provinces ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (a) The names of the members of the Council of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, are :—

- (1) R. Littlehales, Esquire, C.I.E., M.A., Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, *ex-officio* Chairman.
- (2) The Honourable Justice Sir Philip Buckland, Kt., Puisne Judge, High Court, Calcutta.
- (3) Lieutenant-Colonel N. Barwell, Bar.-at-Law, Honorary Librarian, Asiatic Society of Bengal.
- (4) Reverend Dr. W. S. Urquhart, M.A., D.Litt., Vice-Chancellor, Calcutta University.
- (5) Rai Bahadur Dr. Upendra Nath Brahmachari, M.A., M.D., Ph.D., F.A.S.B.
- (6) Mr. H. G. Rawlinson, M.A., F.R.H.S., Principal, Deccan College, Poona.
- (7) Mr. A. C. Woolner, C.I.E., M.A., Vice-Chancellor, University of the Punjab, Lahore.
- (8) Mr. S. Sinha, Bar.-at-Law, Patna.

Two of these members are Indians.

(b) The Government of India select the members of the Council of the Imperial Library from the different provinces after consultation with Provincial Governments.

TREATMENT OF EUROPEAN PRISONERS CONVICTED OF OFFENCES AGAINST PERSON AND PROPERTY.

52. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY :

(a) Will Government be pleased to state whether Europeans convicted of offences against person and property receive any special class treatment as Europeans in jails, or not ?

(b) How many Europeans convicted of offences against person and property are there in the jails in India, and what treatment do they receive in jails in India as regards their diet and residence ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE : (a) The rules relating to convicted prisoners vary in detail from province to province. In regard to the differentiation now in question, it may be said, broadly, that the principle adopted is to establish conditions, which will maintain the health of all prisoners and will, at the same time, not impose undue expenditure on the State. In pursuance of this principle regard is paid to the previous mode of living of prisoners in the rules, relating to diet, bedding and, in some provinces, to accommodation. In some provinces the special rules framed for European prisoners do not apply exclusively to Europeans, and provision is made for their application to Indians whose standard of living is similar to that of Europeans. In regard to convicts classed as special class prisoners, no distinction is recognised in the rules between European and other prisoners.

(b) The information desired by the Honourable Member, in regard to the number of European prisoners, is being collected and will be communicated to him in due course. The answer to the first part of the question explains the broad principles on which Europeans are treated. If the Honourable Member desires more detailed information, I would refer him to the Jail Manuals of the different provinces.

STRIKE OF THE TINPLATE WORKERS AT GOLMURI.

53. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Has the Indian Chamber of Commerce at Calcutta asked the Government of India to intervene in the strike of the tinplate workers at Golmuri? If so, what steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. RYAN : The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, the Chamber has been informed that, under section 3 of the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, the question whether a Board of Conciliation or a Court of Inquiry should or should not be constituted in connection with the strike rests entirely within the discretion of the Local Government.

FORMATION OF A WATERWAYS BOARD IN BENGAL.

54. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Has the Government of Bengal asked the Government of India to form a committee of experts to help the Government of Bengal to constitute a Waterways Board?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. RYAN : The Government of Bengal have informed the Government of India that they propose to constitute an expert committee which will examine *inter alia* the advisability of the formation of a provincial Waterways Board.

TRADE OF THE PORT OF CHITTAGONG.

55. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Did the year 1928-29 close with a heavy decline in the total value of trade of the Port of Chittagong? If so, what is the cause and what steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : Yes, there was a decline of 17·09 per cent. in the total value of trade of the port of Chittagong (foreign and coasting) during the year 1928-29 as compared with the trade of the port in 1927-28, which was a record year. But in comparison with the year 1926-27, the total value of trade of the year 1928-29 showed an increase of 7·16 per cent. Both the foreign and the coasting trade were responsible for the decline in 1928-29, but about 57 per cent. of the total decline was due to the fall in the average prices of imported salt and exported tea, as compared with the prices of these articles in 1927-28. Among the principal articles imported and exported, there was a marked decrease in quantity in the imports of rice and paddy, cotton piece-goods and iron and steel and a comparatively small decrease in the exports of raw jute. On the other hand, the quantity of salt and oil imported showed considerable improvement. Government do not consider it necessary to take any steps in the matter.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO CADETS OF THE TRAINING SHIP "DUFFERIN."

56. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Were some scholarships offered to deserving cadets of the Training Ship "Dufferin"? If so, how many, of what nature and by whom have they been offered, and was any such scholarship offered by any European firm?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : The following scholarships are open to the cadets of the Training Ship "Dufferin" :—

1. *By the Government of India.*—Six scholarships yearly, tenable for three years, entitling the holder to a remission of half the fees. The scholarships are awarded by the Governing Body having regard to the suitability of the cadet and the financial position of his parents or guardians.
2. *By the Scindia Steam Navigation Company.*—Four scholarships—
 - (a) Two scholarships yearly, each tenable for three years and each of a value equal to half the fees. One is awarded to the cadet chosen by the Company whose parents or guardians are not in a position to pay the full fees. The other is awarded to the cadet passing first in all subjects at the examination held at the end of the first year.
 - (b) Two scholarships yearly, each tenable for three years and each of a value equal to the full fees. These scholarships are conditional on the cadet undertaking to join the Company as an apprentice after the completion of his course on the "Dufferin" and to serve as an officer in the Company for five years after obtaining his Second Mate's Certificate.
3. *By the Bombay Port Trust.*—Two scholarships yearly, each of the value of Rs. 100 per month and each tenable for three years after the cadet leaves the "Dufferin", subject to the condition that the cadet goes to sea on ships belonging to an approved firm. These scholarships are awarded by the Governing Body from among those cadets who obtain an extra passing out certificate.
4. *By the Karachi Port Trust.*—Two scholarships of Rs. 30 each per mensem, each tenable for three years, one to the son of a Karachi Port Trust employee and one to the son of a person who has been a resident in Sind for not less than 10 years, preference being given to a Sindhi. If there is no candidate from the former class, the scholarship may be transferred to the latter. Scholarship holders are chosen by the Port Trust.
5. *By the Karachi Municipality.*—Two scholarships of Rs. 30 each per mensem, each tenable for three years, to cadets whose parents have been residents of Karachi for not less than ten years. The scholarship holders are chosen by the Municipality.
6. *By the Madras University.*—Two scholarships of the value of Rs. 60 each per mensem, each tenable for three years to students

domiciled within the territorial jurisdiction of the Madras University, who are eligible for admission to courses of study at the University, are desirous of following a career in the Mercantile Marine and cannot afford to bear the cost of the necessary training. The scholarship holders are chosen by the University.

7. *By Mr. R. H. Patuck.*—Three scholarships each of the value of Rs. 300 per annum and Rs. 300 on leaving, tenable for three years and open to Parsee boys only. The scholars are selected in accordance with rules drawn up by the donor.

All the above scholarships are *only open* to candidates who have in the first place passed the Qualifying Examination and have been selected for training in open competition. With the exception of the scholarships offered by the Scindia Steam Navigation Company, Limited, and Mr. R. H. Patuck, all the scholarships have been granted by Government or Public Bodies, and none have been offered by European firms.

OVERPRODUCTION OF QUININE.

57. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Is there an overproduction of quinine ? If so, to what extent and what is the reason for it ? Do Government propose to take any steps to utilise the excess ? If so, what steps ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : It is much regretted that the question, not being limited by reference to time and space, cannot be answered.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY INDIAN EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION.

58. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Has the attention of Government been drawn to the Resolutions passed at the eighth annual conference of the Eastern Bengal Railway Indian Employees' Association ? If so, what steps do the Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : Government have seen the Resolutions referred to by the Honourable Member. They do not propose to take any action till addressed about them by the Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway.

STOPPAGE OF THE DOWN DARJEELING MAIL AT JALPAIGURI.

59. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Has the attention of Government been drawn to the correspondence headed "Jalpaiguri Passengers' difficulties" regarding the stoppage of the down Darjeeling mail for two minutes at Jalpaiguri appearing in the Calcutta paper *Liberty* of the 22nd August, 1929 ? If so, what steps will they take about it ?

DIFFICULTIES OF SERAJGUNJ PASSENGERS.

60. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY : Has the attention of Government been drawn to the correspondence headed

“Serajgunj Passengers’ difficulties” regarding the discontinuance of the running of 86 down train and of severing the connection of 88 down train with 4 down Assam mail appearing in the Calcutta paper *Liberty* of the 22nd August, 1929? If so, what steps will they take about it?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD: With your permission, Sir, I shall reply to questions Nos. 59 and 60 together. Government have seen the correspondence referred to, but obviously it is not possible for them to take any part in the preparation of time tables. These are matters which might suitably be discussed by the Railway Local Advisory Committee.

EXAMINATIONS IN THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

61. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY: Has the attention of Government been drawn to the correspondence headed “Examination proposal in Postal Department” appearing in the Calcutta paper *Liberty* of the 22nd August, 1929? If so, what steps will Government take about it?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. RYAN: Government have seen the letter referred to. The points raised in it have already received full consideration, and Government do not propose to take any action upon it.

NUMBER OF CASES OF SEDITION IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

62. THE HONOURABLE MR. KUMAR SANKAR RAY CHAUDHURY: Will the Government be pleased to state how many sedition cases have cropped up in India in each of the last five years, how many of them have ended in conviction and how many in acquittal?

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE: A statement giving the information asked for for the five years from August 1924 to July 1929 has been laid on the table. The Government of India have no information of the results of the trial of 41 persons, some of them are presumably still under trial. Enquiries will be made regarding the remainder and the information in regard to them communicated to the Honourable Member.

Statement of prosecutions for sedition under section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code during the period of five years from August 1924 to July 1929.

Province.	Number of persons prosecuted.	Number of convictions.	Number of acquittals.	Number of withdrawals.	Number of persons in regard to whose prosecution results are not known.	Remarks.
<i>August to December 1924.</i>						
United Provinces ..	2	..		2	..	
Punjab ..	17*	11		..	5	*Includes one absconder.
Burma	12	8	..	..	4	

Province.	Number of persons prosecuted.	Number of convictions.	Number of acquittals.	Number of withdrawals.	Number of persons in regard to whose prosecution results are not known.	Remarks.
<i>1925.</i>						
Bombay	1	1		..	..
Bengal	3	3		..	..
United Provinces	5	5		..	..
Punjab	16	6		..	10	
Burma	1			..	1	
<i>1926.</i>						
Bengal	1	1		..	..
Punjab	2	1		..	1	
Burma	6	5	1			
<i>1927.</i>						
Bombay	5	2	1	2	..	
Punjab	3	3	..	..	..
Burma	29	21	2	..	6	
Bihar and Orissa	1	1		..		
<i>1928.</i>						
Madras	5	5	..	..	..
Bengal	10	9	1	..	..
United Provinces	1	1	..	..	..
Punjab	4	4	..	..	..
Burma	7	7	..	..	..
Bihar and Orissa	2	2	..	..	..
<i>January to July 1929.</i>						
Bombay	1	1	..	..	..
Bengal	16	12	2	..	2	
Punjab	21	10	..	..	11	
United Provinces	8	6	..	1	1	
Burma	2	2	..	..	..
Bihar and Orissa	6	5	..	1	..	
Total	187	132	7	6	41	

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS.

63. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU: (a) Has the Rockefeller Foundation of America invited the Government of India to select suitable candidates annually for the award of scholarships for post-graduate study in America, in Medicine and Public Health?

(b) If the answer be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the number and names of candidates selected and awarded such scholarships up to the end of 1928?

(c) How many have been selected during the current year ?

(d) If none have been selected, will Government kindly explain the reason ?

(e) Did candidates demand guaranteed appointments under Government on their return from America ?

(f) Was this the main consideration for not sending up candidates this year ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (a) and (b). Fellowships are not granted by the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation every year. Five Fellowships were offered to this country for the first time in 1922 and four more in 1926. The names of selected candidates are—

1922.

1. Dr. Saranjam Khan, B.Sc., M.B.B.S.
2. Dr. C. R. Edibam, M.B.B.S., D.P.H.
3. Dr. H. G. D. Mathur, B.Sc., M.B.B.S., M.R.C.P. (Edin.), D.T.M. & H. (London), D.P.H.
4. Captain (now Major) S. S. Sokhey, I.M.S., M.A., B.Sc., M.D. (Edin.), D.T.M. and H. (Eng.).
5. Dr. A. R. Mehta, M.B.B.S., D.P.H., D.T.M. and H.

1926.

1. Dr. Ram Bihari Lal, M.B.B.S. (Punjab), D.P.H. (Oxon.), D.T.M. and H. (Eng.).
2. Dr. A. C. Banerjee, M.B.B.S., D.P.H.
3. Dr. R. Adishesan, L.M.S., B.S.S.C., DIP. HYG. (Camb.).
4. Dr. K. V. Krishnan, M.B.B.S., M.R.C.P. (Edin.).

(c) None so far.

(d) The International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation are still considering the applications which have been submitted to them.

(e) No. But I may mention for the Honourable Member's information that under the conditions laid down by the International Health Board the Fellowships are granted only to persons who, on completion of their training, have an assured prospect of suitable employment.

(f) Does not arise.

USE OF ALARM CHAINS BY PASSENGERS IN RAILWAY TRAINS.

64. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU : (a) Have some Railways inserted a clause in their bye-laws that the communication cords in railway trains must be used only in cases of danger to person ?

(b) Are prosecutions launched by the South Indian and Madras and Southern Mahratta Railways for pulling the chain in cases where valuable things fall down, and are passengers convicted on the strength of this bye-law ?

(c) Have the High Courts in India, to which appeals have been preferred against convictions for this offence, held divergent views with regard to the right of passengers to pull the alarm chain ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : (a) and (b). The reply is in the negative.

(c) Government have no complete information on this point, but the question is obviously one to be decided on the facts of each individual case.

THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU : Will the Government call for information ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : Yes, Sir.

INTEREST PAID BY THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY ON CASH DEPOSITS MADE BY THEIR EMPLOYEES AS SECURITY.

65. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU : Is interest paid by the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway on cash deposits made by their employees as security ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : Government have not complete information. Inquiries are being made and the Honourable Member will be communicated with later.

GRANT OF PASSES BY THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TEA CESS COMMITTEE.

66. THE HONOURABLE DR. U. RAMA RAU : (a) Will Government be pleased to state what the functions of the Tea Cess Committee are, where its headquarters are and who its Managing Directors are ?

(b) Has the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway granted first and second class passes to six representatives of the Tea Cess Committee to travel up and down the line to visit the Indian refreshment rooms on this Railway ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD : (a) The Honourable Member is referred to the Indian Tea Cess Act, 1903, a copy of which is in the Library and also to the Tea Cess Act Rules which were published in the Gazette of India, dated the 12th October, 1904. The headquarters of the Committee are at Calcutta.

(b) Ten representatives of the Tea Cess Committee are granted passes over sections of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

DEATH OF THE MAHARAJADHIRAJA SIR RAMESHWARA SINGH
OF DARBHANGA.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : Before the Council proceeds with further business I have a melancholy duty to perform this morning in asking Honourable Members to associate themselves with me in the reference I am making to the recent death of one of our colleagues, the late Maharajadhiraja Sir Rameshwara Singh of Darbhanga. He was a Member of this Council from

the day of its inauguration, though of late illness had prevented him from devoting any great attention to his duties in this House. Most of us are aware that he suffered from a disease which precluded the probability of his living to any great age, but the news of his death could not but come as a shock to us. I am sure I have the full concurrence of Honourable Members in the action I propose to take. I am conveying on behalf of the Council to the late Maharaja's heir and to the other members of his family an expression of our sorrow and of our deep sympathy with them in the loss that we and they have sustained.

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: I have a Message for the Council from His Excellency the Governor General.

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

"In pursuance of the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 63A of the Government of India Act, I, George Joachim, Viscount Goschen of Hawkhurst, hereby nominate the following Members of the Council of State to be on the Panel of Chairmen of the said Council of State:

In the first place, the Honourable Rai Bahadur Lala Ram Saran Das; in the second place, the Honourable Sir Sankaran Nair; in the third place, the Honourable Mr. Kenneth Brand Harper; and, lastly, the Honourable Saiyed Mohamed Padshah Sahib Bahadur.

(Sd.) GOSCHEN,

Viceroy and Acting Governor General."

(The Message was received by the Members of the Council standing.)

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: Under Standing Order 76 of the Council of State Standing Orders, I am required at the commencement of each Session to constitute a Committee on Petitions, consisting of a Chairman and four members. The following Honourable Members have at my request kindly consented to preside over and serve on the Committee. I accordingly have much pleasure in nominating as Chairman of the Committee the Honourable Rai Bahadur Lala Ram Saran Das, and as members the Honourable Raja Sir Rampal Singh, the Honourable Sir Ebrahim Jaffer, the Honourable Mr. P. C. Desika Chari and the Honourable Sir Manmohandas Ramji.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S ASSENT TO BILLS.

SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL: Sir, information has been received that His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to grant his assent to the following Bills which were passed by the two Chambers of the Indian Legislature during the Delhi Session, 1929:

- The Indian Limitation (Amendment) Act, 1929.
 The Hindu Law of Inheritance (Amendment) Act, 1929.
 The Presidency-towns Insolvency (Amendment) Act, 1929.
 The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1929.
 The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Act, 1929.
 The Indian Finance Act, 1929.
 The Trade Disputes Act, 1929.

BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY LAID ON THE TABLE.

SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL: Sir, in accordance with rule 25 of the Indian Legislative Rules, I lay on the table copies of the following Bills which were passed by the Legislative Assembly at its meeting held on the 9th September, 1929 :—

- A Bill further to amend the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, for certain purposes ;
- A Bill to provide for certain matters in connection with the taking of the Census ;
- A Bill further to amend the Calcutta Pilots Act, 1859, and the Indian Ports Act, 1908, in order to vest the control of the Bengal Pilot Service in the Governor General in Council ; and
- A Bill to provide for the levy of a cess on soft coke despatched by rail from collieries in the provinces of Bengal and Bihar and Orissa.

MOTION FOR THE ELECTION OF A PANEL FOR THE STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. WOODHEAD (Commerce Secretary) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That this Council do proceed to elect in the manner described in the rules published in the Home Department Notification No. F. 49, dated the 22nd August, 1922, as amended by the Home Department Notification No. D. 794-C., dated the 30th January, 1924, a panel consisting of 6 members from which 2 will be nominated to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects in the Department of Commerce.”

I should explain that the Advisory Committee of the Commerce Department was last constituted as a result of elections held in the two Houses of the Legislature in September last and that it came into existence in October last. It is necessary, therefore, that the Committee should be reconstituted for another year.

The motion was adopted.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : That motion having been adopted by the Council, I announce that nominations to the panel will be received in the Council office up to 11 A.M. on Wednesday, the 18th September.

INDIAN TERRITORIAL FORCE (AMENDMENT) BILL.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Territorial Force Act, 1920, for a certain purpose.

The Bill, Sir, is of a very simple nature. It has actually only one point in it which is so fully set out in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, that I think there is nothing I need say to explain the Bill to Honourable Members of the House. I therefore move.

The motion was adopted.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

INDIAN COTTON CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN (Education, Health and Lands Member): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Cotton Cess Act, 1923, for certain purposes.

The Bill is of a non-controversial nature.

The motion was adopted.

The HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN: I beg to introduce the Bill.

INDIAN REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE (Home Department: Nominated Official): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Registration Act, 1908, for a certain purpose.

This is a formal non-controversial measure fully explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

BURMA SALT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON (Finance Secretary): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Burma Salt Act, 1917, for certain purposes.

As Honourable Members will see, this is a Bill of very minor importance. The only point of substance it contains is an amendment designed to improve subsidiary procedure on one small point.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

GUARDIANS AND WARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE (Home Department : Nominated Official) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, for a certain purpose.

The object of the Bill, which is non-controversial, is to make specific provision, which is at present lacking, for the more careful and systematic auditing of guardian and ward accounts of the Courts. It is universally agreed that it is desirable and it would minimise the chances of defalcation of these accounts.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

PROVIDENT FUNDS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON (Finance Secretary) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Provident Funds Act, 1925, for certain purposes.

Honourable Members will see from the Statement of Objects and Reasons that the first two purposes are to remove certain defects in the law which we are advised operate to withdraw from deposits in provident funds the protection which the Act is designed to secure for them. The third purpose is to extend the benefits of the Provident Funds Act to the provident funds of public institutions whose activities are closely connected with the Government. In this respect the Bill merely seeks to extend the policy of the Government in a direction which has already been approved.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

INDIAN SUCCESSION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE (Home Department : Nominated Official) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Succession Act, 1925, for certain purposes.

This Bill is designed to serve two purposes which are clearly explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. It is intended to remedy a defect and an omission in our previous legislation.

Sir, I move.

The motion was adopted.

THE HONOURABLE MR. C. W. GWYNNE : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MEMBERS ON THE HONOURS CONFERRED ON THEM.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : Before I adjourn the Council this morning, I think the House would like me to tender its congratulations, along with my own, to two Honourable Members who have since we last met in Delhi received honours at the hands of His Majesty the King. (Applause.) It is a matter of great pleasure and great satisfaction, I am sure to all of us, that the services of the Honourable Sir Charles Watson and the Honourable Major-General Sir Henry Symons, both as servants of the Government and as Members of this House, have been so recognised. (Applause.) I am sure the House is with me in offering them both our heartiest congratulations. (Applause.) The remarks that I have made apply equally to another, who was till recently also a distinguished Member of this House ; and I propose to convey on behalf of the Council to Sir Charles McWatters our warm congratulations on his Knighthood.

THE HONOURABLE MAJOR-GENERAL SIR HENRY SYMONS (Director General, Indian Medical Service): Sir, I wish to thank you for the kind references you have made to the honour conferred on myself and the Honourable Members for the way in which they have received them. I can assure you that probably no one was more surprised at it than myself. This is not an occasion for lengthy remarks. I therefore thank you again and resume my seat. (Applause.)

STATEMENT OF BUSINESS.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN (Education, Health and Lands Member): Sir, the list of business for Tuesday, the 17th September, 1929, is already in the hands of Honourable Members. On Wednesday, the 18th September, 1929, motions will be made for the consideration and passing of the seven Government Bills which have been introduced to-day, copies of which were circulated to Honourable Members on Saturday last. Thursday, the 19th, will be devoted to non-official business.

The Council then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, the 17th September, 1929.