

8th February, 1933

THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES  
(Official Report)

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*(19th January to 21st February, 1927)*

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FIRST SESSION  
OF THE  
THIRD LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1927



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

*Wednesday, 8th February, 1933.*

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at Eleven of the Clock, Mr. Deputy President (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty) in the Chair.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### ASSOCIATION FOR MR. SARAT CHANDRA BOSE, A STATE PRISONER AT JUBBULPORE.

251. \***Mr. S. O. Mitra**: Will Government please state if any steps have been taken to provide association for Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose who is a lonely State Prisoner at Jubbulpore? If so, when and how?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig**: The matter is under consideration and it is hoped that a decision will be reached at an early date.

### DISCHARGED APPROVED CANDIDATES OF THE CALCUTTA GENERAL POST OFFICE.

252. \***Mr. S. O. Mitra**: Will Government be pleased to state:

- (a) if it is a fact that many "approved candidates" were discharged from service in the Calcutta General Post Office, by June 1932;
- (b) if so, what was their number and for how many years did they generally serve the department;
- (c) how many of such "approved candidates" have been provided in the lower division posts in Calcutta General Post Office, since June, 1932;
- (d) whether many posts in the Calcutta General Post Office were kept vacant for more than three years since 1927;
- (e) whether many outsiders like the officials of the Central Telegraph Office (Calcutta) and the Post Master General's Office have been brought in to fill up the vacancies of the Calcutta General Post Office during the years 1930—32; if so, what their respective number is;
- (f) whether Government are aware of the extreme hardship to which the discharged approved candidates and their families have been put on account of their present unemployment;
- (g) when these discharged candidates are likely to be provided with appointments;
- (h) whether Government propose to show some special consideration so far as their reappointments are concerned, and what the policy proposed and followed by Government in the matter of their reappointments is?

**Sir Thomas Ryan:** Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

**BENGAL DETENU MR. SATINDRA NATH SEN.**

253. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra:** (a) Is it a fact that Mr. Satindra Nath Sen, a Bengal detenu, so long confined in the Ajmer Central Jail, has been transferred to the Gujrat District Jail in the Punjab?

(b) Is it a fact that the said Mr. Sen was X'rayed in the Victoria Hospital, Ajmer, and that his left lung was reported to be affected with tuberculosis?

(c) If so, why was the transfer made in view of the very precarious state of his health?

(d) Is it a fact that the Honourable the Home Member to the Government of India saw Mr. Sen before his transfer, and why?

(e) Did not Mr. Satindra Nath Sen ask Government, through the Superintendent of the Deoli Detention Jail, so late as August, 1932, to have him X'rayed so as to diagnose whether he was suffering from tuberculosis?

(f) If the answer is in the affirmative, why was the X'ray treatment delayed so long?

(g) What arrangements have Government made for the proper treatment of the prisoner?

(h) Has not Mr. Sen been suffering from Anaesthesia in the left leg for a long time? Is he having fever now?

(i) What is his present weight, and what was his weight when first arrested under the Bengal Ordinance in January 1932?

(j) Are Government prepared to consider his transfer to a place where he can be better treated? If not, why not?

(k) What is the present nature of his treatment?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) Yes.

(b) Mr. Sen was examined by X'rays in the Victoria Hospital, Ajmer, but no disease was apparent.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) I happened to see Mr. Sen when I was visiting the Ajmer Jail.

(e) I have no precise information, but would invite the Honourable Member's attention to the reply which I gave to part (b) of his question.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) and (k). He is in the care of the Civil Surgeon.

(h) I understand that he has complained of suffering for the past two years from partial Anaesthesia in a small area of the left thigh. He has no fever.

(i) 100 lbs.; this is an increase of 1 lb. since his admission to the jail in which he is now confined. I have no information as to what he weighed at the time of his arrest.

(j) I have no reason to suppose that his present treatment is unsuitable. The question of transfer, therefore, does not arise.

**ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENT OF CALCUTTA.**

254. **\*Mr. S. O. Mitra:** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to a paragraph that appeared in the issue of the 3rd December, 1932, of the *Advance*, a Calcutta daily, stating that the Income-tax Department in Calcutta is sending out bands of 'plain-clothes men' who go about from house to house for collecting all sorts of information for the purpose of checking income-tax returns?

(b) Will Government be pleased to say if the method is approved by them?

(c) If not, are Government prepared to inquire into the matter and place the result of the enquiry on the table of the house?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster:** I have called for a report on the matter referred to and will lay a statement on the table in due course.

**QUANTITY OF BELTING PURCHASED BY THE INDIAN STORES DEPARTMENT AND BY THE RAILWAY BOARD.**

255. **\*Mr. S. O. Mitra:** Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) what quantity of belting has been purchased by the Indian Stores Department and by the Railway Board for the last five years;

(b) what quantities they have purchased from Indian manufacturers;

(c) how many Indian factories manufacture belting in India; and

(d) whether Government have considered the question of granting any immediate protection to the industry, and, if so, with what result?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce:** (a), (b) and (c). Information relating to parts (a) and (b) so far as the Indian Stores Department is concerned and in respect of part (c) is being collected and a statement will be laid on the table in due course. Purchases of belting are not made by the Railway Board, but by the individual railways, and I am informed that particulars of the quantities purchased by the latter are not readily available and the work involved in the collection of this information would not be commensurate with its utility.

(d) No.

**BENGAL STATE PRISONERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.**

256. **\*Mr. S. O. Mitra:** (a) How many State Prisoners of Bengal, under Regulation III of 1818, are being detained at present, in various jails in the Madras Presidency?

(b) What are the names of persons and jails in which they are detained respectively and what is the condition of their health?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Halse:** (a) Eight State Prisoners from Bengal are confined in jails in the Madras Presidency.

(b) I am not prepared to give detailed information about them, but the general state of their health is satisfactory.

## DIET ALLOWANCE OF BENGAL STATE PRISONERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

257. \***Mr. S. C. Mitra:** (a) On what basis has the diet allowance of the State Prisoners of Bengal in different jails of the Madras Presidency been fixed at Rs. 1-4-0 per diem?

(b) Is it not a fact that the opinion of the local authorities, namely, the Superintendents of the Central Jails of Vellore, Cannanore, Trichinopoly, Rajahmundry and also the Collectors of the districts concerned were invited before definitely fixing the rate of the same, within the term of reference which was to vary from Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 2 per diem?

(c) Is it not a fact that all the Superintendents concerned in the Madras Presidency recommended invariably a rate of allowance higher than Rs. 1-4-0 while the Superintendent of the Cannanore Jail recommended Rs. 2 *per diem* as the minimum allowance and that he was universally supported in this by the official and non-official visitors alike?

(d) What were the special reasons that actuated Government in fixing the rate of their diet allowance not according to the recommendations of those responsible authorities on the spot?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) The dietary allowance of Rs. 1-4-0 was fixed with reference to local conditions and the price of food-stuffs.

(b) and (c). I am not aware that the authorities mentioned by the Honourable Member were consulted by the Local Government. The allowances were sanctioned by the Government of India on the recommendation of the Government of Madras. The Inspector General of Prisons was consulted by the Local Government.

(d) Does not arise.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra:** May I know, Sir, whether the representation made by the President of the European Association in Calcutta as regards the allowance being excessive, was taken into consideration by the Government while reducing this dietary allowance?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** I have said in my answer that the allowance was fixed with reference to local conditions and the price of food-stuffs. I do not think those two factors include a resolution by the European Association.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra:** What I was referring to is this: A claim has been made by Mr. Morgan, the President of the European Association, that they represented to Government that the dietary allowance was excessive. May I know if Government took into consideration that fact when they revised the dietary allowance?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** I imagine that the Government fixed the dietary allowances with due regard to what was necessary and not with regard to any representation from the European Association.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** May I ask, Sir, whether there is any difference between the European Association and the Government of India?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** In what respect, Sir?

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** In settling the policy and also in taking administrative action.

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** Is it suggested, Sir, that the European Association ought to be occupying these Benches . . . .

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** I am asking a question, Sir, and not making a suggestion.

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** The answer must be in the negative; or rather in the affirmative, I think. (Laughter.) The question was whether there was a difference. The answer is, there is.

#### MEDICAL TREATMENT OF STATE PRISONERS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

258. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra:** (a) What provision have Government made for the medical treatment of the State Prisoners in the Madras Presidency?

(b) Is it a fact that no medical grant has been allotted either per head or collectively for the said State Prisoners? If not, why not?

(c) Which is the final authority at present in charge of matters dealing with the said State Prisoners?

(d) Have the local authorities, namely, the Jail Superintendent, the Inspector General of Prisons, or the Madras Government any discretion in the matter or is it that the Government of India are to be approached directly in every case and for every specific grant in respect of the State Prisoners?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) and (b). For ordinary ailments State Prisoners are treated by the medical officers of the jail and no separate grants for their medical treatment are made or are required.

(c) The Government of India.

(d) For normal cases medical attendance and medicines are available in the jail itself. Any special expenditure, which it may be necessary to incur, requires the sanction of the Government of India, but Local Governments are authorised to anticipate sanction in urgent cases.

#### STATE PRISONER MR. RAMESH CHANDRA ACHARYA.

259. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra:** (a) Is it a fact that State Prisoner Sj. Ramesh Chandra Acharya had to suffer for a long time before his final operation in August, 1932, for chronic appendicitis in the Coimbatore Central Jail, owing to the local authorities having no discretionary powers in medical matters regarding State Prisoners?

(b) Is it a fact that the same State Prisoner was suffering from eye troubles and that it took over six months to get his eyes examined?

(c) Is it a fact that though a pair of spectacles have been prescribed by medical authorities and sanctioned, it has not been supplied as yet?

(d) Is it a fact that the local authorities are not vested with any discretionary powers even in medical matters? If so, what are the special reasons for it?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) The facts are not as suggested by the Honourable Member. As soon as it was considered that X ray examination was desirable, the State Prisoner was transferred to Coimbatore Jail, and as a result of this examination an operation was performed, from which he made a rapid recovery.

(b) and (c), I have no information to suggest that the facts are as stated, but will bring the Honourable Member's question to the notice of the Local Government. One pair of spectacles was sanctioned for this State Prisoner in July last. At the end of November, the Local Government reported that this pair did not suit him and, on the 5th of December, sanction was communicated to the purchase of a new pair.

(d) I would refer the Honourable Member to the answer I have already given to his earlier question on this point.

#### HEALTH OF STATE PRISONERS IN THE CANNANORE CENTRAL JAIL.

260. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra:** Is it a fact that the general health of the State Prisoners of the Cannanore Central Jail has not been satisfactory, and the climate does not seem to suit them properly? If so, do Government contemplate transferring them to some other suitable jail?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** The latest medical reports show that the general health of the prisoners is good. The second part of the question does not arise.

#### CONCENTRATION OF ALL STATE PRISONERS IN ONE PARTICULAR JAIL.

261. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra:** Do Government now feel the necessity of, or, have they any policy in contemplation regarding, concentrating all those State Prisoners detained in different jails, to one particular jail or camp inside the province or outside it, along with other State Prisoners scattered in different jails in different provinces?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** The answer is in the negative.

#### TRANSFER OF THE LAHORE CONSPIRACY CASE PRISONERS TO THE ANDAMANS.

262. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra:** (a) Is it a fact that all the political life prisoners of the Lahore Conspiracy Case in the different jails of the Madras Presidency have been under orders of transportation to the Andamans?

(b) Has also the same order been temporarily postponed, pending the appearance of some of them as witnesses in the Lahore Conspiracy Case?

(c) If so, when are they going to be sent to Lahore and to the Andamans?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) Government have sanctioned the transfer to the Andamans of five terrorist prisoners convicted in the Lahore Conspiracy Case.

(b) No.

(c) The prisoners have already been sent to the Andamans.

**PERSONS CONVICTED FOR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES.**

263. **\*Mr. S. O. Mitra:** (a) Will Government please state the total number of persons, male and female, convicted for terrorist activities, up to date, province by province?

(b) How many political convicts have been sent to the Andamans between January and October, 1932, and since then up till now?

(c) What are the names of the persons so transported, nature of their offences, terms of imprisonment and dates of transportation, province by province?

(d) Are there any female convicts among them? If so, how many? What are the names of the transported female political convicts and their residences?

(e) What special arrangements, if any, have been made for female political convicts on board the steamer or in the Andamans?

(f) Is it not a fact that several of the political convicts, prior to their transportation, were classified and treated as "B" class prisoners? How are they being treated in the Andamans now?

(g) Of the political convicts in the Andamans, how many are "B" class and how many are "C" class prisoners at present?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) I have asked Local Governments for information regarding the number of persons convicted for terrorist activities during the last three years and will lay it on the table when received.

(b) 25 prisoners connected with terrorist crime were sent to the Andamans between January and October, 1932, and 50 more have been sent since then.

(c) I regret I am not prepared to furnish these particulars.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (d).

(f) Yes. I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply which I gave to part (d) of Mr. Bhuput Singh's starred question No. 294 on the 16th September last.

(g) 37 "C" class and 38 "B" class.

**TRANSFER OF FURTHER BATCHES OF TERRORIST PRISONERS TO THE ANDAMANS.**

264. **\*Mr. S. O. Mitra:** (a) Do Government contemplate to send more batches of political prisoners convicted for terrorist activities or otherwise, immediately or in the near future, to the Andamans?

(b) If so, will Government please state their names—province by province—and the probable date of their departure? Are there any female political prisoners among them? If so, will Government please state their names, nature of their offence and residence?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) Government have accepted the general principle that prisoners convicted of terrorist crime should be liable to be sent to the Andamans and will consider on their merits any proposals to that end that may be submitted to them by Local Governments. The transfer of a further batch of 25 terrorist prisoners from Bengal has been sanctioned.

(b) I am not prepared to furnish details beyond stating that no female convicts are included among them.



**Mr. K. Ahmed:** In view of the fact that Government will have to release these prisoners sooner or later before the next election, do Government propose, for the sake of the Finance Member's policy of observing economy, that further debts should not be incurred unnecessarily and that the Government of India should not float any more loans on this account?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** I am afraid I cannot accept the premise on which this elaborate argument appears to have been founded, the premise being that the Government will have to release prisoners, convicted of terrorist crime, at an early date.

#### TRANSPORTATION OF FEMALE POLITICAL PRISONERS TO THE ANDAMANS.

265. **\*Mr. S. O. Mitra:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the responsibility of the policy or step taken by Government in transporting the female political prisoners to the Andamans rests with the Government of India or the Secretary of State for India?

(b) Have Government considered whether the female prisoners could be accommodated with safety and impunity in provincial jails in India?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) The policy has the approval of the Secretary of State for India.

(b) I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply which I gave to Rai Bahadur Sukhraj Roy's starred question No. 1249 on the 16th November last. No female terrorist convicts have so far been sent to the Andamans.

#### PERIOD REQUIRED TO BE SERVED BY LIFE PRISONERS.

266. **\*Mr. S. O. Mitra:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many years, according to the usual law, code or custom, ordinary life-prisoners are required to serve, before they are released?

(b) Is there any difference made between ordinary life-prisoners and political life-prisoners?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to my predecessor's replies to part (a) of Bhai Parma Nand's questions Nos. 18 and 622 of the 7th and 22nd September, 1931, respectively.

(b) No.

#### DISBURSEMENT OF MONEY DEPOSITED IN POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS BY DECEASED DEPOSITORS.

267. **\*Bhai Parma Nand:** Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) how the money deposited in Post Office Savings Banks is disbursed to the rightful heirs of deceased depositors if it is not claimed by anybody even after five years of the monetary transactions having been suspended, and

(b) the number of such cases where the money has been lying undisbursed with monetary transactions suspended for five years in Post Office Savings Banks?

**Sir Thomas Ryan:** (a) The money is not disbursed until claimed by somebody who can prove his title to it.

(b) The information is not available and it is not feasible to collect it.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to state if the Postal Department have issued any notices to those persons whose money is still lying in these savings banks?

**Sir Thomas Ryan:** I am afraid I cannot say definitely, but I think it is not the practice to issue notices. People who have deposited money in the post offices presumably know what the state of their account is.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** The Honourable Member may be aware that many of the depositors have died leaving females or children as their heirs and their money is still lying there. Is it not proper that the department should make certain efforts to see that the money reaches those people, so that it may not be forfeited?

**Sir Thomas Ryan:** I am afraid I am rather a recent recruit to the Postal Department and do not know the procedure in all its details. But I shall certainly examine the point which the Honourable Member has raised and see if I can do something to meet it.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** If the Honourable Member is pleased to issue a circular to all the post offices . . . .

**Sir Thomas Ryan:** I cannot promise the precise measure to be taken, but I shall certainly examine the suggestion.

#### POPULARISATION OF THE SALE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

268. **\*Bhai Parma Nand:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the names of Government-owned public libraries which have been purchasing copies of the reports of the Legislative Assembly regularly for the last three years?

(b) If the number of such public libraries be small in different provinces, do Government propose to take steps for the popularisation of the sale of these proceedings, so that the original view-points of the accredited representatives of the Government of India may be within easy reach of the public?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai:** With your permission, Sir, I shall reply to questions Nos. 268 and 269 together. Government regret that they are unable to supply the information asked for by the Honourable Member, as its collection will entail an expenditure of time and labour which will not be justified by the results.

#### ISSUE OF BOOKS FROM LIBRARIES OF GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOLS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

†269. **\*Bhai Parma Nand:** (a) What is the number of libraries of Government High Schools within the jurisdiction of the Central Government from which books are duly issued to the members of the public by Head Masters?

(b) In which province or provinces is this the case?

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 268.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad:** But part (a) of question No. 268 wants to know the number of libraries in Government High Schools within the jurisdiction of the Central Government. That information could easily be supplied.

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai:** Yes, Sir; but part (b) of the question goes on to ask what is the number of such libraries in the provinces. I took the precaution of ascertaining from the Honourable Member what he meant by provinces, and he said, the Local Government's provinces. That is why I gave this answer.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad:** But the answer to part (a) can surely be given.

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai:** The question really relates to the whole of India and that is why I gave this answer. But if my Honourable friend wants information about the minute area administered by the Government of India, I am willing to undertake the inquiry.

**PERCENTAGE OF EXPENDITURE ON MUNITIONS AND AMMUNITIONS MANUFACTURED IN INDIA AND THOSE PURCHASED FROM OUTSIDE.**

**270. \*Bhai Parma Nand:** Will Government be pleased to state the percentage of expenditure out of military funds on munitions and ammunitions manufactured in India and those purchased from outside?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** Practically 100 per cent. of the articles generally known as lethal stores, such as guns, rifles, machine guns, ammunition and bayonets are manufactured in India. Aircraft and mechanical vehicles are imported. In 1931-32, about 63 per cent. of the Army's medical stores were manufactured or purchased in India and about 72 per cent. of other stores, such as clothing, food stuffs, constructional material, oils, paints, greases and petrol. I am unable to say what proportion of the stores purchased in India was manufactured abroad.

**AMOUNT CHARGED UPON THE INDIAN TREASURY FOR PAYMENTS TO SOLDIERS IN THE BRITISH ARMY.**

**271. \*Bhai Parma Nand:** Is it a fact that the soldiers in the British army are paid their salaries at the rate of one shilling four pence a rupee while the rate of exchange fixed by the Government of India is one shilling six pence a rupee? If so, what is the estimated amount charged upon the Indian treasury in addition to what would have been the ordinary expenditure at the fixed rate of exchange?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** The pay of British soldiers in India is based on the Royal Warrant sterling rates. These rates were converted at 1s. 4d. to the rupee for men serving in India on or before August 2nd, 1920, and at 2s. to the rupee *plus* an allowance of 50 per cent. for those who arrived in India after that date. In either case, the effect is to preserve the tradition that the British soldier should receive one anna for every penny of his British pay. The difference between converting at this rate and converting at 1s. 6d. to the rupee amounts to about Rs. 54½ lakhs; but it is hardly correct to regard this as 'extra expenditure'. If the conventional method of expressing Royal Warrant rates in rupee currency were abandoned, it would be necessary to supplement the pay of British soldiers, as in the case of all other ranks of the British Army in India, by an Indian allowance of an equivalent amount.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad:** May I ask, whether the money is paid in sterling or in rupees?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** In rupees, Sir.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad:** Then, is the salary fixed according to a ratio or according to the fixed ratio of 1s. 6d. or 2 shillings?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** I have explained how the actual conversion takes place. The pay is fixed on the Royal Warrant rates, that is to say, the rates which the British soldier receives in England.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad:** But the pay is fixed in sterling?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** The pay is fixed in England and it is converted at a certain rate and paid to the soldier in this country in rupees.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad:** Why is a different rate allowed? We have a law now that one rupee is equal to 1s. 6d. Why should it not be applied in every case?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** I have attempted to explain in my answer that this arrangement is made in the case of British soldiers as a matter of convenience. Instead of paying them, as we pay officers of the British army, their sterling rates of pay *plus* an Indian allowance, we give that Indian allowance to the British soldier in this country in the form of an exchange of 1s. 4d. instead of 1s. 6d.

#### DISTRICT BOARD HIGH SCHOOL AT MEHRAULI.

272. **\*Bhai Parma Nand:** (a) Is it a fact that in the High School at Mehrauli (Delhi Province) the same Head Master has been kept for the last twelve years?

(b) Are Government aware that the educational condition of that school has been very unsatisfactory and that all along complaints have been made against the work of that Head Master?

(c) Is it a fact that on the 31st October, 1932, all the students of the ninth class went on strike on account of inefficiency and ill-treatment of the Head Master?

(d) Is it a fact that a large number of boys from Mehrauli and the neighbouring villages have come to Delhi for education finding the school at Mehrauli very inefficient?

(e) Will Government please lay on the table a statement as to:

(i) the number of candidates that appeared and the number of successful candidates from that school for the last eleven years,

(ii) the number of boarders, both Hindus and Muhammadans,

(iii) the arrangement for food of both Hindu and Muhammadan boarders, and

(iv) whether the number of boarders, Hindus and Muhammadans, has been increasing or decreasing during the last eleven years?

(f) Is it a fact that the District Board of Delhi have passed resolutions for the transfer of the Head Master and that these resolutions have been ignored?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai:** (a) The High School at Mehrauli is not a Government institution, but is maintained by the District Board, Delhi. This

body has no other high school and, consequently, the transfer of the Headmaster is impracticable.

(b) The educational condition of the school has not always been unsatisfactory. Complaints have, from time to time, been made against the work of the Head Master and were duly enquired into. The defects complained of are largely attributable to the low scale of the salaries of the staff. The salaries were last revised in January, 1930.

(c) The students of the 9th class absented themselves in a body from the school for a couple of hours or so on the date mentioned by the Honourable Member. On enquiry it was found that this was not due to the inefficiency or conduct of the Headmaster.

(d) Government have no information on this point.

(e), (i), (ii) and (iv). A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

(iii) Till April, 1921, there was a common kitchen for both Hindu and Muhammadan boarders, but from May, 1921, separate kitchens have been provided.

(f) Yes, but in view of the reply given to part (a) above, Government are unable to take any action on the resolutions in question.

Year.	Number of candidates that appeared at the High School or S. L. C. Examination.	Number of candidates who passed the High School or S. L. C. Examination.	Number of Boarders.		Increase or decrease in the number of boarders.	
			Hindus.	Muslims.	Hindus.	Muslims.
1921-22	14	8	23	10	..	—
1922-23	18	2	20	9	—3	—1
1923-24	19	10	21	8	+1	—1
1924-25	11	5	12	8	—9	..
1925-26	24	12	13	5	+1	—3
1926-27	16	4	11	3	—2	—2
1927-28	22	6	10	5	—1	+2
1928-29	22	6	10	5	..	..
1929-30	7	6	1	2	—9	—3
1930-31	11	6	4	5	+3	+3
1931-32	11	3	3	6	—1	1

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** Is it a fact that the Headmaster is a non-Hindu gentleman?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai:** I confess I have no information regarding the communal complexion of this gentleman.

**ASSESSMENT OF INCOME-TAX AND SUPER-TAX IN THE PUNJAB.**

**273. \*Bhai Parma Nand:** Will Government please state:

- (a) how much (i) income-tax and (ii) super-tax was assessed in the Punjab in the year 1930-31;
- (b) how much under each of the above two heads was assessed communitywise, (i) Hindus, (ii) Sikhs and (iii) Muhammadans?
- (c) what the total number of assesseees is;
- (d) the number of Hindu assesseees;
- (e) the number of Muslim assesseees;
- (f) what is the total number of the new recruits, both Hindu and Muslim, in the Income-tax Department during the last year?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster:** (a) and (b). I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to the reply which I gave to a similar question, No. 95, by Mr. B. R. Puri.

(c) 24,218.

(d) and (e). The required information cannot be supplied as our statistics are not compiled according to the various communities.

(f) The total number of new recruits during 1931-32 was 135, namely:

Hindus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	44
Muslims	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	65
Sikhs and others	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	26
<b>Total</b>									<b>135</b>

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** Is it really an insuperable difficulty to find out how many Hindu assesseees are there? Their names there are very clear and they can be distinguished and information given.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster:** What is the Honourable Member's question? He gave me some information.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** The question is as regards part (d)—the number of Hindu assesseees. The Honourable Member said, he was not in a position to give that information. I submit, finding out of the Hindu names among the assesseees is a very easy proposition, as the Hindu names are easily distinguishable. Why should there be any difficulty in giving their number or percentage even?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster:** My Honourable friend is suggesting that by making a deduction from the names, it would be possible to answer this question?

**Mr. Lalchand Navarai:** Yes.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster:** My reply remains the same: that we do not classify assesseees according to their communities and we do not think that it is in the public interest to go to the expense necessary for making the deduction which my Honourable friend wishes to have made.

**Mr. Lalchand Navarai:** In my humble opinion, it will be only office work to find out from the list how many are Hindus and how many are Muhammadans; I do not think there is great difficulty if the Honourable Member is inclined to do it. There may be some other reason for not giving it.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster:** I am quite satisfied that my Honourable friend should hold that opinion.

**TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF INDIAN COAL TO HIRED TRANSPORT "NEVASA" AT KARACHI.**

274. **\*Mr. Lalchand Navarai:** (a) Is it a fact that the Marine Transport Officer, Karachi, in August, 1932, invited tenders for the supply of Indian coal to Hired Transport "Nevasa" at Karachi during December?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing:

- (i) the names and addresses of all parties who submitted tenders for the business,
- (ii) the several descriptions of coals tendered for by each party;
- (iii) the rate quoted by each party for each description of coal tendered;
- (iv) the name of the party whose tender was accepted; and
- (v) the description of coal tendered by the successful party which was accepted for the business?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India have no information and do not propose to call for any as the supply was arranged for His Majesty's Government and not for the Government of India.

**Mr. Lalchand Navarai:** Does the Honourable Member know that this information was asked by the parties concerned from the officer in charge, and no information was given? Is it not hard that this House or the persons concerned should not know whose tenders came in and whose tenders were confirmed, and for what?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** I was not aware of those facts, but as I have tried to explain, it is not the concern of the Government of India at all. If the parties concerned wish to obtain some information on the subject, I would suggest that they see that a question is asked in the House of Commons.

**Mr. Lalchand Navarai:** This is a question that arose in India; and, before any question is asked in the House of Commons, I think the Government of India, which exercise general superintendence over all

departments here, should get this information: this primarily concerns India and these tenders were called for in India; never mind, if the department is directly under the subordination of His Majesty's Government, yet in India the Government of India have got power to call for information and superintend the things that are happening in India, and when information is asked for in this House, is the Honourable Member prepared to find out that information and give it to the House?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** No. I do not think it is necessary to find out that information.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** I do not understand what is the reason for refusing it.

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** Because it does not concern the Government of India.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** It may not concern the Government of India, but, as I have already explained, the Government of India is responsible for giving information to the Honourable Members in this House when any question arises in India which concerns the Indian people. Is the Honourable Member going to take steps to find out this information or persist in his refusal?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** There is nothing that the Honourable Member has said which leads me to change my opinion that this is not a matter that concerns the Government of India.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Do I understand that the Marine Transport Officer, Karachi, is not an officer of the Government of India?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** Yes; he is an officer of the Government of India, but in this case he was acting as the agent of His Majesty's Government. He does certain agency work on behalf of His Majesty's Government.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra:** Do the Government of India pay in full or in part, and, if so, what part, of the salary of this officer?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** They pay the whole of his salary, so far as I know.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra:** Yet he does this work which is not the concern of the Government of India, but which is exclusively under the British Government?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** Occasionally the Admiralty take up vessels: I believe this vessel was taken up by the Admiralty, for purposes of which I am not aware; and it is obviously convenient that supplies of this kind should be arranged through the local officer who happens to be an officer of the Government of India.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** May I know who pays this officer for the agency work that he does for the British Government?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** I doubt if he receives any pay for that.



**Mr. S. C. Mitra:** Was any attempt made to realise from the British Government part of the pay of this officer, because he does other work for the British Government exclusively?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** If the amount of work that he did on behalf of His Majesty's Government was considerable, that would no doubt be a reasonable suggestion, but I understand that what really happens is that he merely arranges these supplies occasionally. However, I will consider the point.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra:** So far as he performs any work on behalf of His Majesty's Government, is he in any way under the superintendence and control of the Government of India?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** So far as these coal supplies are concerned, he is not under the superintendence or control of the Government of India; he has to satisfy the Admiralty or whoever it is whose needs he supplies.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Do I take it that this gentleman has been allowed to do this work before he has taken the sanction of the Government of India in the matter?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** Presumably sanction must have been given.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Have the Government of India satisfied themselves that no part of the pay of this officer should be realised from the British treasury, in view of the fact that he has been doing work for His Majesty's Government as well?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** As I have mentioned in my reply to Mr. Mitra just now. I believe that the amount of work he does on behalf of His Majesty's Government is so small that it would be hardly worth asking for a contribution from His Majesty's Government on that account.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** May I also expect that the Honourable Member would advise that officer to give information of this kind to the parties concerned?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** No: I do not think there is any reason to do that.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to state if the coal that has been supplied has been paid for by this officer from the Indian exchequer or from the British exchequer?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** The coal was paid for presumably by His Majesty's Government.

#### COMPLAINTS AND HARDSHIPS OF INDIANS IN THE PANAMIAN COUNTRIES, AMERICA.

275. **\*Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** (a) Are Government aware that there are Indian merchants including "Sind Work merchants" doing large business in the Republic of "Panama", America?

(b) Are Government aware that they have large investments in that country and have vested interests since a very long time?

(c) Are Government aware that these Hindus and Muhammadans who are called "Hindus" in that country are put to great hardship and inconvenience by the "Panama Government"?

(d) Is it a fact that a restriction has been imposed on the Indians there that they cannot go to the harbour area without permission, whereas no such restriction is put upon other Asiatics including the Chinese?

(e) Are Government aware that these Indian merchants have been doing business with the tourists visiting Panama Canal unimpeded since very long, but that now other commercial people of Panama have become jealous of them?

(f) Are Government aware that with a view to ousting Indian interests these people have been openly maligning the Indian merchants by issuing circulars and pamphlets to their detriment?

(g) Is it a fact that the Panama Government have made new rules which hinder the business of Indians and expose them to heavy fines?

(h) Is there a British Consul for the Panama Country?

(i) Is it a fact that the aforesaid and other complaints and inconveniences have been brought to his notice by the Indians or have they come to his notice otherwise?

(j) What steps have been taken by him to have these evils remedied and to protect the Indians' interest and welfare generally?

(k) What steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

**Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe:** Sir, there appears to have been some confusion over this question as to which department should answer it. All that I can say at the present is that the information is being collected and will be supplied in due course.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** Will the Government also be pleased to inquire whether Mussalmans there are called Hindus?

#### FAMILY HOSPITALS FOR THE WIVES AND CHILDREN OF BRITISH TROOPS.

276. **\*Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if there are family hospitals for the wives and children of British troops in India maintained by Government?

(b) If so, at what places are they situated?

(c) How much does the Army Department budget for them?

**Mr. G. B. F. Tottenham:** (a) There are sections in British military hospitals which are provided for the troops' families.

(b) A statement giving the information desired is laid on the table.

(c) The information is not available as the accounts of expenditure on the sections in question are not maintained separately.

*List of stations at which Military Families' Hospitals for the wives and children of British troops are situated.*

Agra.	Dinapore.	Multan.
Ahmednagar.	Ferozepore.	Murree.
Allahabad.	Fyzabad.	Muttra.
Ambala.	Hyderabad.	Nasirabad.
Bangalore.	Jhansi.	Nowshera.
Bannu.	Jubbulpore.	Pachmarhi.
Bareilly.	Jullundur.	Peshawar.
Barian.	Jutogh.	Poona.
Barrackpore.	Kamptee.	Purandhar.
Belgaum.	Karachi.	Quetta.
Bombay.	Kasuli.	Rangoon.
Calcutta.	Khanspur.	Ranikhet.
Campbellpore.	Kohat.	Rawalpindi.
Cawnpore.	Lahore Cantonment.	Risalpur.
Chakrata.	Landour.	Rurkee.
Chaubatia.	Lebong and Jalapahar.	Secunderabad.
Cherat.	Lucknow.	Sialkot.
Dagshai.	Maymyo.	Solon.
Dalhousie.	Meerut.	Subathu.
Delhi.	Mhow.	Wellington.
Deolali.	Mingaladon.	
Dera Ismail Khan.	Mount Abu.	

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** Do I understand that there are not separate hospitals for the Indian families?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** In some cases the family hospitals are in separate buildings, but they form a section of the British military hospital and the accounts for both of them are maintained together.

#### FAMILY HOSPITALS FOR THE WIVES AND CHILDREN OF INDIAN TROOPS.

277. **\*Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if there are any similar family hospitals for the wives and children of the Indian troops, maintained by Government?

(b) Does the Army Department provide any sum for them?

(c) If the answer to parts (a) and (b) be in the negative, will Government be pleased to give reasons for such a distinction?

(d) Do Government propose, in view of the necessity and the welfare of the families of Indian troops, to make similar arrangements for them, at least by giving half of the budgetted sum for British families hospitals, for the benefit of the Indian troops families hospitals? If not, why not?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Families of Indian troops residing in cantonments are entitled to free medical attendance at their quarters. For this purpose 12 lady Sub-Assistant Surgeons are employed in important military stations in addition to the Sub-Assistant Surgeons attached to the Indian military hospitals. Government regret that financial considerations make it impossible at present to establish Indian family hospitals; nor can they accept

the Honourable Member's suggestion that half the expenditure on British family hospitals should be devoted to Indian family hospitals. The result would be fatal to the former and the amount so provided would be totally inadequate to provide an organisation worth having for the latter. The health of the families of Indian soldiers living in cantonments is, however, a matter in which Government are deeply interested and in recent years considerable improvements have been effected both as a result of official action and also by the valuable voluntary work done under the auspices of the Indian Troops Child Welfare movement.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to say if Government have received representations that there should be separate Hospitals for Indian families?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** Will the Honourable Member please repeat his question? I did not quite understand him.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** Will the Honourable Member please say what he wants? I did not follow him.

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to repeat his question? I did not catch the first part of it.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** My question is whether there have been any representations from the Indian families that the present hospital arrangements are inconvenient and that separate family hospitals should be provided for Indian families?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** I am not aware of any such representations, but it is quite possible that such representations may have been received. I will look into the matter.

#### NON-OFFICIAL VISITORS APPOINTED BY GOVERNMENT TO VISIT THE DEOLI DETENTION CAMP.

278. **\*Mr. S. O. Mitra:** (a) Will Government please state the names of the non-official visitors appointed by Government for the Deoli Detention Camps? What is their qualification? Is one of them a Government Contractor?

(b) Is it a fact that Diwan Bahadur Harbilas Sarda was willing to serve as a non-official visitor? Was his appointment contemplated by the Deputy Commissioner of Ajmer? If so, why did it not materialise later? Are Government prepared to appoint Diwan Bahadur Harbilas Sarda as a non-official visitor even now?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) The following members at present compose the Committee:

#### OFFICIAL.

1. The Honorary Magistrate, Deoli and Chairman, Municipal Committee, Deoli.
2. The Deputy Magistrate, Kekri.

#### NON-OFFICIAL.

3. Mr. B. H. Vakil.

I have no doubt that they are well qualified to discharge the responsibilities devolving upon them.

(b) I have no information on the points raised in the first three parts of this question, but I understand that the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, contemplates inviting Diwan Bahadur Harbilas Sarda to join the Committee.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Has the Honourable Member answered one part of (a) which wants to know as to whether any one of these non-official visitors is a Government contractor?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** I am afraid I do not know whether Mr. Vakil is a Government contractor.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Was information sought on this point from the local authorities?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** No, Sir, I do not think it was. I am afraid that is an omission.

#### CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE PRISONERS IN JAILS OF VARIOUS PROVINCES.

**279. \*Mr. S. C. Mitra:** Will Government please lay on the table a statement showing the number of civil disobedience prisoners in various provinces for the last six months? What was the number of arrests in each month?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** I lay on the table a statement giving the information in my possession.

I regret I have no information as to the number of arrests.

*Statement showing the total number of persons (under ordinary law and Ordinances, undergoing imprisonment at the end of—*

Province.	July 1932.	August 1932.	September 1932.	October 1932.	November 1932.	December 1932.
Madras . . . . .	1,774	1,663	1,603	1,492	1,415	1,112
Bombay . . . . .	6,447	5,609	5,104	4,661	4,376	3,937
Bengal . . . . .	3,693	2,694	2,604	2,442	2,300	1,933
United Provinces . . . . .	4,953	4,237	3,887	3,610	3,373	3,016
Punjab . . . . .	895	747	635	541	460	358
Bihar and Orissa . . . . .	2,542	2,527	2,452	2,266	2,206	1,781
Central Provinces . . . . .	1,166	858	715	524	408	311
Assam . . . . .	722	636	533	457	384	357
North West Frontier Province. . . . .	1,988	1,922	1,912	1,967	1,950	1,742
Delhi . . . . .	384	368	282	163	154	145
Coorg . . . . .	67	54	55	66	69	80
Ajmer-Merwara . . . . .	101	92	76	64	60	43
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>24,732</b>	<b>21,422</b>	<b>19,858</b>	<b>18,253</b>	<b>17,155</b>	<b>14,815</b>

**GRIEVANCES OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE CELLULAR JAIL, PORT BLAIR.**

280. \***Mr. S. C. Mitra:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether in terms of the provisions of the latest Jail Code, the political prisoners classified under Division II are entitled to read certain weekly newspapers and monthly magazines and to be given such labour to which the prisoners were accustomed before their arrest?

(b) Is it a fact that the political prisoners under Division II transferred to the Cellular Jail, Port Blair, are not being allowed to read weekly newspapers and are being subjected to hard labour?

(c) If the answers to the above questions be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for withholding these usual privileges?

(d) Is it a fact that there being no Bengali officer in the Cellular Jail, Port Blair, all correspondence from the political prisoners there and their relatives pass through the Deputy Inspector General, C. I. D., I. B., Bengal, and that it causes unusual delay in most cases?

(e) Do Government propose to appoint a Bengali officer in the Cellular Jail and to take such steps as to remedy the disadvantages stated above?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) I would refer the Honourable Member to the Communiqué issued by Government on the 19th February, 1930.

(b) The rules framed by the Andamans Administration under the Prisons Act provide for the supply of newspapers and magazines to "B" class prisoners and an illustrated weekly paper is at present supplied. The prison labour allotted to the prisoners is suited to their capacity.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A Bengali officer has been deputed to the Andamans and he attends to the correspondence of the prisoners.

(e) Does not arise.

**INTERVIEW WITH POLITICAL PRISONERS BY THEIR RELATIVES BEFORE THEIR TRANSFER TO THE ANDAMANS.**

281. \***Mr. S. C. Mitra:** (a) Are Government aware that a second batch of political prisoners was sent away to the Andamans in the middle of December, 1932, and not in January, 1933, as was stated in this House in reply to a question of mine in this connection?

(b) Are Government further aware that, in spite of the assurance by Government, the relatives of these political prisoners were not given timely information as to the date of their deportation and that this time also most of the relatives could not avail themselves of any interview with the prisoners before their departure?

(c) Are Government prepared to issue official instructions to the respective officers, so that the relatives of such prisoners may be given timely permission to interview the prisoners before their departure?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) I informed the Honourable Member that a date had not been fixed, but it would probably be in January. Subsequently, it was found possible to despatch the prisoners in December.

(b) Superintendents of Jails were instructed on 30th November, 1932, that prisoners should be allowed an interview between 1st and 14th December. On 3rd December, they were further instructed to ask the prisoners to write to their relatives to come for interviews. Of 85 prisoners transferred, 16 had interviews and 2 did not ask for interviews. For others interviews were duly arranged, but the interviewers did not come.

(c) Does not arise.

#### REPORTS ABOUT THE CONDITION OF THE HEALTH OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS.

282. \***Mr. S. O. Mitra:** Will Government be pleased to state if they propose to arrange the publication of detailed monthly or quarterly reports about the condition of the health of the deported political prisoners in the Andamans?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** No, Sir. Government are not prepared to take this action.

#### PROVISION OF A LIBRARY IN THE CELLULAR JAIL, PORT BLAIR.

283. \***Mr. S. O. Mitra:** (a) Will Government state if there is a library in the Cellular Jail, Port Blair, for the use of the political prisoners?

(b) If so, will Government please state the number and nature of books on the list?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (a) There is a small library in the Cellular Jail at Port Blair to which the books taken by the Bengali prisoners have been added and are available for reading.

(b) I have no precise information in regard to the number and nature of books in the library.

#### GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY TO THE STATESMAN.

284. \***Mr. S. O. Mitra:** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the editorial article in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* which has been reproduced in the *Hindustan Times* of January 20, 1933, page 8, under the caption 'Subsidising Statesman'?

(b) Is the *Statesman* a subsidised paper of Government, directly or indirectly?

(c) Is it a fact that notice about the opening of the Howrah Bridge is advertised in the *Statesman* alone by the Port Commissioners of Calcutta? Why are Indian papers which have larger circulation amongst Indians excluded from such advertisement?

(d) What percentage of persons who pass along the Howrah Bridge are Indians and what percentage are Europeans?

(e) Did the Port Commissioners ask any Indian papers to advertise about the opening of the Howrah Bridge free of charge? Did they ask for the same favour from the *Statesman*? What is the amount paid in advertisement by the Port Commissioners of Calcutta to the *Statesman* during the year 1932?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré:** (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c), (d) and (e). The Government of India are making enquiries on the subject. When information has been obtained, a reply will be laid on the table.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** Will Government be pleased to inquire whether on the morning of the 20th of January last, three trains successively arrived at Howrah, from Delhi, namely, the Punjab Down Mail, the Postal Express and probably the Delhi Passenger, and perhaps some other trains also, at the time the opening of this Bridge was taking place, involving inconvenience to thousands of passengers?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré:** After I see my Honourable friend's question on paper, I shall be in a position to decide, Sir, whether it will be of any advantage to call for the information or not on the subject.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** Is it a fact that at the time of the opening of this bridge, the traffic between Howrah and Calcutta is stopped altogether, and, as a lot of people have to cross the river by boats, they are put to much inconvenience? Do Government propose, for the benefit of the public and for their own benefit as well that this undesirable thing, I mean opening the bridge during this particular hour when there is much traffic, is put a stop to, because there is a real grievance on the part of the public that they are put to considerable inconvenience?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré:** Sir, I do not exactly understand what my Honourable friend's question means, but if he means to ask whether the opening of the Howrah Bridge does not take place at inconvenient hours, I shall be happy to make inquiries.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** As a matter of fact, on the 20th January last, I was one of the victims. I travelled with some Government officers, and a lot of people on this side of Howrah were compelled to go to the other side by ferry boats. Do Government propose, therefore, for the benefit of the people and public servants as well, to warn the Port Commissioners not to keep open the bridge at that particular time, at least for half an hour? When the passengers of these trains pass through, they might keep the bridge open.

(No reply.)

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Why don't you read the *Statesman*?

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** Why don't they stop the running of the trains at that inconvenient hour? The *Statesman* will not bring any solution, because unless you went through the issues of the *Statesman* at least for a fortnight before the 20th January, you could not have understood that the Bridge would be opened on that day at a particular time and discontinue the journey or, I do not know how the Railway Board could alter their time table?



**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore:** My honourable friend does not require an answer to that question.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** I want to know if the Government of India will kindly send a copy of these questions to the Chairman of the Port Commissioners?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore:** I shall be most happy to do so, Sir.

**Mr. K. O. Neogy:** Is it a fact that the Howrah Bridge is opened at inconvenient hours mainly for the purpose of punishing those who do not want to read the *Statesman*?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore:** I have no information, Sir, in regard to the opening of the Howrah Bridge.

#### PUBLICATION OF ADVERTISEMENTS BY THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY IN THE *STATESMAN*.

285. **\*Mr. S. O. Mitra:** (a) Is it a fact that the Eastern Bengal State Railway advertise about the change of their time-table only in the *Statesman*? If not, in what other papers?

(b) What percentage of Railway travellers are Europeans and what percentage are Indians?

(c) Is it a fact that advertisements about the *Magh Mela*, *Kumbha Mela*, *Shivaratri Mela* and other pilgrim notices are advertised in the *Statesman*? Are Government aware that pilgrims read Indian papers more than the *Statesman*? If so, why is this preference made in favour of the *Statesman*? Why are such notices not advertised in Indian papers? Will Government please state if such advertisements appear in Indian papers, and, if so, in what?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** (a) and (c). I am making enquiries from the Eastern Bengal Railway administration, and, on the assumption that my Honourable friend is referring to the East Indian Railway in part (c) of the question from that administration, and shall place a reply on the table in due course.

(b) I am afraid Railways do not collect such statistics regarding travellers.

#### REDRESS OF CERTAIN GRIEVANCES OF DETENUS IN THE DEOLI DETENTION CAMP.

286. **\*Mr. S. O. Mitra:** Will Government please state what steps have been taken in the Deoli Detention Camp to redress the following grievances of detenues (1) arrangement for treatment of tuberculosis patients, (2) about the promise of the Inspector General of Prisons, Bengal, about a common dining-room, (3) about the arrangement for sports like football or hockey, as promised, (4) about supply of fresh fish?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** (1) I am not aware of any complaints about the treatment of tuberculosis patients. I have no doubt that proper arrangements are made whenever necessary, on medical grounds for such treatment.

(2) Government consider that the dining room accommodation is adequate.

(3) Sanction has been accorded for the provision of a football and hockey ground: facilities for badminton and volley-ball are provided.

(4) An increase in the daily diet allowance has been sanctioned for so long as the difficulty lasts of procuring locally an adequate supply of fish.

**ALLEGATIONS OF ILL-TREATMENT TO ONE NAGENDRA SEKHAR CHAKRAVARTY;  
A DETENU IN THE AJMER JAIL.**

**287. \*Mr. S. C. Mitra:** Will Government please state if Sj. Nagendra Sekhar Chakravarty is still in the Ajmer Jail? How many Bengal detenus are or were in Ajmer Jail? Were they kept in solitary confinement? If not, what association was afforded to Sj. Nagendra Sekhar Chakravarty? Was the allegation about the dragging of Nagendar Sekhar from his bed because he was too weak to move and thus receiving injuries, as published in the public press, correct?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig:** No Bengal detenus are now in the Ajmer Jail. Three detenus were at various times sent to Ajmer for medical treatment. They were not kept in solitary confinement. There is no truth in the allegation referred to in the last part of the question.

**IMPORTS OF RICE AND PADDY INTO INDIA FROM SAIGON AND SIAM.**

**288. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad.** (a) Are Government aware as to what quantity of rice has been imported to India from Saigon and Siam in the financial year 1932-33?

(b) Are Government aware as to what quantity of rice has been imported into India from Japan and other countries in the financial year, 1932-33?

(c) If the reply to parts (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the figures of rice, paddy and their products imported into India from the different countries?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore:** (a), (b) and (c). According to the monthly Accounts relating to the Seaborne Trade and Navigation of British India for December, 1932, which gives the latest figures available, the total imports into India of "Rice not in the husk" during the first nine months of the current financial year, namely, April to December, 1932, amounted to 26,639 tons. These Accounts do not show imports of rice in any other form or of rice products, nor do they distinguish imports of "Rice not in the husk" by countries of origin. For more detailed information the compilation and publication of the Annual Accounts after the close of the year must be awaited.

**LEVY OF IMPORT DUTY ON RICE.**

**289. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Are Government aware that the slump in the price of Indian rice is causing grave anxiety in the Indian commercial and agricultural circles?

(b) Have Government received any telegram from the Burma Indian Chamber of Commerce addressed to the Secretary to the Government of India, Commerce Department, about the large import of rice into India?

(c) Do Government propose to protect Indian rice and rice products?

(d) Are Government prepared to consider the desirability of levying a suitable import duty on rice and rice products similar to that on wheat?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai:** (a) Government are aware that the recent downward tendency in the price of rice has been a source of anxiety.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). Government have given very careful consideration to this matter; and have come to the conclusion that the levy of an import duty cannot have the desired effect of protecting Indian rice and rice products. The latest figures available show that less than 27,000 tons of foreign rice were imported into India from April to December, 1932, while the exports of Burma rice to foreign countries during that year amounted nearly to 2.68 million tons. While an exportable surplus of such magnitude is available in India, the fate of the rice industry must depend upon the price which the exportable surplus commands and cannot be influenced by any import duty that might be imposed upon imports which constitute a very small fraction of this surplus.

#### EXPORT OF BIHAR RICE.

290. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Are Government aware that the main agricultural product of Bihar is rice?

(b) Are Government aware that apart from the large import of rice into India the high rate of railway freight has affected the export of the Bihar rice from the province?

(c) Are Government aware that in comparison with the cost of production of rice in Bihar, the selling price of rice is very low?

(d) Are Government prepared to consider the desirability of reducing the railway freight for rice on the East Indian Railway?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** (a) Yes.

(b) and (d). I have called for certain information from the Agent of the East Indian Railway and will place a reply on the table in due course.

(c) The Government are not in possession of statistics of the cost of production of rice in Bihar. They are, however, aware that, as in the case of most of the other agricultural crops, the present selling price of rice in Bihar is low compared with the prices during the previous years.

#### ECONOMIC CENSUS IN INDIA.

291. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Are Government aware that an economic census was started in England, and that other countries conducted a similar enquiry?

(b) Are Government aware that the economic census in England and in other countries has helped the industry of those countries to a great extent?

(c) Do Government propose to appoint a committee of officials and non-officials to consider the desirability of conducting an economic census in India?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Shore:** (a) Presumably by "Economic Census" the Honourable Member means "Census of Production". If so, the answer is in the affirmative so far as Great Britain is concerned. The Government of India have no definite information regarding other countries.

(b) The Government of India are not in a position to say to what extent, if any, such a census has helped industry in any particular country.

(c) No, but the Honourable Member's attention is invited to the reference made by His Excellency the Governor General in his opening address to the Assembly on the subject of Economic planning.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad:** May I know whether any action was taken at the suggestion of the Finance Member that we should have this economic survey for each town separately?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Shore:** I may say that the whole subject is under the active consideration of the Government of India.

#### EXPENDITURE INCURRED BY THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY ON THE OAKGROVE SCHOOL AND OTHER EUROPEAN AND INDIAN SCHOOLS.

292. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if the Oakgrove European School is maintained and controlled by the East Indian Railway?

(b) Are the Indian schools on the Railway also maintained and controlled by the East Indian Railway?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state separately the expenditure incurred by the East Indian Railway on the Oakgrove School and other European and Indian schools maintained by the said Railway during 1931-32?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state if the Oakgrove School was included within the scope of Mr. Smith's inquiry regarding the cost of assistance to Railway employees for the education of their children? If not, why not?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** (a) Oakgrove school is maintained by the East Indian Railway, but controlled by a body of governors who are officers selected from the East Indian Railway and the North Western Railway.

(b) The East Indian Railway maintains 29 Indian schools which are controlled by local committees of which the Divisional Superintendent is *ex-officio* President.

(c) Rs. 1,62,847 for Oakgrove; Rs. 54,235 for other European schools; and Rs. 75,863 for Indian schools.

(d) No, it was intended to deal with it separately.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad:** May I ask whether the report of Mr. Smith's enquiry is available for the Members of this House?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** Copies of the report are in the Library of the House.

#### OAKGROVE SCHOOL MAINTAINED BY THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

293. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Is it a fact that the Oakgrove School of the East Indian Railway was included in the scope of special inquiry conducted by Mr. Jones in 1927?

(b) Is it a fact that according to Mr. Jones' findings the Oakgrove School was on the same footing as the other schools maintained and controlled by the East Indian Railway?

(c) If the reply to parts (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, why did Government treat the Oakgrove School differently and exclude it from the purview of Mr. Smith's inquiry?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** (a) Yes.

(b) It is not quite clear what the Honourable Member means by the expression "on the same footing". If by these words he is referring to the control of the School, the answer is in the negative. Two State Railways are interested in the Oakgrove School, the East Indian and the North Western Railways, and, as stated by Mr. Jones in his report, the Governing Body consists of officials of both Railways.

(c) I have already replied to this in my reply to the last question.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** Was the Oakgrove School excluded from the scope of Mr. Smith's enquiry?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** Yes, Sir. It was intended to deal with it separately.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** Was the Oakgrove School excluded, because it caters for the children of European and Anglo-Indian employees and the teachers there are Europeans and Anglo-Indians?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** I do not know exactly the reason why it was excluded, there is nothing on record. But, so far as I can guess, it must be because it was the concern of two Railways and not of the East Indian Railway alone.

**MR. SMITH'S REPORT ON THE INQUIRY REGARDING THE COST OF ASSISTANCE TO THE RAILWAY EMPLOYEES FOR THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN.**

**294. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Was the scope of Mr. Smith's inquiry, specially clause 3 of the terms of reference, notified to the East Indian Railway schools either by the Agent or Mr. Smith? If so, will Government be pleased to lay on the table copies of the letter issued by each of them to the schools?

(b) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the terms of reference of Mr. Smith's inquiry?

(c) Are Government prepared to circulate Mr. Smith's and Mr. Jones' reports to all Members of the Assembly?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** (a) Government have no precise information on this point, but presumably Mr. Smith, in conducting his inspection of such schools, as he did inspect, would have brought to the notice of the school authorities what was the scope of his enquiry.

(b) The terms of reference are contained in the reports submitted by Mr. Smith, copies of which are in the Library of the House.

(c) Copies of the Reports are, as I have already stated, in the Library of the House.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** Will Government be pleased to circulate Mr. Smith's report to the Members of the Central Legislature?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** If there is such an interest taken in these reports that the copies in the Library are insufficient to meet the demand, then I should be glad to give a copy to any Member who may want it.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad:** Or at least can it be supplied to those who want to read it?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** Certainly.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra:** How many copies have been printed of this report?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** I am sorry I cannot say offhand.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra:** Can you tell us the approximate cost of printing this book?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** I think the number of copies already printed will suffice to meet the requirements of those people who want them.

#### STATUS OF TEACHERS IN THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY SCHOOLS.

295. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Was an inquiry into the status of the teachers in the East Indian Railway schools within the terms of reference of Mr. Smith's inquiry? If so, under which clause does it fall?

(b) Is there a proposal about the transfer of railway schools and teachers therein who are railway servants to the control of private committees? If so, what are the reasons for that?

**Mr. P. R. Rau:** (a) No specific mention was made in the terms of reference to Mr. Smith in regard to the status of teachers in the East Indian Railway Schools. Mr. Smith, however, deals with this question, in Chapter XIV of his report on the North Western, East Indian and Great Indian Peninsula Railway Schools.

(b) Mr. Smith has made a suggestion to that effect and gives his reasons for it in paragraph 85 of his report to which I would refer my Honourable friend.

#### STATUS OF TEACHERS IN THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY SCHOOLS.

296. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Is it a fact that on the 1st February, 1928, in reply to a question of Mr. H. N. Kunzru, the then Financial Commissioner stated in the Legislative Assembly:

"The Oakgrove School is maintained by the East Indian Railway and its teachers and those of the Indian schools maintained by the East Indian Railway are Government servants"?

(b) Is it a fact that on the 25th February, 1928, in the course of the Railway Budget debate in the Assembly, Sir George Rainy, the then Commerce Member, referring to the schools of the Great Indian Peninsula and East Indian Railways, stated:

"Now the schools of two of the biggest of the Company Railways have come under the direct control of the State"?

(c) Is it a fact that on the 21st February, 1929, in the course of the Railway Budget debate, Sir George Rainy stated with reference to these schools:

"So long as the schools are under our control, it is reasonable that the teachers should receive pay on about the same level as they would receive if they were employed in a school run by the Provincial Government.....As regards the Higher English Schools maintained by the East Indian Railway we have already issued orders to that effect"?

(d) Is it a fact that on the 12th September, 1929, in reply to a question of Mr. Kunzru Sir George Rainy stated:

"The schools are the property of the East Indian Railway and as the East Indian Railway belongs to Government, I think there can be no doubt that these schools are Government schools in that sense"?

(e) Is it a fact that in 1928, in reply to a reference by the Agent of the East Indian Railway, the Railway Board said:

"In the opinion of the Railway Board the teachers employed in the schools maintained by the East Indian Railway Administration for the education of railway children are railway employees even though teachers may actually be employed by the local committees of the several schools"?

(f) Why do Government now think a further inquiry into the status of these schools and of the teachers employed therein necessary?

(g) Do Government propose to go back upon their previous decisions and to take away the status of Government servants from teachers already employed in these State Railway schools?

(h) Is it a fact that the inquiry about the status of teachers was kept a secret from the teachers and School Committees?

**Mr. P. B. Rau:** (a) to (e). The quotations are substantially correct.

(f) and (g). Government have not yet been able to finish their examination of Mr. Smith's Report, and are, therefore, unable to give a reply to these questions.

(h) Not that I am aware of.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** Was Mr. Smith specially instructed to review the decisions of the Government of India and the Railway Board and to see whether these were right?

**Mr P. B. Rau:** Mr. Smith was asked to inspect the Railway schools with a view to making recommendations for the introduction of improvements in the existing methods of administration. That was one of the terms of reference to him.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** And is it a fact that Mr. Smith, while visiting the schools, did not make any enquiry or have any discussion with the teachers or the committees on this subject?

**Mr. P. B. Rau:** I would refer my Honourable friend to paragraph 86 of Mr. Smith's report, wherein he says that only once had the matter been brought casually to notice by a teacher.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** May I take it that one of the methods for the improvement of the administration of the schools, as recommended by Mr. Smith, was that they should be transferred to private management?

**Mr. P. B. Rau:** That is one of his recommendations, but, as I have already stated, Government have not come to any decisions on the subject.

STATUS OF TEACHERS IN THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY SCHOOLS.

297. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad: (a) Will Government be pleased to state the grounds on which the Agent of the East Indian Railway, in his letter to the Railway Board referred to on page 153 of Mr. Smith's report, made a discrimination between the Oakgrove School and other schools in the plains, saying that the staff in the Oakgrove School are practically Government servants, while the staff in the schools in the plains are not, except for provident fund and gratuity and that the schools in the plains are not Government schools?

(b) Is it not a fact that Mr. Smith has found the Oakgrove School to be on the same footing as the schools in the plains?

(c) Is it a fact that the Committee of the East Indian Railway schools in the plains are constituted according to Railway rules, that they exercise delegated functions and that their personnel and their decisions are subject to the confirmation and veto of the Secretary to the Agent and Superintendent, East Indian Railway Schools?

(d) Is it a fact that the Secretary to the Agent is the Superintendent of the East Indian Railway Schools and that the Divisional Superintendents are, according to rules, the *ex-officio* Presidents of all the schools in their Divisions?

(e) Is it a fact that the teachers in the East Indian Railway schools have the right of appeal to the Agent and to the Railway Board?

(f) Is it a fact that Mr. H. N. Sinha, the discharged Headmaster of the Indian High School at Dinapore, appealed to the Government of India?

(g) Is it a fact that the scale of salaries of teachers in the East Indian Railway schools were, under the orders of the Government, assimilated with that of teachers in the Provincial Government schools?

(h) Is it a fact that teachers in the East Indian Railway schools were, under the orders of the Agent, subjected to the emergency salary cut just like other railway employees?

(i) Is it a fact that the names of teachers in the East Indian Railway schools are shown in the Classified List?

Mr. P. B. Rau: (a) The actual quotation from the letter of the Agent of the East Indian Railway which is contained in Mr. Smith's Report is as follows:

"All the teachers of the Railway schools are regarded as employees of the Railway for purposes of the Provident Fund and Gratuity Rules. The staff at Oakgrove are for all practical purposes Railway servants though they have no definite leave rules due to the fact that they have their annual school holidays. In other respects the teaching staff are not regarded as employees though they are allowed a certain number of passes."

This is a statement of existing practice on the railway.

(b) Mr. Smith states that he sees no reason why the Oakgrove School should not be regarded equally with the other East Indian Railway Schools as under the management of a private Body of Governors, i.e., of railway servants in their unofficial capacity.



(c) and (d). Yes.

(e) The teachers in the East Indian Railway schools have, the right of appeal to the Agent, the authority next above the Secretary.

(f) to (i). Yes.

#### MR. SMITH'S REPORT ON EAST INDIAN RAILWAY SCHOOLS.

298. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Have Government come to any decision on the subjects dealt with in Chapters 14, 16 and 17 of Mr. Smith's report on the East Indian Railway schools?

(b) Do Government propose to consult the Legislative Assembly before taking any decision on Mr. Smith's report?

**Mr. P. E. Rau:** (a) No.

(b) Government have not come to any decision on these subjects, and are unable to say what procedure they will adopt before they have arrived at some preliminary decisions.

#### EXAMINERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DELHI.

299. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Is it a fact that the Superintendent of Education, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Central India, is the Chairman of the Board of Secondary Education, Delhi, and also the Chairman of the Board's Examination Committee?

(b) Is it a fact that the Superintendent of Education himself, his wife, his near relatives, his stenographer are the examiners of the examinations held by the Board of Secondary Education, Delhi?

(c) Will Government please state in how many examinations under different bodies the Superintendent of Education, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Central India works as paper-setter or examiner?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state what was the total number of answer books which were examined by the Superintendent of Education in the year 1932?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state whether those answer books were examined by the Superintendent of Education during office hours or after the office hours?

(f) Is it a fact that the Principal and the Vice-Principal of the Government College, Ajmer, are not allowed to be examiners of different examinations held by different bodies? Will Government be pleased to state the reasons for the same?

(g) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Superintendent of Education has obtained any permission from the Local Governments for the examinership of different bodies, or as the head of the Education Department he was himself authorised to do so?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai:** (a) Yes.

(b) Government know that the Superintendent and his stenographer have been acting as examiners for the Board of Secondary Education from dates prior to their appointment to their present posts. They have no information about the other persons mentioned in the question.

- (c) Five.
- (d) 1,025.
- (e) After office hours.
- (f) No.

(g) Educational officers of Government have not so far been required to obtain the sanction of Government before accepting examinerships. The question whether such sanction should be obtained now is receiving attention.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** Was this question asked for the information as to whether the Superintendent, his wife and other relatives worked as examiners?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai:** The question was forwarded to the Chief Commissioner of Delhi who, as my Honourable friend is aware, is the head of the Local Administration, and his reply was that he was not in a position to furnish information about the relatives of the Superintendent.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** Will Government please make an enquiry on this point?

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad:** Is it not a fact that the teachers are not required to take permission, but the persons engaged on the administrative side are required to take permission?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai:** I have already stated that the point is receiving attention. I am inquiring into it.

#### INSPECTION OF ANGLO-VERNACULAR MIDDLE AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, DELHI, AJMER-MERWARA AND CENTRAL INDIA.

300. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Is it a fact that the Inspector of Schools, Central India Agency, was retrenched in February, 1932?

(b) Is it a fact that Anglo-Vernacular middle and primary schools were under his inspection?

(c) Is it a fact that the medium of education in the Central India Agency in seventy-five per cent. of the schools mentioned in part (b) is *Hindi*?

(d) Is it a fact that the Superintendent of Education, Central India Agency, inspects the schools mentioned in part (b) himself after the retrenchment of the said Inspector and sometimes deputed his stenographer to inspect the schools?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state what diplomas for *Hindi* knowledge the Superintendent of Education and his stenographer possess?

**Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe:** With your permission, Sir, I propose to answer questions Nos. 300 and 301 together. The required information is being collected and will be given to the House in due course.

#### INSPECTION OF RECOGNISED SCHOOLS IN THE ADMINISTERED AREAS IN CENTRAL INDIA.

†301. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of recognised schools together with their grades in the Administered Areas in Central India at the time of the appointment of

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 300.

the present Superintendent of Education and the number of similar institutions on the 1st January, 1933?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the total annual expenditure on the inspectorate in Central India during the year preceding the appointment of the present Superintendent of Education and the total expenditure on the inspectorate in the year 1932?

(c) Will Government kindly state what improvements, if any, have been made in the education of the Central India Agency after the appointment of the Superintendent of Education who is also the Secretary to the Agent to the Governor General in Central India in the Education Department? Are Government prepared to consider the desirability of dispensing with the present arrangement of inspection and administration in these days of financial stringency and putting the education of that area under the Education Department of the Central Provinces? Is there any Government educational institution in Central India?

#### PROHIBITORY ORDER ON DR. MUHAMMAD ALAM AGAINST ENTRY INTO KENYA.

302. \*Mr. Jagan Nath Aggarwal: (a) Are Government aware that Dr. Muhammad Alam was served with an intimation by the C. I. D. police of Calcutta on the 4th January, 1933, on behalf of the Commissioner of Police of Nairobi (Kenya) in East Africa that his entry into Kenya would be prohibited under the immigration laws if he had been sentenced to imprisonment? Was this intimation received through the Government of Bombay?

(b) What is the wording of the telegram above referred to received by Bombay and sent to the Calcutta Police for information to Dr. Muhammad Alam?

(c) Is it true that Dr. Muhammad Alam, Bar.-at-Law, of Lahore, was only convicted in connection with the civil disobedience movement and that he was released for reasons of health about the end of November, 1932?

(d) Are Government aware that there is an express provision in rule 3, Part D, of the Immigration Rules of East Africa to the effect that the provisions regarding prohibition "shall not apply to offences of a political character not involving moral turpitude"?

(e) Is it true that Dr. Muhammad Alam has moved for intervention by the Government of India through the Punjab Government in this affair? If so, what action has been taken on this?

(f) Are Government aware that after his release Dr. Muhammad Alam has been under the medical treatment of eminent doctors at Calcutta including Sir Nil Ratan Sircar, Lieut.-Colonel L. M. Banerji and Dr. B. C. Roy who have advised him an immediate sea trip and change of climate, if possible?

(g) Are Government aware that Dr. Muhammad Alam was invited to preside at a local Indian Congress gathering at Nairobi and that the invitation drew his particular attention to the healthy climate of Kenya and the benefits of a sea trip to recuperate his health?

(h) Is it a fact that all these facts were brought to the notice of the Government of India through the Punjab Government?

(i) Did Dr. Muhammad Alam ask for passports for himself and his wife and a personal attendant and, if so, what is the result?

(j) Do Government propose to intervene in this matter? If not, why not?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai:** (a) and (b). The Government of India understand that the Commissioner of Police, Nairobi, intimated that if Dr. Muhammad Alam had been sentenced to imprisonment, he would not be allowed to enter Kenya. They have no further information regarding the points raised under these heads.

(c) Yes. Dr. Muhammad Alam was convicted in February, 1932, under section 124-A, I. P. C., and sections 17 (1) and 17 (2) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act.

(d) Yes. The Honourable Member has correctly quoted the concluding portion of sub-section (d) of section 5 of the Kenya Immigration Restriction Ordinance, 1906.

(e) No such communication has been received by the Government of India.

(f) and (g). Government have no information.

(h) and (i). The only information received by the Government of India has been given in my reply to parts (a) and (b).

(j) The question does not arise because of the answer I have already given to part (e).

### STATEMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE.

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** (Leader of the House): Sir, I lay on the table the information promised in reply to starred question No. 1174 asked by Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad on the 14th November, 1932.

### RESOLUTIONS OF THE INDIAN LEGISLATURE.

\*1174. (a), (c), (d), (e) and (g). The information sought in these parts of the question will be found in the following two statements Nos. I and II showing respectively (i) the number of non-official Resolutions admitted, moved and negatived, and (ii) the non-official Resolutions withdrawn by the Movers on assurances given by Government and the action taken thereon by Government during 1921-1932.

(b) The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given to Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh's starred question No. 528 asked on the 30th January, 1925. The practice regarding publishing such resolutions was, however, modified in 1931 and since then up to the end of 1932, 17 resolutions were disallowed by the Governor General.

(f) and (g). The Honourable Member is referred to the replies given to Mr. K. V. Reddy's starred question No. 994, asked on the 24th March, 1924, to Mr. C. Duraiswamy Ayyangar's starred question No. 68, asked on the 3rd February, 1927, to Khan Bahadur Haji Wajihuddin's unstarred question No. 179 asked on the 11th February, 1931, and to the statement laid on the table on the 10th February, 1932, by the Honourable Sir George Rainy containing the information promised in reply to starred question No. 105 asked by Mr. Rahimtools M. Chinoy on the 3rd February, 1932, which give the information required for the period 1921-1931. The information in respect of the non-official resolutions adopted by the Legislative Assembly and the action taken on each of them during the year 1932 is given in the following statement No. III:

## I.

*Statement showing the number of non-official Resolutions admitted, moved and negatived in the Legislative Assembly during 1921-1932.*

	*Number of Resolutions admitted.	Number of Resolutions moved.	Number of Resolutions negatived.	Remarks.
Delhi Session 1921 .	120	*25	7	*In addition 15 Resolutions were moved by Sir Sivaswami Aiyar on a Government day in connection with the Esher Committee's Report.
Simla Session 1921 .	195	20	6	
Delhi Session 1922 .	221	35	10	
Simla Session 1922 .	229	9	3	
Delhi Session 1923 .	363	13	2	
Simla Session 1923 . .	137	11	3	
Delhi Session 1924 .	403	18	<i>Nil.</i>	
May—June Session and September Session 1924 .	647	4	<i>Nil.</i>	
Delhi Session 1925 . .	919	11	2	
Simla Session 1925 .	591	5	<i>Nil.</i>	
Delhi Session 1926 .	340	8	2	
Simla Session 1926 .	105	4	2	
Delhi Session 1927 . .	313	4	<i>Nil.</i>	
Simla Session 1927 .	196	4	<i>Nil.</i>	
Delhi Session 1928 .	174	7	2	
Simla Session 1928 . .	140	4	1	
Delhi Session 1929 . .	363	3	1	
Simla Session 1929 . .	68	4	<i>Nil.</i>	
Delhi Session 1930 .	250	9	1	
Simla Session 1930 . .	15	3	1	
Delhi Session 1931 . .	95	4	<i>Nil.</i>	
Simla Session 1931 . .	96	7	1	
November Session 1931 .	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	
Delhi Session 1932 . .	57	6	4	
Simla Session 1932 . .	71	6	2	
November—December Session 1932 . . . . .	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>Nil.</i>	

*N.B.*—Prior to 1931, in cases where several Members gave notice of the identical Resolutions the notice by each Member has been counted as a separate Resolution.

## II.

*Statements showing the non-official Resolutions withdrawn by the Movers on an assurance given by the Government during 1921—32 and action taken on such assurance.*

Serial No.	Date on which moved and withdrawn.	By whom.	Subject of Resolution.	Department concerned.	Action taken by Government.
1	5th March, 1921	Mr. Naraindas Girdhar- das.	English translation of accounts and state- ments of income sub- mitted to income-tax authorities in the Madras Presidency.	Finance Department (Central Revenues).	Assurance has been fulfilled. The Income-tax Department never call for English trans- lations of accounts kept in vernacular. Income-tax Officers are specially trained in reading accounts in the various vernaculars.
2	23rd March, 1921	Rao Bahadur T. Ranga- cheriar.	Income-tax assessments.	Finance Department (Central Revenues).	Assurance has been fulfilled. Under Section 66 of the Indian Income-tax Act, XI of 1922, a Commissioner is bound to refer a question of law to a High Court if re- quested by an assessee to do so. If he holds that there is no question of law, the assessee can move the High Court to direct him to state a case.
3	26th March, 1921	Mr. K. G. Bagde	Codification of Hindu Law	Home Department	The Government of India obtained the opinions of local Governments, etc., and placed them in the library of the Indian Legislature. Government took no further action in the matter.

## II—contd.

Serial No.	Date on which moved and withdrawn.	By whom.	Subject of Resolution.	Department concerned.	Action taken by Government.
4	10th September, 1921	Mr. N. M. Joshi	Repeal of the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act and certain sections of the Indian Penal Code.	Home Department	The resolution was given effect to by Act III of 1925.
5	20th September, 1921	Mr. B. Venkatapatiraju	Purity of administration in the various Departments of the Government of India.	Home Department	In accordance with the assurance given by Government the necessity for greater vigilance was brought to the notice of the Departments of the Government of India and offices subordinate to the Home Department. The local Governments were also asked to examine the legal aspect with a view to amend the law on the subject if necessary and to submit suggestions in due course.
6	28th September, 1921	Mr. W. M. Humnally	Reserved Railway compartment for different communities.	Railway Department (Railway Board).	Government gave an undertaking to address Railways with a view to the gradual elimination of reservation of inter and III class compartments for Europeans and Anglo-Indians. The necessary instructions were issued, and the reservations were more and more restricted till they were entirely abolished by the end of 1930.

The question whether any restrictions should be imposed on the export of manures and oil-seeds from India has since been examined by the Board of Agriculture in India, the Fiscal Commission, the Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee and the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India. The Government of India have considered the recommendations of those bodies and come to the conclusion that no case can be made out for the imposition of an export tax on oil seeds, oil-cakes, bones, bonemeal, fish manures and natural phosphates or for the prohibition of the export of those products.

On the constructive side, the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research is investigating the problems relating to the conservation of indigenous manual resources and the development of the use of indigenous fertilisers and the preparation of a programme of research on fertilisers. The question of developing the oil-seed crushing industry is also receiving the attention of that Council.

Education, Health and Lands.

Export of manures and oil-seeds.

Mr. M. K. Reddi Garu

7 | 26th January, 1922.



II—*contd.*

Serial No.	Date on which moved and withdrawn.	By whom.	Subject of Resolution.	Department concerned.	Action taken by Government.
8	3rd February, 1922.	Hasji Wajihuddin .	Committee of Enquiry on expulsion from Cantonments.	Army . . .	All cases were examined and a large number of persons who had been expelled were allowed to return soon after the assurance was given. Of the remainder, all, except two, were re-admitted to Cantonments in February, 1931.
9	23rd March, 1922 .	Mr. P. L. Misra . .	Abolition of posts of Divisional Commissioners in the various Provinces of India.	Home . . .	The Government of India after examining the case fully decided to reject the proposal. The decision was also intimated to the Legislative Assembly in reply to a question by Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh on the 1st September, 1925.
10	10th March, 1923 .	Mr. W. M. Husanally .	Reserved Railway compartments.	Railway Department (Railway Board).	Government gave an undertaking to address Railways with a view to the gradual elimination of reservation of inter and III class compartments for Europeans and Anglo-Indians. The necessary instructions were issued and the reservations were entirely abolished by the end of 1930.
11	24th March, 1923 .	Mr. K. Ahmed .	Reduction of Railway fares.	Railway Department (Railway Board).	Government gave an assurance that the effect of the enhancement in fares, which had shortly before come into

operation, would be carefully watched and the fares would be reduced if they were found to be more than the traffic would bear. Necessary action was taken, and fares on most of the major Railways were reduced during the years 1926, 1927, 1928 and 1929, as soon as financial circumstances and favourable traffic conditions rendered such a course possible.

A Bill called "Indian High Courts Bill", dealing with part (a) of the resolution was introduced in Parliament in 1928, but it was not proceeded with. Part (b) has not been pursued.

In pursuance of the assurance given on this resolution, the Department of Industries and Labour addressed all the major local Governments in November, 1924, and remarked that, while flood protection and prevention were primarily provincial matters, the Government of India were prepared, in view of the importance of the subject, to assist the local Governments to the utmost extent of their powers—

(\*) whenever there was reason to believe that excessive floods were due to central works, such as Railways;

12	19th February, 1924	Dewan Bahadur T. Rangachariar.	Constitution of High Courts.	Home	.	.	.
13	24th September, 1924	Mr. B. Das	Inquiry into the causes of recurring floods in India.	Department of Industries and Labour.	.	.	.

H—contd.

Serial No.	Date on which moved and withdrawn.	By whom.	Subject of Resolution.	Department concerned.	Action taken by Government.
13	—contd.				<p>(ii) where assistance was required to obtain co-ordination between a Railway and the local authorities or between two provinces; and</p> <p>(iii) in any case in which technical advice was required which was not available locally.</p> <p>In 1927, the matter was again taken up by the Government of India who wrote to the local Governments recalling the correspondence of 1924 and explaining that the Government of India were anxious to do everything which lay in their power to assist the local Governments in investigating the problem of floods. Advantage has been taken, in particular cases, of the Government of India's offer of assistance.</p>

14	23rd January, 1925 and 2nd September, 1925.	Mr. M. S. Aney	Retransfer of Sylhet and Cachar to Bengal.	Home	<p>The papers were distributed.</p> <p>A Communiqué explaining the position was issued on the 16th June, 1926. The question was left over for consideration of the Statutory Commission. The Statutory Commission did not deal with it. They suggested the appointment of a Boundaries Commission. The position was clearly explained in the memorandum presented to the Indian Statutory Commission.</p>
15	8th February, 1930.	Mr. K. C. Neogy	Relations between Railway and Inland Steamer Services in Eastern Bengal.	Railway Department (Railway Board).	<p>Government undertook to examine the whole question on receipt of a report from the Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway, who was already negotiating with the steamer companies with a view to arriving at a <i>modus vivendi</i>. The Agent's report which showed that a working arrangement had been arrived at, as far as practicable, was very carefully considered by Government and it was decided that no further action was possible, and that no useful purpose would be served by the appointment of a committee of enquiry as proposed by the Honourable the Mover.</p>

## II—contd.

Serial No.	Date on which moved and withdrawn.	By whom.	Subject of Resolution.	Department concerned.	Action taken by Government.
16	11th February, 1930	Mr. M. R. Jayakar	Central Medical Research Institute.	Education, Health and Lands.	In pursuance of the undertaking given during the course of discussion of Mr. Jayakar's Resolution in the Legislative Assembly on the 8th February, 1930, a Conference to consider the question of the location of the proposed Central Medical Research Institute and other matters was held in July, 1930. The Secretary of State was addressed in January 1932 and his reply has recently been received. A draft resolution announcing the conclusions reached by the Government of India and the Secretary of State on the various recommendations made by the Conference will be issued shortly.
17	17th July, 1930	Mr. A. H. Ghurnavi	Coroner's inquiry into Railway accidents.	Railway Department (Railway Board).	Government undertook to obtain the views of the various local Governments and Administrations on the suggestions made by the Honourable the Mover. These views have been received and are under consideration.

18	29th January, 1931.	Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan.	Amendment of Legislative Assembly Electoral Rules.	Home	The assurance was given that the particular aspects of the question that were dealt would receive the most careful consideration when the rules come up for review. The time for review has not yet come.
19	17th September, 1931	Sardar Harbans Singh Brar.	Powers of the Governor General under the new constitution.	Home	A copy of the proceedings of the House was forwarded to the Secretary of State for India for his information.
20	17th September, 1931 and 22nd September, 1931.	Sir Mohammad Yakub	Control of money lending and rates of interest.	Home	Local Governments have been consulted. Some replies are still outstanding.
21	7th September, 1932	Mr. Muhammad Muazzam Saheb Bahadur.	Revision of time scales of pay.	Finance	The matter is under consideration.
22	15th September, 1932 and 22nd September, 1932.	Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi	Constitution of a Board for purchase of coal and looking after State Railway collieries.	Railway Department (Railway Board).	The matter is still under consideration. It is to be referred to the Public Accounts Committee; date of the meeting not yet known.

## iii.

*Statement showing the non-official Resolutions adopted by the Legislative Assembly during 1932 and action taken by Government thereon.*

Serial No.	Date on which moved.	By whom.	Subject of Resolution.	Department concerned.	Action taken by Government.
1	27th January, 1932.	Sir Hari Singh Gour	Be Chief Justices of High Courts in India.	Home	The Government of India forwarded copies of the resolution and of the debates thereon to the Secretary of State for transmission to His Majesty's Government.
2	10th February, 1932	Mr. B. R. Puri	Establishment of a Supreme Court in India.	Home	The Government of India forwarded copies of the resolution and of the debates thereon to the Secretary of State for transmission to His Majesty's Government.
3	7th September, 1932	Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmad	Rate for Coastal port passenger traffic.	Commerce	No action has yet been taken by Government.

**The Honourable Sir Harry Halg** (Home Member): Sir, I lay on the table the information promised in reply to starred question No. 356 asked by Pandit Satyendra Nath Sen on the 16th September, 1932.

**PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT ACT.**

\*356.

*Statement showing the number of prosecutions under the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, in the various provinces during the period from 1st April, 1930 to 31st August, 1932.*

	Number of Prosecutions.	Number of cases which ended in conviction including the number of cases in which action was taken under Sec. 562, Cr. Procedure Code.	Number of cases in which imprisonment was awarded.	Number of cases in which a sentence of both fine and imprisonment was awarded.	Number of cases which were dismissed or in which the accused were acquitted.	Number of cases Pending.
Madras	32	14	..	4	10	8
Bombay	32	17	..	..	9	6
Bengal	41	9	..	2	26	6
U. P.	110	38	2	34	†55	17
Punjab	146	40	2	34	65	41
Burma	3	..	..	..	3	..
B. & O.	62	20	..	1	24	8
C. P.	40	24	..	..	7	9
Assam	1	..	..	..	1	..
§N. W. F. P.	4	1	..	..	1	1
Coorg	..	..	..	..	..	..
Delhi	6	..	..	..	4	2
Ajmer-Merwara	6	4	1	1	2	..
Baluchistan	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	473	167	5	145	207	98

† Includes 3 cases which were withdrawn and 1 case which was compromised.

‡ Except in one case terms of imprisonment were "till the rising of the Court".

§ In one case the accused was warned.



**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce** (Member for Industries and Labour): Sir, I lay on the table:

- (i) the information promised in reply to starred questions Nos. 1550 and 1551 asked by Bhai Parma Nand on the 5th December, 1932; and
- (ii) the information promised in reply to parts (a) and (b) of starred question No. 1687 asked by Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad on the 14th December, 1932.

#### RECRUITMENT OF STAFF BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POST OFFICES, DERAJAT DIVISION.

\*1550. (a) No direct recruitment has been made but three departmental officials have been promoted all of whom are Muslims. Two of them were nominated on the 18th May, 1931, and the remaining one on the 8th August, 1931. All were examined on the 6th September, 1931.

	Hindus.	Sikhs.	Muslims.
(b) Number of officials—			
(i) in non-clerical superior grade . . . . .	13	1	117
(ii) in lower grade . . . . .	8	..	74
(iii) Number of candidates—			
in non-clerical superior grade . . . . .	1	1	8
in lower grade . . . . .	11	3	46

#### RECRUITMENT OF STAFF BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POST OFFICES, DERAJAT DIVISION.

\*1551. Yes; 119 applicants were examined, of whom one only, a Muslim, was declared successful.

#### RETRENCHMENT IN THE PUNJAB POSTAL CIRCLE.

\*1687. (a) and (b). No; 51 selection grade officials were retrenched, of whom 17 Hindus, three Muslims and four Sikhs were 55 years of age or more. Of the remaining 27, Six Hindus, 17 Muslims and one Sikh had over 30 years' service, two Hindus retired voluntarily and one Muslim was retrenched for consistently unsatisfactory work.

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham** (Army Secretary): Sir, I lay on the table the information promised in reply to starred question No. 1592 asked by Sirdar Sohan Singh on the 6th December, 1932.

#### DESIRABILITY FOR EFFECTING ECONOMY IN CANTONMENTS OF THE SOUTHERN COMMAND.

\*1592. (a) Yes.

(b) It would involve a great deal of time and labour to collect the detailed information required by the Honourable Member, but I can assure him that all the Cantonments mentioned in the question are now self-supporting.

**Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe** (Foreign Secretary): Sir, I lay on the table the information promised in reply to starred questions Nos. 1257 and 1259 to 1962 asked by Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon on the 16th November, 1962.

**MONOPOLY BY NON-LOCAL EMPLOYEES IN THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OF  
BALUCHISTAN.**

\*1257. (a) The reply is in the negative.

(b) and (c). A statement is placed on the table. It should be explained that a high percentage of "non-locals" consists of individuals born and educated in Baluchistan.

(d) None of the Guards working on the Quetta division is a local man whereas in the Ministerial Branch there is only one local clerk.

*Statement showing establishments employed in Baluchistan.*

Serial No.	Name of appointment.	Locals.	Non-Locals.	Total.
1	<i>Political Department.</i>			
	Extra Assistant Commissioners . . . . .	5	20	25
	Tahsildars . . . . .	5	12	17
	Naib Tahsildars . . . . .	13	17	30
	Superintendents . . . . .	..	22	22
	Senior Assistants . . . . .	3	57	60
	Junior Assistants . . . . .	14	119	133
	Vernacular Assistants I . . . . .	3	24	27
	Vernacular Assistants II . . . . .	21	65	86
	Post Munshis . . . . .	3	19	22
	Levy Muharrirs . . . . .	44	63	107
2	<i>Intelligence Bureau.</i>			
	Superintendents . . . . .		1	1
	Junior Assistants . . . . .		1	1
3	<i>Irrigation Department.</i>			
	Superintending Engineer . . . . .		1	1
	Assistant Executive Engineer . . . . .		1	1
	Clerks . . . . .		9	9
	Draftsmen . . . . .		2	2
	Upper Subordinates . . . . .		5	5
	Subordinates . . . . .		4	4
	Mechanic . . . . .		1	1
	Tracers . . . . .		2	2
	Mistri . . . . .		1	1
4	<i>Excise Department.</i>			
	Superintendent . . . . .	..	1	1
	Excise Inspectors . . . . .	..	4	4
	Clerks . . . . .	..	1	1
	Detectives . . . . .	2	1	3
5	<i>Military Engineering Services.</i>			
	Assistant Engineer . . . . .	..	1	1
	Sub-Divisional Officers . . . . .	..	16	16
	Sub-Overseers . . . . .	..	42	42
	Superintendents E. M. . . . .	..	6	6
	Storekeepers . . . . .	..	8	8
	Clerks . . . . .	..	114	114
	Draftsmen . . . . .	..	21	21
6	Quetta Municipality . . . . .	1	43	44
	<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>818</b>

## STAFF WORKING IN THE CIVIL DEPARTMENTS OF BALUCHISTAN.

\*1259. The information required has been embodied in the statement referred to in the reply to question No. 1257.

## SUPERIOR POSTS IN THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OF BALUCHISTAN.

\*1260. Government have no reason to think that that is the case.

## UNPAID OR TEMPORARILY PAID LOCAL CANDIDATES IN THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER'S AND SUBORDINATE OFFICES IN BALUCHISTAN.

\*1261. No local candidate in the offices mentioned is at present unpaid and no candidate has been unpaid or temporarily paid for a period of 7 or 8 years. Qualified candidates obtain permanent vacancies when they occur and none are deprived of their legitimate rights.

## ADEQUATE REPRESENTATION OF LOCAL PEOPLE IN THE VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OF BALUCHISTAN.

\*1262. (a) and (b). The answers are in the negative.

(c) It has always been the policy of Government to encourage the recruitment of the indigenous inhabitants of Baluchistan in Government services, due regard being had to the qualifications of candidates and the efficiency of the Administration. Government is satisfied that this policy is being carried out.

**Mr. P. R. Rau** (Financial Commissioner, Railways): Sir, I lay on the table:

- (i) the information promised in reply to starred questions Nos. 1574 and 1575 asked by Mr. S. G. Jog on the 5th December, 1932;
- (ii) the information promised in reply to starred question No. 1169 asked by Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad on the 14th November, 1932;
- (iii) the information promised in reply to starred question No. 1586 asked by Kunwar Hajee Ismail Ali Khan on the 5th December, 1932;
- (iv) the information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 64 asked by Mr. K. C. Neogy on the 27th September, 1932; and
- (v) the information promised in reply to starred question No. 1323 asked by Mr. S. G. Jog on the 21st November, 1932.

## SUSPENSION OF THE RECOGNITION OF THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY WORKERS' UNION.

\*1574. (a) Yes.

(b) No. Government have not been able to trace such a statement in the report referred to by the Honourable Member.

(f) No. It is within the discretion of an Agent of a railway to grant recognition to a particular union on his line or withdraw recognition from a union recognised by him.

## SUSPENSION OF THE RECOGNITION OF THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY WORKERS' UNION.

(c) The facts are as follows :

In a letter dated the 18th of February, 1931, addressed to the Railway Board, the General Secretary of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation mentioned Mr. Kulkarni's case and stated he had been treated as discharged although he had offered himself for medical examination before the last date allowed for the Great Indian Peninsula strikers in the Government of India Communiqué of 1st March, 1930. On these grounds the Federation asked that he should be reinstated. The matter was referred to the Agent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway for his observations and he replied that Mr. Kulkarni did not offer to return to duty during, or subsequent to, the strike up to the date he was registered as discharged from service, namely, 21st May, 1930. Owing to a misunderstanding a reply to this effect was not sent to the All-India Railwaymen's Federation and a reply has since been issued.

ARMED GUARDS FOR ARMOURIES AND TREASURIES OF STATIONS OF THE EAST  
INDIAN RAILWAY AND THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

\*1169. (a) Armed Guards are employed to guard the armouries at the following stations on the East Indian and Eastern Bengal Railways :

### East Indian Railway—

Lillooah .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Asansol .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Jamalpure .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Dinapore .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Gaya .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Dhanbad .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Mughalsarai .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

} Since 1930.

**Eastern Bengal Railway—****Sealdah****Since 1931.**

Armed guards for treasuries have been provided at all the Divisional head-quarters for many years on the East Indian Railway and at Sealdah on the Eastern Bengal Railway.

(b) In the case of the armoury guards no extra expense is occasioned to the Railways, as all extra cost by way of ration allowance and Military duty pay is borne by the Military Department.

In the case of treasuries the cost of the armed guards at the various stations on the average is Rs. 1,800 per annum.

On the Eastern Bengal Railway where all collections are concentrated in one treasury only at Sealdah, the cost is about Rs. 8,500 per annum.

(c) Information regarding communal composition is not available.

(d) and (e). On the East Indian Railway, the guards are supplied by the Local Governments or the Auxiliary Force and their composition varies from time to time consequently their rates of pay differ.

The present system on the Eastern Bengal Railway is temporary. The scales of pay are as follows :

Assistant Sub-Inspector	Rs. 50—2—60
Naiks	„ 30—2—40
Armed Guards and Escorts	„ 25—1—28

**Qualifications—**

*Naik*.—Ex-soldiers of good character, having good record, or Ex-Policemen of good character having good record of service, conversant in the use of arms.

These posts were not advertised as suitable men with requisite qualifications were available in the Watch and Ward Department of the Eastern Bengal Railway, to which Department this work has been entrusted since 1st April, 1932.

(f) As far as I am informed these duties were never undertaken by Government Railway Police.

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**PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT IN THE SUPPLY OF UNIFORMS ON THE NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**

\*1586. (a) Uniforms are supplied to the running staff twice a year, viz., Winter and Summer, according to Revised Dress Regulations and this year winter uniforms have been supplied accordingly on Delhi division.

(b) All running staff on the Delhi Division are receiving winter uniforms on the new scales and no discrimination is made between staff of different religions.

(c) Does not arise.

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**TREATMENT OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY SCHOOLS AS "OUTSIDERS" IN THE MATTER OF RENTS OF BUILDINGS, ETC.**

64. (b) No. Railway schools proper are not treated as outsiders for the purpose of rent.

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

## GRANT OF ADVANCES TO THE RAILWAY EMPLOYEES FROM THE STATE RAILWAY PROVIDENT FUND.

\*1323. (a) 2nd March, 1932.

(b) (i) 437 applications were forwarded to the Agent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway up to 31st July, 1932.

(ii) 304 applications were rejected by the Heads of Departments.

(iii) 28 applications were rejected by the Divisional Officers.

(c) 314 applications were sanctioned by the Agent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway up to 31st July, 1932. The details are as under :

	Applied for.		Sanctioned.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		Rs.		Rs.
<b>Europeans—</b>				
Officers . . . . .	6	13,266	5	9,460
Upper-Subordinates . . . . .	16	12,930	13	6,780
Subordinates . . . . .	1	400	1	120
Total, Europeans . . . . .	23	26,596	19	16,360
<b>Anglo-Indians—</b>				
Officers . . . . .	1	1,600	1	960
Upper-Subordinates . . . . .	16	9,717	12	4,500
Subordinates . . . . .	12	3,714	7	1,360
Total, Anglo-Indians . . . . .	29	15,031	20	6,820
<b>Indians --</b>				
Officers . . . . .	1	1,650	..	..
Upper-Subordinates . . . . .	10	5,470	10	3,500
Subordinates . . . . .	371	56,329	262	21,488
Inferior servants . . . . .	3	200	3	60
Total, Indians . . . . .	385	63,649	275	25,048
<b>Grand Total—</b>				
Officers . . . . .	8	16,516	6	10,420
Upper Subordinates . . . . .	42	28,117	35	14,780
Subordinates . . . . .	384	60,443	270	22,968
Inferior servants . . . . .	3	200	3	60
Total . . . . .	437	1,05,276	314	48,228

(d) The amount sanctioned in every case was equal to 12 times the cut in pay of the employee concerned.

## RESOLUTION *RE* SOUTH INDIAN INFANTRY BATTALIONS.

**Mr. B. V. Jadhav** (Bombay Central Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, on the 22nd of September, in the Simla Session, I moved the following Resolution:

"That this Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council that the South Indian Infantry Battalions be again raised in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies."

I got an opportunity that day of moving the Resolution at the very fog end of the day and, therefore, I could not finish my speech. Therein I stated how the battalions were started first in the Madras Presidency and then in the Bombay Presidency and what their constitution was in the palmy days of the Madras and Bombay armies.

At one time, the Madras Army was over 50,000 strong and the Bombay Army was equally numerous and they gave a very good account of themselves in the wars which were carried on by the East India Company in India and also outside India. It was the Madras Army which distinguished itself in the wars first of all with the Mahrattas and, in the epoch making battle of Assaye, it was the Madras Army that bore the brunt of the battle and won, so to say, the Empire of India from the Mahrattas and it was again the Madras Army that distinguished itself in the battle of Argaon against the Bhonsles of Nagpur. The record of the Bombay Army too is not a meagre one. It is worthy to be borne in mind that in those days the armies were mostly recruited from what are now called the depressed classes. The Madras pariah and the mahar of Bombay were very prominent in the armies of those days and their deeds have been noted and their names are engraved even on pillars of stone. On the pillar of stone, erected about 16 miles from Poona to commemorate the battle of Koregaon, the names of valiant mahars are discernible even today. But, strange to say, when recruits of a higher class became available, the military policy of the Government of India changed and the desire became general to confine enlistment to the high class races exclusively, to whom certain other classes, that had supplied such good soldiers, were beneath contempt as fellow-men.

12 Noon. On account of the social prejudice against these men, it was necessary to discontinue the enlistment of the lower castes in the same regiment. The army came to consist largely of the better-class men who were chiefly the yeomen peasants of the country and, from that day, Sir, the depressed classes fell on very bad days. The Madras pariah continued to be recruited in the Sappers and Miners regiments, which were latterly called the Pioneer regiments. But even these regiments are now being disbanded, and there is no knowing whether it is the intention of the army authorities to keep the untouchable at a great distance. The mahars of the Bombay Presidency also have fared in the same way, and a career in the army for them is denied. It is very regrettable, Sir, that the British Government, which owe so much to the valour and fidelity of these classes when no other communities flocked to the standard of the East India Company, should, when the times are changed and they are secure in their possession of the Empire of India, forget their former faithful servants and refuse them admission into the army. It is well-known, Sir, that the armies of India are now recruited mostly from the Punjab and Northern India, and that the martial races of Southern India receive very scanty consideration. The condition of the Bombay Presidency is not so bad. The army is still

recruited from my community there, and my intention in moving this Resolution is not to gain any further advantage for my community, but I am urging the claims of other communities which are excluded from service in the army.

Latterly, Sir, the commissioned ranks have been opened to Indians, and admission into the commissioned ranks is by two doors. One is the competitive examination held twice a year and through which at present 15 candidates are taken into the Dehra Dun Academy every six months. The other door is to rise through the ranks. But, unless a young man is eligible for recruitment into the regular army, he will not be eligible for rising through the ranks and secure admission into the Dehra Dun Academy. I think this is not fair at all as only one door will be open for them. It is well-known that most of the communities, except the few advanced ones, are very backward in education, and, therefore, if a young man from such communities aspires to military service, it will be very difficult for him to acquire the necessary educational qualification before he completes the age of 19 or 20 years. The only chance for such a young man is by first of all taking up service in the ranks and then working his way up. But, as is well known, many of the communities in India are not recruited to the ranks at all and, therefore, the young men of those communities have got no chance of working their way up by first joining the army. I, therefore, claim that this injustice which is now being done to the communities of Southern India should be done away with by recruiting one or two regiments from these places, that is, all communities should be eligible for military service. I, therefore, move, Sir, that in recognition of the past services of the troops of the South of India, especially in the Madras Presidency and in the Bombay Presidency, the Army Department ought to provide some means, whereby their military traditions will be preserved and they will not lose their dignity. Sir, the soldiers of the Madras Presidency have many inherent military qualities. They shoot well, drill well and stand well under arms, "and, so far as this part of their professional requirements go, foreign critics have been known to say that it was not till they got to Madras that they saw regular military soldiers". But all this tradition is now a thing of the past. (*A Voice*: "What is that book?") The book is called "The Armies of India", written by Mr. Levett and Major MacMunn, D.S.O. I, therefore move, Sir:

"That this Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council that the South Indian Infantry Battalions be again raised in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies."

**Mr. Deputy President** (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty): Resolution moved:

"That this Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council that the South Indian Infantry Battalions be again raised in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies."

**Mr. B. Sitaramaraju** (Ganjam cum Vizagapatam; Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I rise to support this Resolution. It is a fact that the Madras regiments have had a very good record of service. The traditions of the Madras Army also are great. But, notwithstanding all their past record and past services, the Government have disbanded some regiments and the policy which underlay the disbandment of the Madras soldier



[Mr. B. Sitaramaraju.]

I shall refer to later. I would like the House, Sir, to remember that in the whole of India today we find that not only are the South Indian regiments disbanded, but the recruiting ground for the army has been confined only to a third of the country from the point of view of area. There is no necessity, nor is there any justification for the monopoly of military service to be restricted entirely to the north-western part of India.

Sir, but for the Madras regiments and other South Indian regiments, I am sure, we would not be discussing this question today on the floor of this House. Sir, these regiments are responsible for the British Government securing for the British this great Empire in the East. Till the conquest of the Punjab, the battles of the British Government in this country were fought by the Madras and South Indian regiments. If I were to say that this act of justice ought to have been done long ago and that the Government were not faithful in disbanding the regiments who served them so well, motives might be attributed to me. But, Sir, I would like to point out one passage from the despatch of the Government of Madras issued as recently as 1930. This despatch contains the views of the Local Governments on the recommendations of the Indian Statutory Commission of 1930. On page 18, the Government of Madras state as follows :

"There is one other matter connected with the army upon which the Madras Government wish to lay stress, viz., the need for the revival of the old Madras regiments. In Volume I, paragraph 116 of the Report, the Commission notices the remarkable variations in the contributions which provinces make to the Indian army. The Government of Madras would remind the Government of India that the pre-eminence of the Punjab and the United Provinces as recruiting grounds for the army is comparatively recent, and has been a natural consequence of the gradual reduction of the old Madras Army till there are now only three Madras regiments left. The Madras Army has a fine record of gallant and loyal service, and military traditions are still strong in many parts of the Madras Presidency. If the North India recruit is admittedly superior in physique, the Madrasi claims superiority in intelligence, which is likely to count far more in the future than it has done in the past.

The Government of Madras consider that the interest of the Province demands that the military tradition and the proved military capacity of the Madrasi should be recognised by the restoration of the old Madras regiments. So long as the army is an Imperial concern, it is obviously desirable that it should be associated by recruitment with as wide an area as possible; and the revival of the Madras regiments may also help towards the attainment of the goal mentioned in Volume II, paragraph 211 of the Report, the possession by a self-governing India of military forces of its own; for the fact that at present such an overwhelming proportion of the army is recruited from the Punjab and the United Provinces is one of the obstacles to the formation of an Indian National Army on which the Commission has laid stress."

Sir, this is not an irresponsible statement made by a Member of the Opposition, but it is the statement made by the Government of Madras. After this I doubt very much if the Government would still consider that they have any reasons for not reviving the Madras regiments. If the Government of India are sincere in saying that the Indian people should have a national army of their own and they should be trained for defence purposes in view of the constitutional advances that are likely to be conferred on them—resulting in a self-governing India, then, I doubt very much if the Government can have any justification to refuse the reconstitution of these regiments. Although I entirely agree with the remarks made by the Government of Madras, I have one slight objection to one particular passage. That is with regard to the admission of men of inferior physique. Even in the matter of physique, it has been

repeatedly demonstrated that there are in the uplands of Southern India races which, for endurance and for physique, can be compared to the best races in the United Provinces and the Punjab.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan** (Agra Division: Muhammadan Rural): Question.

**Mr. B. Sitaramaraju:** My Honourable friend, Mr. Yamin Khan, questions that statement of mine. I am sorry I have not got the book with me at the moment, but I would request him to see page 39 of the current issue of the "India" for the correctness of my statement.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** Books are not criterion.

**Mr. B. Sitaramaraju:** I am afraid the knowledge of my friend, Mr. Yamin Khan, about the type of people of South India is absolutely limited. I daresay that he has never seen Madrasis except a few Members of the Legislative Assembly who are not here to represent the Army types of the South Indian peoples.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** I see all the types of people here.

**Mr. B. Sitaramaraju:** My Honourable friend thinks that the Members of the Assembly represent the Army types of Madras. The question is not that the people of Southern India or of Bombay or, even, for the matter of that, of Bengal lack the physique required for the purpose of the army. Assuming for a moment that they do lack it, then, as has been remarked by the Government of Madras, it is the intelligence which counts, more so in the future modern warfare. However, during the years of the Great War, the Indian contribution to War was as follows:—

Madras	92,000
Bombay	71,000
Bengal	59,000
North-West Frontier Province	45,000
Baluchistan	2,000
Burma	18,000
Bihar and Orissa	41,000
Central Provinces	15,000
Assam	15,000
Ajmer-Merwara	8,000

After the United Provinces and the Punjab, the largest contribution to the Great War was made by Madras.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** Was this contribution made for the fighting units or for the labour corps?

**Mr. B. Sitaramaraju:** The statement that I have just read out was the Indian contribution to the War, combatants as well as non-combatants.

But, if my friend wants a distinction to be made, I have also got the figures of the combatants which are as follows:

Madras . . . . .	51,223
Bombay . . . . .	41,274
Bengal . . . . .	7,117
Baluchistan . . . . .	1,761
Burma . . . . .	14,094
Bihar and Orissa . . . . .	8,576
Central Provinces . . . . .	5,374
Assam . . . . .	9,042
Ajmer-Merwara . . . . .	7,341

I have already said that the largest contribution was that of the United Provinces and the Punjab, namely, 163,000 and 349,000, respectively. But Madras certainly stands the third in the list. Again, when we compare the same contribution, we would see that, with the exception of the Punjab, the United Provinces and Bombay, the contribution of Madras is about double that of the other provinces and several times that of them if we take the contribution of combatants. If the recruitment in the Punjab is much more than the recruitment in Madras during the war, perhaps we had not got a man of the recruiting methods of Sir Michael O'Dyer to recruit a large army. Whatever that may be, the point remains that so far as Madras is concerned, not only in the past, but also in the present, the province has contributed largely to the Army whenever <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ Empire was in danger. It is not just and proper that the military talents of the various provinces in India should not be allowed to be tapped. Sir, a fair share of the army should be contributed by all the provinces in India and, for the future betterment of our country, it is absolutely necessary that recruitment should be as much broad-based as possible. With these few words, I support the Resolution.

**Kunwar Raghubir Singh** (Agra Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I extend my whole-hearted support to the Resolution moved so ably by my Honourable friend, Mr. Jadhav. When the question of self-government or other powers to be given to Indians comes up before Government, they say that the people are not able to defend themselves. But how can they defend themselves if they are not given opportunities for being trained in the army and the use of arms? Since the people have been disarmed, they have become weak unwarlike, and unfit to serve the King and country in times of emergency.

Sir, the Nanyars of Madras and the Mahrattas of Bombay have been very good soldiers in the past. So, it is an anomaly that they should not be kept on the serving list. Now, Sir, the army at present consists almost wholly of Punjabis, and people of other provinces are classed as non-martial and that is only because they have not been taken in the army. Had the old practice been continued, this unnatural division into martial and non-martial would not have arisen. They will become martial as soon as they are given a chance to serve in the army as they did before. Thirdly, ~~and to remove~~ the stigma, Mr. Jadhav deserves the thanks of the House for bringing in this Resolution. If the Resolution is carried, it would be unnecessary to look to other countries for the supply of our soldiers. Fourthly, the cost of the upkeep of the battalions will be

considerably lower than what is incurred on the white battalions, because they can live on rice, gram or *chana* which are very cheap grains. In the wake of British annexation, as we see from histories written by British writers themselves, they lived on rice water, while they gave the rice to their British officers. Fifthly, the British army of occupation will be reduced to an appreciable extent and so the money spent on them will remain in the country. The people of these Presidencies, namely, Bombay and Madras, will think that Government have bestowed a favour on them which they had lost by their disbandment. In fact, they ought never to have been disbanded. Sir, I think it was in the interests of retrenchment that these regiments were disbanded. Whenever the question of retrenchment comes, it always affects Indians which is a wrong policy. The retrenchment axe should fall on foreigners in equity and justice, and if the Britisher has more regard for his own kith and kin, we also have more for our own; hence I strongly support this Resolution before the House.

**Shaikh Sadiq Hasan** (East Central Punjab: Muhammadan): Sir, in the very beginning, I plead ignorance of the subject, because I do not know whether there are at present any Madrassi regiments or not. But it appears that Madras and Bombay people are not taken in the army. So it is a matter of real surprise to me, because, after all, in the army, as in many other things, tradition does count. If one studies the history of the mediæval ages, one would find that great kingdoms like Bahmini and Vijaynagar existed in the South and in those days the might of the Afghan kings of the North could not conquer the Bahmini kingdom of the Deccan.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** Who were the Bahmini kings?

**Shaikh Sadiq Hasan:** They were Mussalmans, but all the same the men who were recruited did not come from Afghanistan, but they were Mussalmans of those places and some Hindus also. (Interruption by Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan.) I suppose my friend is ignorant of the fact that the people who fought under the Bahmini kings were convert Mussalmans, and he is also ignorant of the fact that, two kingdoms, out of five which were established after the Bahmini dynasty were ruled by converts from Hinduism. I consider that when a man becomes a Mussalman, he inherits the traditions of Islam and it is not necessary that the recruit should come from Afghanistan or Turkestan.

Well, Sir, I was just saying about these mediæval ages in the 15th and 16th centuries. These kingdoms used to have armies over hundreds of thousands men and there used to be great wars in those days. If they were not fighting people, how was it possible to raise these big armies? Later on, when Lord Clive came to India, it was with the help of these Madras troops that he conquered the South. He did not bring any man from the North, but got men from the South. Bussey's army also consisted of people from the South. The battle of Plassey, as is known to many people, was won with the help of men from the South. I am not saying anything against the people of the North; I am a Northerner myself and, I say, the people of the North are certainly very brave people and great fighters. But, all the same, it does not mean that the people of the South have never had any military traditions. What I say is that all these

[Shaikh Sadiq Hasan.]

conquests would have been impossible if these Southern people had not been courageous fighters. I really cannot understand why the people of the South should be deprived of the privilege of joining the army.

Now, take the case of the Moplas. I think there are no braver or fiercer people than the Moplas of the South, and it is really unfair to deprive them of the privilege of joining the army. I would consider it narrow-mindedness on the part of my Honourable friends of the North if they consider themselves to be privileged people who only should be allowed to join the army, and look down upon the people of the South when they desire the same. It is not a fair way of doing things and, with these few words, I strongly support the Resolution.

**Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar** (Nominated Non-Official):

Sir, I have great sympathy with the Mover and the supporters of this Resolution. Sir, the question of the relation between the organisation of India's forces of defence and nationalist aspirations is probably the most crucial and difficult of all the problems with which the country is at present confronted. I make bold to say that the proportion of the population which is more conscious of belonging to an Indian nation than to a particular race or class or creed or community is still small and may indeed become smaller when the power of the British is reduced, since many of those, who call themselves nationalists, have little in common beyond their dislike of the dominant foreigner. The force of their arguments is weakened by the fact that they and their kind as a rule have themselves neither aptitude nor inclination for a military career. But they persistently demand in the first place that the commissioned ranks of the regular army should be rapidly Indianised; secondly, that an endeavour should be made to extend the scope of recruitment by enlisting troops from races other than those which the military authorities have been accustomed to consider martial classes; and, thirdly, that the existing facilities for giving Indians some military training in the territorial force should be improved.

As regards the first demand, Sir, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has been good enough to take sixty cadets per year in the King's Commissioned ranks of the regular army which is over 55 per cent. of the number of cadets required per annum. I believe this is more than meeting their demand. As one speaking with some inner knowledge of the Indian army, I wish to assure the Honourable House that anything beyond this number will seriously hamper the efficiency of the army.

As to the second demand about the rapid Indianisation of the Indian Army, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has embarked on a very enterprising scheme of Indianisation of one complete division. This is a very great and epoch-making step for which we should be most thankful to him.

Now, turning to the third point, the existing facilities for Indians for military training in territorial force are to be improved: since some years, a great advance has taken place in this respect. Sir, I have been responsible for raising a territorial battalion myself and its military training. There has been a great improvement in this direction. Every one in

this Honourable House will admit that the question of defence of the country is of vital importance and is essentially one in the consideration of which we should not allow our political bias and excessive enthusiasm to warp our judgment. Already there are no restrictions to the recruitment of the King's Commissioned ranks. As to recruitment to the ranks or raising a battalion from the South and Bombay, I have great sympathy with the suggestion. I will, however, say this: that the traditions of the present Indian Army including the Mahrattas are the highest and the noblest and, if these traditions are to be maintained, it seems to me absolutely essential that the material which has been supplied to the army should not deteriorate. India is a very big country and the material for the army is varied. On the whole, it may be the best plan to get the best material possible from whichever class we can. The rest of the classes can be left to follow the avocations for which they are better fitted. When Lord Roberts was asked why he did not throw open recruitment to the army for all classes, he replied:

"India is a very big country with a vast population and we must use the best material which we can get."

I have the same reply to give. The case of smaller countries with homogeneous population is different. During the Great War, companies were raised from the non-enlisted classes. They proved a hopeless failure; and I have personal knowledge of the fact that on a long route march—not fighting, but a route march—90 per cent. of those who fell out belonged to the non-enlisted classes.

Sir, a new experiment to enlist men from the South and Bombay is asked to be made. Army is not like a science laboratory where new experiments may be daily made. Army is an army of men. It cannot be manufactured. The famous Persian poet Sadi says:

"He who fights plays with his own blood.

He who turns back in the field plays with the blood of the whole army."

It is a very serious thing. The strength of the chain depends on its weakest link. One careless sentry on active service may be the cause of the total annihilation of the entire army.

Sir, apart from the territorial force and the University Training Corps, raising of any new battalion out of the non-enlisted classes is a step full of extreme danger and risk. There is a consistent demand for curtailing the army expenditure and now that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, even at some risk of efficiency and proper training, has brought down the expenditure to the bare minimum, they ask for raising new battalions. Sir, I can hardly understand their logic and I can only say that still the little drummer beats his *rat-tat-tat*. With these remarks, I oppose the Resolution.

**Raja Bahadur G. Krishnamachariar** (Tanjore *cum* Trichinopoly: Non-Muhammadian Rural): Sir, while I heartily thank my Honourable friend, Shaikh Sadiq Hasan, who delivered a very fine speech, in support of the Resolution, I am rather sorry to hear my friend, the Captain, speaking against the formation of these two regiments, a very humble and moderate request that my friend, Mr. Jadhav, makes. The history that has been written and the events that happened long ago have not been properly studied by my friend, the Captain, when he stated that, excepting probably a section of the Mahrattas, the rest might be left to their own

[Raja Bahadur G. Krishnamachariar.]

avocations. Now, going back a little and reminding ourselves as to what happened, not now, but in those struggling days of the East India Company, when Clive fought their battles in the South, who constituted the regiments of the East India Company? Sir, it was the genius of Dupleix that discovered the fact that the Indian, properly disciplined and trained, makes the very best soldier, at any rate not inferior to the soldiers of other communities in the world. That was Dupleix's genius and his discovery. The man who took the greatest advantage of that was Clive. With this army, he made firm the hold of the East India Company in the South and defeated the French at every turn and helped the Indian powers, one against the other, in order to consolidate the power of the East India Company; and it is that force, that army, which it is now stated to be of no use whatsoever, because the Government, for some reason or other discontinued the recruiting from the classes that originally contributed to the South Indian Army and went to the North. There is a book that would make my friend, the Captain, think twice regarding this division into martial and non-martial races—he said he knew something about the inner history of the Indian Army: if I had this book now, I should lay before the House the inner history of the reason why the Madras army, the Bombay army and the Bengal army were all disbanded, and recruitment was confined to the north-west tribes. It is a series of articles which appeared in the *Modern Review* last year, but, unfortunately, I cannot find that book and, there, the very Lord Roberts, whose statement was read now by my friend, the Captain, said very plainly that he did not want any other race in India to be recruited from except perhaps among the Mahrattas.

One instance was given of the Bahmini kings recruiting from the South Indian people. We have all heard of Shivaji; we have all heard of his fighting army; they were not from the North; and the Mahrattas, with their own people, had created so much terror in the minds of the people and they had gone as far as Calcutta, where they have left their memory in the name of the Mahratta ditch; and yet my friend says that these people are no good; leave them to their own resources . . . . .

**Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar:** I included the Mahrattas.

**Raja Bahadur G. Krishnamachariar:** You did: thanks for small mercies. You did include the Mahrattas, but why exclude the Madras recruit, especially the Madras pariah? Sir, eight years ago, there was a very heavy flood in Southern India, and the Coleroon, one of the biggest rivers in the South, which is about three quarters of a mile broad, with about 16 ft. of water rolling, broke its bridge on the Grand Trunk Road to Madras. There was absolutely no way of communicating between the north and the south of the Trichinopoly district, and Government decided that as it would take some time for a new bridge to be constructed, a causeway should be put up in order to enable the traffic to pass from one side of the river to the other. Now, the Sappers and Miners were put on this work, and these were from the Madras regiment. I wish my friend had been there to see how efficiently and how quickly they finished the work! Everybody was wonderstruck. They did their work within half the time that was allowed by the Government and that causeway existed until it was broken after the construction of the permanent bridge. That is a tradition they still have. If my friend cares to go to the villages in the

South, he will find very many old soldiers who have served in these regiments and who still have some of the military traditions. I, therefore, submit that instead of being prejudiced over a section of the community and instead of making a distinction between the martial and non-martial classes, which is a pure myth, Government ought to give equal chances to every community and to every province to raise its army, thereby anticipating the formation of a national army when the national Government comes into existence. I would, therefore, very respectfully ask the Government to accept this Resolution; in fact, it would have been more satisfactory if we had known what the attitude of the Government was in connection with this Resolution, but I hope it will come soon and fulfil our expectations.

**Mr. Uppi Sahab Bahadur** (West Coast and Nilgiris: Muhammadan): Mr. Deputy President, the people of Northern India seem to have very poor regard for the military qualities and military traditions of the people of Southern India, but people, who have cared to study and understand the military qualities of the South Indian people, hold a different opinion altogether to those held by casual onlookers. My friend, Mr. Yamin Khan, seems to hold a very poor opinion about our martial qualities . . . . .

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** I have never spoken a word about it.

**Mr. Uppi Sahab Bahadur:** I am sorry. But it was he who interrupted when my friend, Mr. Raju, was speaking, and for his information I will quote the latest opinion . . . . .

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** I interrupted, because the Honourable Member was making an invidious distinction between the people of the North and the South. If he had not made that distinction, I would not have interrupted at all.

**Mr. Uppi Sahab Bahadur:** The people of Southern India have a high regard for the military qualities of the people of the North, but that is no reason for my friend over there to depreciate our martial qualities. Sir, in this book—"India in 1980-31," contains the following passage at page 39:

"but the uplands of Central and Southern India have always produced men of sturdy physique and remarkable endurance. The *Mahrattas*, for instance, in the 18th century clearly demonstrated their right to be classed among the most formidable fighting races in the country; the *Moplahs*, in more recent times, have also shown themselves to be by no means deficient in pugnacity and staying-power; and, throughout the whole of the more southerly portion of India, there exist many other people from whom excellent military material could be obtained".

Sir, the writer of this book must have tried to study things at close quarters. At this juncture, may I remind my friends in Northern India that Tippu Sultan's army was not composed of Pathans and Afghans; it was composed solely of Southern Indian people, Hindus and Mussalmans. In the 18th century, he was a terror to the British Government as well as to the whole of India. When the whole of the Indian Empire in those days was tottering, it was the Southern Indian people who resisted the Britisher, and it was they who tried to uphold the honour and liberty of the Indians as a whole. The Northern Indian people have never been able to conquer South Indians, at least the people of the southernmost parts. Sir, you, as a Coimbatorean, know that your people never came



[Mr. Uppi Saheb Bahadur.]

under a foreigner except under the Britisher. You have been under Tamil kings for years. I for instance have never been under a foreigner except under the British; by foreigner I mean the North Indian kings. Kerala had never been under a foreigner. The Dutch, Portuguese, French and British have been fighting from the 14th century for domination, and we have been fighting with these foreigners, with the Dutch and the Portuguese and other nations. Until the Britisher has been able to conquer us, we never submitted to be ruled by any foreigners. But the Northern Indian people had to submit to foreign rule much earlier. Those, who now cry that their martial qualities have been very fine, very often submitted to foreign conquest. If we go back to ancient history, we find that it was the people of the South who helped Rama to recover his wife Sita. Rama was a North Indian, but he was helped to recover his wife by the South Indians. So says the tradition.

Now, coming to the Moplahs, there seems to be a ban against these people in entering military service. They are not permitted to join any military forces. They are debarred from joining even the territorial forces,—why, I do not know. The other day, in answer to a question in this House, the Army Secretary told me, for reasons best known to myself—perhaps what he meant by it was that Moplahs were rebels, so Government wanted to emasculate them further, emasculate them completely. That Moplahs have been rebels, I do not deny. We have been rebels, we have rebelled, because we had reasons. Those reasons are a closed book; they have never seen the light of day. We have no organ to put forward our case before the world. So, those who had the loudest voice made the world understand that the Moplahs rebelled for nothing, that Moplahs were fanatics. The reasons which goaded them to rebel were sound, good reasons which could not be resisted, which no human being, with any self-respect, would be able to resist. For what in those days they had goaded to rebellion is a thing which the world is ignorant of even today. If, on this occasion, you permit me, I can give out some of the reasons, but this is not the occasion and, I am afraid, you will come down upon me and stop me from speaking on that point. It is said that the Moplahs are a set of turbulent people, not fit for the military, not fit for discipline. From the topmost man to the lowest, it is said that the Moplahs are ignorant and that, on account of their ignorance, they are not to be subjected to discipline, and that they are unruly. From the beginning of the 18th century, or even earlier than that,—because I come from a place near Tellicherry which was the first British settlement on the West Coast—from the earliest advent of the Britisher in India we have been under the British influence and rule. Still they have not been able to educate us. The reason generally given is that the Moplahs are averse to English education. But the real reason is that Government refused to give us the sort of education which we wanted. They completely refused to give that kind of education, and we refused to take the education that they wanted to give us. There was opposition on both sides. Only in recent years the Government have learnt by experience, by bitter experience, that this refusal on their part, this obstinacy on their part led only to bad results, and, therefore, they have begun to change their policy in regard to our education. All that we wanted was that in the schools for Mussalmans in Malabar, Arabic should also be made a secondary language, but Government persistently refused to do that. Till ten years ago, they persistently refused to have Arabic, side by side, with Malayalam and

English, and the Mussalmans of Malabar refused to take to English education. The British Government persistently refused to teach us the language of Arabic, and why should we go to their schools? We are traders, we have got our own businesses and we took to them. The Moplahs are not a barbarous race. We came into contact with civilisation thousands of years ago. Some of us are from Arabia, some of us are converts from Malabar. Malabar has come into contact with the civilisation of the world from time immemorial. You know, from the time of the Greeks, from the time of the Romans, we have been coming into contact with Western civilisation also. We came into contact with the European civilisation much earlier than anybody else in India. It was in Malabar that Vasco de Gama landed, and we Moplahs also were there then. We came into contact with European civilisation as early as the 16th and 17th centuries, and so you cannot say that we are barbarous or uncivilised. Even now I may tell you that there is not even five per cent. of the Moplahs, whether man or woman, who do not know to read or write Arabic. We have to suspect that we are kept in this present position without making provision for the right sort of education as a gunpowder only to be ignited whenever there is a necessity just as it happened in 1921. Now, I ask the Government to give us the ordinary right like any other sister community, to enlist ourselves in the territorial force, and I also appeal to Government to give us an opportunity to have military training just as any other citizen of this country. With these words, I support the motion.

**Mr. Amar Nath Dutt** (Burdwan Division: Non-Muhammadian Rural): Hailing from the land of the Babus, it may seem strange that I should take up the cause of the south Indians. The only thing common, as my Sikh friend observes,—and I do not agree with him—is that the Bengalis and Madrasis are cowards. It is all very well for the Sikhs to say that, but I think if he had exercised a little amount of discretion in using his words, he would not have used such an expression either in respect of the Bengalis or of the Madrasis.

I welcome this Resolution, for I believe that in the future Swaraj of India we must have an army of our own and there should be no racial discrimination about enlistment in the army. It is painful to see that the other provinces in this country are represented in the Indian army, while Bengal and Assam are not, although Lord Clive had Bengali armies and one of his generals was known as General Kalu belonging to one of the depressed classes, namely, the *Dom* caste about the removal of whose untouchability my Honourable friend over there is so very eager. In fact, to Lord Clive a *Dom* was not untouchable and he raised him to the rank of a Colonel though he was called commonly as General Kalu. Since then, much water has flown over the Ganges and it has been said that one of the reasons why men from Bengal are not recruited is that the humid coastal regions have made us weak and not fit to join the army. Of course, I do not agree in that view. Our concern at the present moment is that the Indian infantry battalions in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies should be restored. Till recently, these Presidencies had Indian infantry battalions, and it is only within the last few years that they have been disbanded. In the future constitution of India, in which I hope we will have some kind of Swaraj, though not the sort of Swaraj that we want, I think it will be necessary not only to have these battalions restored, but also to raise battalions in other provinces.

[Mr. Amar Nath Dutt.]

I do not agree with my friend, Captain Sher Muhammad Khan, when he says that the nationalists are bound together by the common sentiment of dislike of foreigners. We call ourselves nationalists and I think parties bearing other political labels also call themselves nationalists. I do not think that any of us dislike foreigners, at least the Britishers who happen to rule over this country at the present moment. We have good reasons to be grateful to them for having introduced Western culture, education and science and improved means of communication, but, at the same time, if we criticise some of their administrative measures, it is not from a dislike of that great race. It is not from a feeling of animosity that we do so, but it is to improve the administration so that there may be peace and plenty in the land. It is not the dislike of foreigners that makes us nationalists, but a desire to help each other in this country so long as they happen to be here and to travel together hand in hand on the common road to progress and prosperity. My friend, the Raja Bahadur from the South, has recited the painful instance about the Mahratta invasion of Bengal and has referred to the Mahratta ditch in Calcutta. I submit that it is too late in the day now to remind us of those painful happenings, but I know that the Bangiya Sahitya Parishat have discovered many an old literature in which we get evidence of the ravages committed by the Mahrattas in the middle of the 18th Century. It is not necessary to remind us of those things, because, since then, the Bengalis and Mahrattas have worked together for the common welfare as evidenced by Tilak, Gokhale, Surendra Nath Bannercjee, and C. R. Das and many others who have worked and worked together for their common motherland. I beg to submit that these questions do not arise on the present Resolution. I should have been glad if my friend, Mr. Jadhav, had been a little more generous and included also Bengal and Assam, because their representation in the Army is nil. He has not done so and we have not got any amendment to that effect. So I support this Resolution, and these infantry battalions should be raised again in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, and when that is done, it will be our turn to say "don't be partial to the Southerners. Give us also some privileges".

One thing I may point out, without any disrespect to the Chair, as he hails from Madras or other Members from Madras. If these battalions are raised and they find some employment there, they will not encroach on our province to the same extent as at present. Our province is the hall of all nations, though the doors of other provinces are barred to us. I know there is a rule in Bihar that, in order to keep up the moral tone of the service, a certain percentage of Bengalis are admitted in service, but that is not the point. Honourable Members on the Treasury Benches may not like the political views and political activities of Bengal, but, at the same time, they know their worth and it will not be possible to deny to Bengal its just due, if the same is granted to Madras and Bombay. The reason given for not enlisting Bengalis is their weak constitution and it is presumed that they are eminently fitted for the desk, but even that desk has been encroached upon by the people from the south and, if some of them get employment in the army, there will be less encroachment than at present. In that view of the case, I would welcome this Resolution. Intellect has been the chief quality of Bengal and, if that is so, Government should do something to see that they develop their physique also.

It has also been said by Captain Sher Muhaminad Khan that it is illogical to ask for the curtailment of the army and to ask for raising new armies.

**Mr. Deputy President** (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty): The Honourable Member has got two minutes more.

**Mr. Amar Nath Dutt:** If armies are raised in Madras and Bombay, there will be a diminution of the army in the United Provinces and the Punjab. In that view, I submit, that the argument does not hold good. I support the Resolution.

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham** (Army Secretary): I regard it as the irony of fate, Sir, that it should fall to me as a Madrasi—and I think the first Madrasi to hold the position of Army Secretary, but not, I hope, the last—to deal with and, I am afraid, to oppose this Resolution. I am aware of the great part played by the peoples of Madras and Bombay in the military history of India. I am fully aware of the views of the Madras Government on this subject. I am also fully aware of, and sympathize with, the opinion of those—and they are many—who regret the passing of the old Coast Army. Sir, it has never been my privilege to serve in any district in Madras which contributed any large number of soldiers to the regular army, but for several years I was Secretary of the Madras Soldiers Board, and, in that capacity, I was brought into fairly close touch with military opinion in the Presidency; and I think that I can claim to have some special knowledge, as a civilian, of the feeling on the subject in the south of India. There are, however, Sir, two sides to every question and the fact that I am in a position to see both sides of this question encourages me to hope that the House will bear with me if I attempt to explain, in the time at my disposal, the purely military view in this matter.

Now, Sir, in order to do that, it will be necessary to go back a certain number of years, though not quite as far as some Honourable Members have done. When Lord Kitchener came to this country in 1902, he found a comparatively large army scattered about India in a large number of cantonments. The troops were localized in those cantonments. They could seldom be collected in sufficient numbers to train in the formations in which they would be called upon to go to war, and none of them, except those in the Punjab Command, possessed, or could gain, experience of conditions on the frontier, where they were most likely to see active service. Now, the principles, on which Lord Kitchener's reorganization was based, were, firstly, that it was the primary function of the army to defend the frontier against aggression; secondly, that the army in peace must be distributed, organized and trained as far as possible in the same units and formations in which they would take the field in war; and, thirdly, that all branches and arms of service should be equally capable, by training and experience, of carrying out the tasks likely to be assigned to them in war. To give effect to this policy, it was necessary to concentrate the troops—to concentrate them partly in the direction of the frontier to meet aggression, and partly into cantonments in other parts, the larger cantonments, in order to secure formations of sufficient size for adequate training. This process involved the disappearance of some 34 cantonments, many of which were in the south of India, and entailed a considerable amount of new building. The whole process had not been

[Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham.]

completed when the war broke out. Now, the lessons of the Great War are a matter of common knowledge. It was undoubtedly due to the acceptance of Lord Kitchener's principles that the army in India was able to take up its part in the great struggle as efficiently and as promptly as it did. But every soldier knows that the war revealed great defects. It was necessary to improvise measures, as we went along, to overcome the initial unpreparedness, and the need for such improvisation both delayed achievement and also in the long run added considerably to the expenditure. After the war, therefore, it was clearly necessary for the army to put matters permanently on a more satisfactory footing. Now, Sir, the gravest defects revealed by the war were the lack of a proper balance between fighting troops on the one hand and administrative and ancillary services on the other and, secondly, the comparative inferiority of our equipment. I believe it is a fact that every Indian soldier who went to France had to be served out with a new rifle when he landed in France. To set these matters right obviously cost a very large amount of money, and it was only possible to do so within the financial limits imposed by carrying out a reduction in the fighting strength of the army. It is for that reason that we find today that the fighting strength of the army in India is some 40,000 soldiers less than it was in 1914. That sacrifice was deliberately made on the considered opinion that it was better to have a comparatively small army which was thoroughly efficient and well-equipped rather than a larger army which was deficient in up-to-date equipment and the proper complement of ancillary services. Now, that is the position we have reached—that the army has been reduced by some 40,000, and the question is, whether the reduction was wisely carried out.

My submission is that it has; but, before going on to analyse how the reduction was made, I should like to make one point to meet what has fallen from one Honourable Member. In those reductions the British Army bore its full share; that is to say, more than one-third of the reductions came from British troops. This Resolution, however, refers only to Indian infantry battalions and here the reduction actually made amounted to 17 battalions, not counting the training battalions. Of these 17 battalions, six were Madras battalions and three were battalions of the Bombay Grenadiers; but the Bombay Grenadiers had not been composed entirely of Marathas for some years, and I believe I am correct in saying that the actual reduction in the number of Marathas was 6 companies, that is to say, a battalion and a half. That leaves 9½ battalions. Those 9½ battalions were composed of other classes drawn chiefly from the north of India. Now, it is obvious that Madras carried a disproportionate share of this reduction, but I do not think that the same would apply to Bombay. The question, therefore, that we have to consider is, whether there is any case today for restoring some of the Madras battalions.

Now, the first and the most obvious objection is the financial one. A battalion of Indian infantry costs about seven lakhs of rupees a year. It is perfectly true that Lord Rawlinson said in 1923, when most of these reductions were made, that, in his opinion, the strength of the army ought to be increased when the funds permitted. On the other hand, in spite of the large reductions that have been made, there are many who still consider that the cost of the Army in India is too high; and I think,

Sir, it would be impossible on financial grounds alone, however desirable it might be on other grounds, to face an actual increase in the strength of the army at the present time. Of course it might be possible to achieve the object in view by disbanding certain regiments from other parts of India and substituting Madras Regiments for them. But, Sir, there are obvious objections to such a course—objections that would be forced upon the attention of the Government of India not only by their own military advisers, but also by the Local Governments and the peoples of the provinces in which the units were selected for disbandment.

So much for the financial side of this Resolution. I must now deal with the other arguments that have been made use of; and these, I think, fall roughly under two heads. Firstly, that the people of the south of India make just as good soldiers as those in any other part of India, and secondly, that even assuming that they do not, it is an unwise policy to confine recruitment to particular classes. Now, as to the first of these arguments, I do not wish in any way to cast a slur on the classes concerned. The plain fact is that you, Sir, or I, or any Honourable Members of this House are entitled to hold any opinion we may wish as to the comparative merits of one class or another as soldiers. But neither you, Sir, nor I, nor any Honourable Member of this House has any right to claim that his opinion should prevail against the considered judgment of those who have actually served with and commanded the different classes of troops. In the opinion of those who are best qualified to judge—and their opinion is strongly re-inforced by what actually occurred during the war—however good Madrasis may be as soldiers, there are other classes who are better. It is entirely a relative matter and, in the army, we do not want anybody except the best. No one denies that Madras and Bombay have produced great soldiers in the past, but I think it is sometimes forgotten that the campaigns in which Madrasis earned their laurels were campaigns which were carried out in the south of India, that is to say, in their own climate and in their own country; and the climate that is to be met with on the Frontier is very different because of the extremes of heat and cold.

Now, Sir, I must say a few words about the second argument, the argument that it is unwise to confine the recruitment to particular classes. I know that this is a somewhat controversial matter on which opinions are apt to be freely expressed. It is difficult to criticise the maxim that no citizen should be debarred from taking a share in the defence of his country. In theory, that maxim cannot be criticised; in practice, it is rather different, in a country of the size of India, which maintains a standing army of minute proportions compared to its total population, probably less than one-thousandth part of its total population. How are we going to recruit from the whole of this vast area? How are we going to decide, when any particular individual presents himself before the recruiting officer from any of the hundreds and thousands of villages and towns between Hardwar and Cape Comorin, that that individual is going to make a good soldier? And how are we going to assemble in suitable formations heterogeneous collections drawn from different castes and classes of India? These are practical difficulties and I maintain that, when a matter like the defence of India is at stake, we cannot afford to take chances. We cannot afford to say that A or B or C may turn out to be a good soldier. We must be guided by experience which tells us that certain classes have in the past produced better soldiers than other classes and then make our selection from within those classes. By all means let us agree that the whole population of India is martial, but do

[Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham.]

let us also recognise that some classes in India are more martial than others. I can assure this House that the sole concern of the army and the only possible justification for their present policy is to obtain the very best possible material and the highest return to the tax-payer's money. I cannot believe that that is an unwise policy or, indeed, that it would be a wise policy to recruit men for the army, because they were Muhammadans or Hindus or Anglo-Indians, or because they came from Bengal or Madras or Bombay or the Andaman Islands, or, indeed, for any other reason except because they were the best possible fighting material.

Now, Sir, I should like to say a few words about the Pioneers, because the subject has been touched upon by one or two speakers. The abolition of the Pioneers has been forced upon the military authorities partly by the pressing need for economy and partly by a recognition of the fact that the Pioneer organisation is not now an absolutely essential portion of our army organisation. But the point that I wish to make is that the Pioneer organisation has gone as a whole, whether the men came from Madras or Bombay or from the Punjab or from north of the Punjab. Surely if it had really been a fact that the army authorities wished to eliminate Madrasis and men from Bombay entirely from the army, this particular change in organisation would have provided an excellent opportunity for doing so. On the other hand, what have we done? We have made every possible effort to retain in the army as many as possible of the classes who served in the Pioneers; and this, I think, is a clear indication of the fact that the army authorities are anxious to retain and use any personnel, wherever it may come from, so long as they are satisfied that it is the best possible material for the purpose for which it is required.

Now, Sir, there is one small announcement that I am now in a position to make which may give some satisfaction to the Mover and other Honourable Members who have supported this Resolution. That announcement is that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has decided to select Madrasis as one of the classes to be recruited for the new Indian artillery which is to be formed as part of the Indianizing Division. (Hear, hear.) I am aware that the numbers involved at first will be small, not more than a few hundred, but this is a new chance for the Presidency to which I have the honour to belong. Personally, I am extremely gratified at the decision taken by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and I do hope that the most will be made of it by the Madras Presidency.

Sir, the responsibility for the defence of India is a heavy one and, if I, as the mouthpiece of those responsible, have been unable to satisfy those who support this Resolution by accepting it, I hope I have at least shown that our policy in this matter is not due to any blind or irrational prejudice, but is dictated solely by what we consider to be in the best interests of India.

The Assembly then adjourned for Lunch till a Quarter to Three of the Clock.

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The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at a Quarter to Three of the Clock, Mr. Deputy President (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty) in the Chair.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi** (Madras ceded Districts and Chittoor: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I have carefully listened to the speech of the Army Secretary on this Resolution and though, in the last part of his speech, he has given a glimpse of hope for South India, yet I must say that the speech has come as a sort of disappointment to us who represent the southern part of India in this Assembly. The Honourable Member said that southerners coming from the Madras or Bombay Presidencies, though they are good material, are not the very best material to form a militia. And he also said that the southern armies can fight only in climates suitable to them which prevails in the south, but they cannot fight well in the climate that obtains in the North-West Frontier Province and other places. I wish this discovery of the inefficiency of the southern people to fight in the other theatres of war had come a little earlier when the ancestors of my Honourable friend laid the foundations of the British Empire in India. If one looks at the history of the army in India, one will find that it is only in the south that native armies first originated. It was due to the genius of Dupleix that he was the first to enlist Indians to form battalions and that was subsequently copied by the British, and it is with the help of these southern battalions that the British people laid the foundations of the Empire which they built subsequently. I wish, therefore, that this discovery had come a little earlier. The Honourable Member said that the southern people could not fight in the northern climates, but if he looks at the history of the Indian army and the achievements of the Madras and Bombay regiments, he will find that those regiments have been used and have fought not only in all parts of India, but they have been used to fight in far-off countries like China, Abyssinia, Mauritius, Java, Ceylon and other places, and in trying climatic conditions. My Honourable friend is full of praise for the northern India armies. But historians have recorded that during the Sepoy Mutiny, it is the Madras and Bombay armies that were greatly used in quelling the rebellious armies composed of North Indian battalions. For his information I will quote from the book by Major Lovett to which Field-Marshal Lord Roberts has written a preface, and which is an authoritative book:

"The Madras and Bombay armies as well as the Hyderabad contingent took an active part in suppressing the mutiny and rebellion in various parts of India, notably in Central India."

Having received so many services from the Madras armies and Bombay armies, I expected that Government would show a little more gratitude.

Then, Sir, he also said that they were not good fighting material, but what do we find in the same book? This is the testimony of Major Lovett:

"The soldiers of Madras have many inherent military qualities. They shoot well, drill well and stand well under arms, and, so far as this part of their professional requirement goes, foreign critics have been known to say that it was not till they got to Madras that they saw regular native soldiers."

Thus we find that Madras regiments do not lack fighting qualities. For one reason or other, to suit their purpose, the Government or the military authorities have classified India into martial and non-martial races, and for their purposes they have been recruiting to the army only from one particular part of India. This is what is called giving a dog a bad name and hanging it; giving a bad name to the southerners as non-martial people and not recruiting them for the army.



[Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi.]

Sir, with regard to the military traditions of the south, I do not want to go much beyond the period which was taken up by previous speakers. One Honourable Member has mentioned the work of the Madras armies during the days of Vijayanagar. The empire of Vijayanagar was one of the biggest empires in the south and it survived for nearly two hundred years, and the armies of Vijayanagar, composed mainly of Madras and Carnatic people, repelled invasion after invasion from northerners and kept the empire for over two centuries. And it was only at the battle of Tallikota that the army was defeated by the Bahmini army and was defeated only by the treachery and intrigue within the army itself. Sir, it may be said that it is a very far off period to take; but let us come to the days of the East India Company. During the days of Hyder Ali, he established a kingdom in Mysore and it is said of him that he fought many wars against the British and won all the wars, and it is with the help of the . . . .

**Mr. B. V. Jadhav:** He did not establish it: he usurped it.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi:** You may say, he usurped; but by whatever name you may call it, he did it with the armies formed of Madras and Karnatic people; and, as I was saying, he succeeded in all his wars against the British. He was never defeated in one single battle. Then, during the time of the East India Company, I have already stated that they were used in all the theatres of war and it was the Madras Army that laid the foundations of the British Empire; and to say now that they are lacking in martial spirit and martial traditions is not the real fact. My learned friend, the Member for the Army, said that there were other considerations we were to take into account, owing to the object lessons that the recent war had provided. He said that they had to disband various battalions; they had to cut down the expenditure and, it is in pursuance of that policy of cutting down expenditure on the military, that these battalions of the south have been disbanded . . . .

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham:** On a point of explanation: it was not merely for that reason that this disbandment took place: it was in order to provide funds to get a good army rather than a bad army.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi:** I am also alluding to that: what he said was that the policy was to have a smaller army with better equipment rather than a larger army ill-equipped. I am not disputing the policy pursued by the Government, but what I am emphasising is that by taking up this process you have completely disbanded the very few battalions that survived the onslaught which has been going on from the time of the Mutiny when the British found themselves secure in their empire in India. Government used those armies for the purpose of achieving their empire and for establishing and strengthening it; and, when it is no longer necessary, they have thrown it out as a thing that is untouchable and now they come out with the excuse that we want efficiency and a smaller army . . .

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** (Muzaffarpur *cum* Champaran: Non-Muhammadan): That has been their policy all along.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi:** You may keep up the traditions by having some representative battalions, and the military department might as well curtail some of the battalions in northern India in its place . . . .

**Mr. S. O. Mitra** (Chittagong and Rajshahi Divisions: Non-Muhammadian Rural): Why not from the British army itself? It will bring in more money.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi**: I am coming to that. That is what I require of the Government. I want that they should . . . .

**Mr. Deputy President** (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty): The Honourable Member has got only one minute more.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi**: The policy of the Government hereafter, as declared by the Secretary of State, will be Indianisation of the army, and if that policy has to be given effect to, there will be a national army getting recruitment only from northern India, while the whole of southern India and central India will go unrepresented. At least for the sake of that future national army, let the recruitment be taken from all parts of India. It is not only northern India that is contributing for the military expenditure: southern India also is contributing towards it and, as such, it expects that there should be better representation of Southern India in the army also. If financial consideration is the only thing, then, I ask, in case there is ease in the financial situation, either in the shape of relief that we hope to get from the deliberations of the capitation tribunal or by reducing the British element in India, are Government prepared to give a guarantee that they would recruit for the army from southern India also? For these reasons, I support the Resolution moved by Mr. Jadhav.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan**: Sir, this Resolution, as it stands, involves certain principles and is asking for something which  
 3 P.M. make it very difficult to support this Resolution. The one principle which it implies is the provincialisation of different services. If this principle is accepted in the case of the Army, I do not know where it will end and what demands will not come up in other shapes. My friend, Mr. Raju, read out certain extracts from certain book in which he showed that the Madrasis were intellectually very well advanced people. There is no doubt about it. You also, Sir, come from Madras, whose intellect and knowledge is accepted by this Assembly in choosing you as Deputy President. I have got no doubt that there are so many other prominent persons in the Government service who hold very high and responsible posts at present and they have shown their intellect by their good work. There can be no dispute about it. Another gentleman, Mr. Amar Nath Dutt, advances the case of Bengal that the Bengalis are very well advanced and that fact has not been disputed also; and we find evidence that the first Indian Leader of this House came from Madras and now we find that another Leader of the House, a highly intellectual gentleman, occupies that seat again: he comes from Bengal. So there is no doubt about it and nobody came to question the intellectual capability or capacity of Madrasis or of Bengalis. In this way, God has given certain gifts to certain provinces and other gifts to other provinces. This is the gift which is given to northern people, to stand the rough work; they are physically stronger, they can bear physical strain; they have been good soldiers, and while Madras and Bengal have shown their advance in other intellectual spheres, Punjabis and United Provinces people have shown themselves to be quite capable in the field when they come up as soldiers. So when a distinction is going to be made or when my Honourable friend, Mr. Raju, comes and says he disagrees

[Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan.]

with his own Government when they said that Punjab and United Provinces people could bear physical strain in a much better way than the people from the south could do, when he wants to say that the Madrasis are physically as strong as the best men from the north, I dispute this point. That was the point which I questioned; that statement is not one which I can accept as correct. I cannot accept that statement as correct, and, in so doing, I do not mean in any way to disparage the physical capabilities of the southern people . . . .

**Mr. B. Sitaramaraju:** I may tell my friend that today the strongest man in India is perhaps Prof. Rama Murti Naidu who comes from my district in the South.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** That is another disputed factor. I do not want to discuss whether Mr. Naidu or Mr. Gama is the strongest man, or whether Gama can defeat Mr. Naidu in a wrestling match or Mr. Naidu can defeat Mr. Gama. That is a different issue altogether. But if my friend traces history, he will find that even Raja Ram Chandra,—whose name has been dragged in,—came from Oudh. He was a Rajput, a Kshatriya, and he defeated the armies of the South. If you come to later history, you will find that in the Gupta period the armies of the North overran the armies of the South. Still later history shows that Alauddin Khiliji, with a handful of men, . . . .

**Mr. B. Sitaramaraju:** May I correct my Honourable friend? Raja Ram Chandra defeated the armies of Ceylon with the armies of the Southern India.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** I do not want to quarrel on it, but coming to Alauddin Khiliji's period, it will be seen that he and Malik Kafur defeated, with a handful of men, the armies of the South even up to Cape Comorin. Then, an Honourable Member said something about Bahamani Kings, but I may tell this House that they were no other people than Pathans. A handful of people went down and established their kingdom in the South. My friend wanted to cite history, but I do not wish to go into very controversial matters of history, although I have read history very minutely and in very great detail, and I can say, without any hesitation, that throughout we find that at no time were the armies of the South able to stand against the armies of the North.

**An Honourable Member:** What about the Mahrattas?

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** If my friend wants to know something about the Mahrattas, I will suggest to him to read a book called 'Irwin's Later Days Moghuls', in which he will find a description to the effect that when Hassan Ali Khan, one of the Sayyads of Bara, from where my Honourable friend, Syed Amir Husain, comes, brought the Mahratta armies into the city of Delhi and when the Mahrattas wanted to surround the Fort on the day of Furrukhsiyer's dethronement, even the Goondas of Delhi gave some slaps on the faces of the Mahratta Cavalry men and relieved them of the looted property which they had with them. That is the army which it is said is fit to fight against the armies of the North. I did not want to quote from history . . . .

**Mr. N. N. Anklesaria** (Bombay Northern Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): They were only Pindaris and not Mahrattas.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** They were certainly Mahrattas and not Pindaris. Now, Sir, we are all talking about nationalism. The nation is composed of people of all provinces of India, and not of one province. If you want a quota from every province, certainly it is for the House to decide that each province should be defended by its own people, and I shall have no hesitation in accepting that principle. But I do not think it is a sound proposition . . . . .

**Mr. S. O. Mitra:** What is the harm?

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** Of course, there will be no harm, because Bengal is safe now a days from the Arakanese and the Portuguese who used to trouble them before the advent of the British, but, if we accept the principle that is suggested here, it will do a great harm to India as a whole. The burden of fighting and defending should be borne only by those who have had experience of bearing such burdens in the past, because they are the same kind of people. The trouble is always apprehended from the North, and, therefore, it is only the people from the North who can combat the enemies from the North. The fight will not come from Arakan, it will not come from Burma, but it will come from the North, and the armies who can defend these aggressors can only be the people of the North, because they all belong to the same class. The whole question relates to the defence of India, and if we introduce the principle that is suggested by some of my friends here, I do not know how it will end. According to Hindu history, we find that the Kshatriyas always shed glory, and as such nobody can ever raise the slightest objection to recruiting a large proportion of soldiers from the Kshatriyas. Their classes, known as the Sasodias or Khachhwās, and other classes of Rajputs distinguished themselves in the past and even earned a great name as good fighters. They fought with great valour in the last war too, and they will certainly acquit themselves creditably at any time, because they have a tradition behind them. Then, again, we find another race, I mean the Jats, who have also fought very well in the last war. They supplied great man power in the last war. Among these Jats, there are Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs, but whoever they may be, the community as a whole has contributed a great deal of man power and they have supplied very good and efficient soldiers to the army. Today if any of my friends wants to see these people, he has merely to see any of the Jat regiments and he will see that these people are very efficient in every way. There are Punjabi Mussalmans and Hindus as well; there are also the frontier people, I mean people from the North-West, and they have all stood the attacks of outsiders in the past. Now, to say that we should disband these people who have proved their worth, loyalty, efficiency and ability in great wars in the past and that they should be substituted by new regiments from the South, regiments composed of newly recruited men, is a proposition which cannot be supported by any sane man. Quite apart from this, if the principle suggested by some Members that each province should recruit its own people for purposes of defence be accepted, then there will be questions as to why not a particular regiment be recruited from a particular district or from a particular community in that province, and in this way there will be no end of trouble. You cannot divide the army

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according to districts and villages or according to communities in the country, but the army should be recruited from the classes which have been accustomed to stand war, which have a tradition behind, and which can defend the frontiers of India for the safety of the whole of India, and it will be for the good of everybody. There should not be any question of provincialism or communalism introduced here, because if we do so, it will be fraught with grave consequences, because the army will become inefficient. Therefore, Sir, the best judges in the matter are the people who have been recruiting people for the army, who have tried different classes of people, and who know what particular classes are fit for the army, and they alone are the best judges to equip the army from the classes which they consider best. I agree with the Army Secretary when he says that there may be some people who are good martial people, but there are others who have proved better than . . . . .

**Mr. Deputy President** (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty): The Honourable Member has got only one minute more.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** As I was saying, the best judges to decide this question are the people who have had considerable experience of recruiting men to the army; they are certainly placed in a much better position in this matter than any of the Honourable Members here who have no experience of these matters, and, therefore, this question of the selection of proper people to the army should be left to them. Therefore, since this Resolution has come here more or less as a provincial question and it tries to make a distinction between province and province, I oppose it.

**\*Hony. Captain Rao Bahadur Ohaudhri Lal Ohand** (Nominated Non-Official): If there is any department where the basic principle of recruitment is efficiency and where a slight deviation from that principle would prove disastrous, it is the Army Department.

**Mr. N. M. Joahi** (Nominated Non-Official): What about politics?

**Hony. Captain Rao Bahadur Ohaudhri Lal Ohand:** That does not come in here. On this point there is perfect unanimity on all sides of the House. My Honourable friends, Messrs. Jadhav and Raju, both laid stress on efficiency, and when they were quoting from the Madras Government reports, they took their stand on efficiency alone. Now, the question is, who is to be the judge? Are we to look for rulings on points of efficiency in our Indian Law Reports (Laughter), or are we to take military expert opinion as the sole test for determining the efficiency of a community in matters of army recruitment? We have listened to the very well-reasoned speech of the Army Secretary, and I have to congratulate him, not only on his speech, but on the announcement, the epoch-making announcement that he has made. Up to this time, the artillery section of the army was not open to Indians and the Madrasis should really be congratulated on their first getting this chance as Indians.

**An Honourable Member:** It was open before 1857.

\*Speech not revised by the Honourable Member.

**Hony. Captain Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Lal Chand:** The chief arguments advanced in favour of this Resolution are that, firstly, the Madrasis did well under Lord Clive in the early days of the East India Company, secondly, that they did well during the Great War, thirdly, that they will prove cheaper than north Indian people, and, lastly, the old argument that proceeded from the oldest Member of this House, I mean Raja Bahadur Krishnamachariar, that the distinction between martial and non-martial classes should be done away with. As regards the first, the Madrasis did very well under Lord Clive and in the olden days of the East India Company. But, we must remember, that in those days the frontier of India was in Madras and not beyond Peshawar. They had to fight with people who lived upon rice and gram only, and, if they did well, that is no wonder. Lord Clive could not import people from the north to fight against those Madrasis.

**An Honourable Member:** What do the Japanese eat?

**Hony. Captain Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Lal Chand:** I do not know, you may know better.

**An Honourable Member:** Rice.

**Hony. Captain Rao Bahadur Chaudhri Lal Chand:** Madrasis did well during the Great War, and we are all proud of that, but as has already been pointed out by the Army Secretary, others may have done better and the army people have to choose the best, those that did best. So, on that point, we should leave the whole thing to the army experts. I will not dilate upon the distinction between the martial and non-martial classes at this stage. After the start that has been given at Dehra Dun to non-martial class boys, where both the martial class boys and non-martial class boys are equipping themselves for the army, side by side, and, those of us who had been there, saw how well they were doing,—I think it is not fair that we should go on the old story of martial and non-martial classes. The non-martial classes should try to send their best men to the army, now that they have got an opening through Dehra Dun, and I for one would welcome them. I accept the proposal that the officering in the Army Department should be in proportion to the soldiers which each community supplies. As a matter of fact, this is one of our grievances—that we are providing soldiers, ordinary sepoys, and we have not got the same share among officers. But I do not grudge this concession to the non-martial classes, and I look upon them to supply as many soldiers also as they supply officers. As I have pointed out, the question must be left to the Army Department for determination. They have to determine the efficiency of one class or the other, and, as on this point there is perfect unanimity, I will resume my seat by making a personal appeal to Mr. Jadhav. He belongs to a martial community, whose past history is full of heroic deeds, and India is proud of the past history of Maharashtra. They did well during the Great War also, and I think that on a point like this we should not make it a provincial question. The Madrasis have been given a chance and we do not grudge it. We hope that Madrasis will prove equal to the occasion and equal to the chance that has been given to them and will do credit to the selection that has been made. I appeal to my Honourable friend, now that this distinction between martial and non-martial classes is being done away with in the higher ranks of the army and that Madrasis have been given a first chance in the artillery section of the army, he should not press this point to a division and withdraw his Resolution.

**Major Nawab Ahmad Nawaz Khan** (Nominated Non-Official): Sir, I have great regard and affection for these provinces and the people of these provinces. I am not going to cast any slur on any community or any province at all. A lot has been said before. The present Resolution deals with soldiers only, and the House knows very well that the army is kept for offensive and defensive purposes and the size of the army is increased or decreased according to the military necessity and the financial strength of the country. Honourable Members who have supported the Resolution have not brought forward any good or convincing reasons for raising a battalion on account of military necessity, nor have they shown that there is sufficient finance to support such a battalion. Therefore, when there is no military necessity, and the financial aspect of the country does not admit of the raising of such a battalion, will it not be a useless thing to press the Resolution to a decision? It is not a communal question at all, nor is it a charitable matter, that we should press the Government for representation of this community or that community in the army, or that we should ask for some charitable aid to the Madras people or the Bombay people.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** Why should communities be represented in the public services?

**Major Nawab Ahmad Nawaz Khan:** That is an irrelevant question.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** It is not an irrelevant question.

**Major Nawab Ahmad Nawaz Khan:** The present question is a purely military question and it should be discussed and decided purely on grounds of military necessity and the financial strength of the country, which do not admit at all of the raising of a battalion under the present circumstances. Another point that has been mentioned by my Honourable friend, Mr. Tottenham, which should give satisfaction to the Madrasis, is that they will be recruited to the new artillery. In these circumstances, looking to the military necessity and the financial position, I hope Honourable Members will not support the Resolution that has been moved.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra:** I congratulate Mr. Jadhav for bringing forward this Resolution, but, at the same time, I cannot understand why he has left out the Presidency of Bengal. The other two older Presidencies of Madras and Bombay cannot, I think, claim any special privilege which should be denied to the Presidency of Bengal. I congratulate also the Army Secretary for his very small mercy to the Madras Presidency. By the concession that he is now going to show to Madras, it only proves that he is true to his salt. He is a Madras civilian and that has induced him to concede a small morsel to the Presidency from which he comes. I agree with Mr. Yamin Khan that military men should be recruited solely on grounds of efficiency. Nobody can question that, but why, on the question of efficiency, you should attempt to confine your recruitment to a certain area alone? It is foolish to dogmatize in this matter that efficient men are available in one part of the country only. You may say that the Madrasis are intellectually superior, but can you infer from that that every Madrasi or every Bengali is superior to every man in Northern India? When it is said that people in the north are physically stronger than the people from the south, does it mean that every man in the United Provinces or in the Punjab is physically stronger? My friend, Mr. Kabeer-ud-Din Ahmed, comes from Bengal. He will demonstrate that such a

universal proposition is absurd. (Laughter.) But, in this matter, I rely on a more fundamental principle. I do not concede that the merit of a military man consists only in the strength of his muscle. I can quote authority after authority to show that in modern warfare there is no place for wrestling or the use of swords or bayonets. It is more by use of the brain that the pigmy Japanese defeated the great Cossack army of Russia. Even the British military authorities are anxious to recruit the pigmy Gurkhas as much as the stalwart Sikhs. So, I say, even on the ground of physical superiority of some races, it cannot be claimed that recruitment should be confined only to the north.

As I have already said, a whole race cannot be stigmatized as efficient or non-efficient. Time will not allow me to go fully into this theory of martial race, but I will say that, when it suited them, the British military authorities did not hesitate to say that the Brahmins in the Gangetic valley, I mean the people from Mr. Yamin Khan's province, were the best soldiers. Then, they praise the Sikhs when it suits them. Now, it is the turn of the Punjabi Mussalmans. When these Punjabi Mussalmans become educated and patriotic, they will say that the trans-border Gurkhas are the only military race. As my friend, Mr. Reddi, said, the British conquered India with the help of the red army consisting mostly of Madras soldiers and Bengalees. Now, I will quote something about this martial race theory:

"Now, there is nothing in the world more difficult to speak about or easier to underestimate than the fighting quality of an alien people. All decent men exhibit a healthy scepticism with regard to the valour of the foreigner. It is, so to say, only the other side of one's own self-respect. In the years immediately following the war, to run away like the English was a saying often heard in the Paris cafes and the reminiscences of the Irish insurgents of 1920-22 are full of scornful allusions to the bravery of the English soldiery. Before the Russo-Japanese War, yellow money was a common epithet in the mouth of the Russians for the despicable undersized Japanese. In India, too, one comes across similar *obiter dicta*. A Dogra, belonging to one of the famous regiments of the Indian army, once expressed to me his immeasurable contempt for the fighting quality of the British soldier and reported to me a saying of the Kaiser in which he was said to have given out that given the Indian sepoy, the British tank and something else, which I forget, he would have beaten the world hollow and nobody could have resisted him."

I can quote from the words of the British Generals themselves:

"Giving evidence before the Committee of Enquiry, Lord Roberts said that he had been compelled to remove five Generals of Division, six Brigadiers of Cavalry, one Brigadier of Infantry, five Commanders of Cavalry Regiments and four Commanders of Infantry Battalions for incompetence, which was a very large number, considering the number of troops employed. He was asked by Lord Esher, the President of the Commission, whether he had ever heard whether many of the German officers had been removed in 1870 for incompetency. Lord Roberts replied that he could not say and went on.

Whether it is inherent in the British character or whether it is owing to something faulty in the training of our officers, I cannot say, but the fact remains that surprisingly few of them are capable of acting on their own initiative. Many of them do very well if you can tell them exactly what to do and how to do it, but, left to themselves, they fail."

So, I say, even high officers of the army fail sometimes, but that is no reason why a whole race should be condemned. Will the British Government recruit Prussians for their soldiery even if they are convinced that they make better fighters? That is the question. India will be demanding full responsible government and there will be provincial autonomy. Why should we look to the northerners all the time to send their soldiers? I admit that the northerners in the average have more physical strength and endurance which are important factors. Even



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admitting that, I say that this policy of the Government of disarming a whole nation has resulted in emasculating the nation and that has brought about this helpless physical condition of the people in a vast area of this land.

There are other peculiar theories on this subject as to how people come to be militant. I shall just quote a few lines to show what I mean :

"This tendency towards the drying up of the military energies of the Indian people under British rule has developed to such an extent that it has led British military authorities to enunciate principles of heredity and environment which not only no biologist would ever dare to make, but which hopelessly contradict one another. Fighting quality, says one authority, is entirely dependent on race. Another authority would imply that it depends on food. In reply to a question of the Marquis of Linlithgow, whether the physical superiority of the so-called martial races was due to racial characteristics or advantages of diet and life, or both, Lieutenant-Colonel Graham, I.M.S., Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India, said :

'I think I said in my memorandum that the question is very much *sub judice* at the moment. Colonel McCay went very strongly for the absence of the protein elements in the diet as being the causation, but I showed how that had been questioned by Dr. Hindhede, a leading Danish dietetic expert, and that is one of the reasons why I say we require more inquiry in India on this particular subject'."

So, even as regards what constitutes and what are the reasons for making a race more martial than another, there is no established authority at all; and, speaking for individuals, it can be shown every day that it is foolish to dogmatize that one race is martial and another whole race is non-military. As a matter of fact, by debarring the peoples, in many cases the entire people of some of the provinces, from any share in the military recruitment, the British Government is having so much trouble and facing so much discontent.

Then, there is the other aspect of the question,—as to why the Bengalis, or the Madrasis, or the Bombay people, who pay crores and crores of rupees every year towards the cost of the Military Budget, should be deprived of any share in the loaves and fishes as represented by the distribution of that money as soldiers' pay. I may recall to this House in this connection, that only the other day, my Honourable friend, Mr. Maswood Ahmad, raised the question that because a certain railway passed through a certain area, therefore, and on that score, the people of that area. Muslims, should have so much representation in that Railway service. Now, I ask, when this huge Military Budget is being financed out of taxes raised throughout India, and when the major portion of those funds is collected from those other provinces, why, in the expenditure of these 50 crores of rupees, the people of these very provinces should have absolutely no share? Is that fair, is that just? Sir, that is gross injustice done to the people of these other provinces. I know for the time being my Honourable friend, Mr. Yamin Khan, is happy that the Punjab Muslims enjoy a monopoly of about 51 per cent. of the Indian soldiery. Now, when the people who furnished that soldiery are sufficiently educated, then other races will be considered martial races and that will be shifted again. The Sikhs were predominant in number, only a few years before. Now, however, they are casting their lot with the avocations of other people.

The British policy seems to go still towards the north and the far north, to those barbarous tracts, if possible, the trans-border clans and Pathans, for army recruitment. Sir, even if some of the races today are non-martial,

according to their definition, I ask, is it not the duty of the Government to see that by giving them proper chances, proper facilities, proper encouragement, they may be made more and more martial, especially when they bear their full share of the burden of the Military Budget? At any rate if that cannot be accomplished today, is it not their duty to take steps to bring it about in the course of a few years? I think, Sir, it would have been better if, for these and other reasons, my Honourable friend, Mr. Jadhav, would have enlarged his Resolution, and, instead of confining it to one or two Presidencies, the recruitment could have been distributed throughout the whole of India. Of course I fully agree with Mr. Yamin Khan that those, who are the most efficient physically, intellectually and in every way, should be recruited, though I do not agree that there is any water-tight compartment that one who is physically strong must be intellectually weak and *vice versa*.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** I never said that.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra:** Then you said that there is a distinction between the southerners and the northerners. Would my Honourable friend reserve all the places in the Secretariat in favour of Madrasis, because they are intellectually superior? No,—here he at once puts in his claim for a one-third share absolutely, irrespective of all other considerations. On the contrary, as soon as the southerners want their share in the military, my Honourable friend is apprehensive of the loss of his vested privileges. I say, it is not mutually exclusive. It is absurd to think that because a man is physically strong, therefore he must be intellectually weak and *vice versa*. The sound British policy should be, in recruiting soldiers and officers for the army, to recruit on as wide a basis as possible and throughout the whole of India. I can quote facts and figures to show that there are at the present moment a hundred times more recruits available throughout India. Let Mussalmans have their just share, let other communities have their just share, I do not grudge that at all. Let everyone be properly represented, but let it be applied throughout India and let the crores and crores of people in India have a share. For instance, let Bengal or Madras, comprising crores and crores of people, get hold of, say, 10,000 or 50,000 posts of soldiers, raised in those vast areas, the peoples of which are not only intellectually better, but also physically good enough, and if you apply a physical test, even then it will not be difficult to raise half a lakh or so out of their vast numbers. Sir, if there is a will, there is a way. It is not at all difficult to get soldiers from any part of India who are efficient both physically and intellectually. With these words, I support even this restricted Resolution.

**Sirdar Harbans Singh Brar** (East Punjab: Sikh): Sir, I have absolutely no objection to the recruitment of either Bengalis, Madrasis or Bombay men to the army, but I certainly do take objection to regiments or battalions being recruited on a provincial or regional basis as is proposed in this Resolution. Nothing is more welcome to any Indian than the inclusion of all Indians in the defence forces of the country as a whole, and it will be all to the good of the country if the people of all the provinces join together as comrades in arms, and in peace, in regiments recruited on a national basis, and not on a provincial or regional basis.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** What about a communal basis?

**Sirdar Harbans Singh Brar:** Certainly I would object to that. Sir, the army is a field in which merit and merit alone should have priority over all other considerations governing recruitment, because the sovereignty of a State will depend on its capacity to maintain peace, to preserve order and to protect itself from foreign aggression; and, in such matters as the preservation of law and order in the country or its protection from foreign aggression, we cannot take risks of any kind whatsoever. Pure capacity and merit of each individual must constitute the main factor in his selection for recruitment to the army of a country. I am at one with my Honourable friend, Captain Lal Chand, that those classes who have so far offered themselves for service in the army of this country are alarmed at the present moment, because when the question of the recruitment of sepoys was concerned and there was the question of facing the bullet, it were those classes, who are at present recruited, who fought for themselves and won honours for the country, but when the prizes of officers' posts in the commissioned ranks were offered in larger numbers to Indians, most of the share in those commissioned ranks fell to those people who have so far contributed the least for the protection of the country from rebellion within and foreign aggression from without. Sir, we will always welcome the people of all provinces, of all creeds and castes joining the army in India, provided they bear their share of the rank and file also, and, for the matter of that, it would be better that the commissioned ranks should be in proportion to the strength of the respective classes in the rank and file. It is very well for all those people who were formerly classed as non-martial, for whatever reasons, to fight and kick up rows every now and then as to why are they not given their due share in the army when the officer's class is in question. But they are not even one-tenth of the proportion of what they claim and now get in the officers' ranks, as compared to their number either in the ranks of the sepoys or in the lower non-commissioned ranks.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** You are not fair. It is not that they do not offer themselves for the lower ranks, but that they are not taken. Please be fair.

**Sirdar Harbans Singh Brar:** I cannot understand that they are denied the lower ranks in the army, when commissioned ranks are open to them. Formerly it was so and there is no doubt about it. But if an Aggarwal, a Bania or a non-martial man of any other caste can now at once be recruited to the Lieutenant's rank as a commissioned officer in His Majesty's army in India, he is as much welcome to the sepoy's rank or to the Indian officers' rank. Therefore, Mr. Deputy President, I would oppose this Resolution in its present form for the formation of a battalion on a provincial basis, because that would accentuate the provincial jealousies, prejudices and rivalries and would prevent the growth of national spirit, so essential for the preservation of peace and tranquillity and protection from foreign aggression. But I would certainly welcome the inclusion in the army, as a whole, of people from other provinces in mixed regiments and in mixed battalions who may belong to any caste or creed. At the same time, we must recruit to the officers' ranks in proportion to the number of people in the rank and file. With these words and agreeing on fundamentals with Captain Lal Chand and with my friend, Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar, with whom, fortunately or unfortunately, I generally agree on army questions only, I oppose this Resolution.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** Mr. Deputy President, being born of Brahmin parents from Bombay side, I have not the slightest chance of being admitted as a soldier in the Indian army, nor have my children the slightest chance. I am not, therefore, interested in this question, but I feel that the division of the people in this country into war-like and unwar-like classes has absolutely no justification at all. Bravery and courage do not depend upon the size of the bodies of the people; they do not depend upon the weight of human beings; they do not depend upon whether a man eats wheat or rice. Bravery and courage are a quality of the heart and they do not depend upon any of these considerations. Neither are these qualities dependent upon heredity. People may inherit physical qualities, but they do not generally inherit either courage or bravery. I do not know how the British people came to bring about these distinctions. Perhaps it may be by chance or by coincidence; I do not attribute any motives to them. We know that by coincidence a thing happens. They began to recruit more people from the Punjab and from Northern India and they afterwards began to make a principle of it that these people are more brave. The same thing may happen in other departments as well. Today, for instance, we have got more people in our Finance Department from Madras. Some one may come forward and say these Madras people are more fitted for the Finance Department and, therefore, recruitment to the Finance Department should be restricted only to the Madras people.

Sir, I would like to ask some of those friends of mine who spoke today that the Army should not be recruited on territorial lines, but should be recruited nationally, how would they like a Madras officer of the Finance Department or a Madras Member in charge of the Finance Department making a rule that as Madrasis are better than others in the Finance Department, therefore, recruitment to that Department should be confined to Madrasis only. So, it comes to this that after having somehow recruited more people from Northern India, Government thought that it was also useful politically. I do not suggest for a moment that this discrimination or distinction was brought about deliberately by the British officers, but this distinction or difference having taken place they find that it is politically also useful. It divides the country; the communal movement is more useful to the Government. I do not suggest for a moment that Government foments communal differences, but this movement is useful to them politically. Similarly, the distinction which has been made in the military is useful to them. They know that when vested interests are created and you begin to take away those vested interests, there will be trouble, there will be civil war. These things afford a chance to the British Government to remain in India for all time to come.

Some of my friends here said that you could make recruitment on communal lines and even on territorial lines in the case of the Civil Departments, but not in the case of the Army. Has anyone really shown that the Army is more important than the Civil Departments? Let me at least ask the Army Secretary on behalf of Government whether he is going to make a distinction between the Army and the Civil Departments and say that the Civil Departments are not as important for the country as the Army is? What is the use of your defending the country if there is no proper civil administration in the country, and if we do not get proper education and enough to eat? It is, therefore, wrong for any Government or for any responsible legislator to say that the Army is

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more important than the Civil Departments. Sir, we cannot make any distinction between the Civil Departments and the Army Department.

One word more and I have done. My friends here want a proof that the other people are as brave as they are. I had thought that at least decency, if not modesty, would prevent my friends like Mr. Yamin Khan and others from saying that they belong to a race which is more brave.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan:** I never said that.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** I was disappointed when I heard those remarks. I would have hesitated in following that method. But, unfortunately, I had heard that statement not once, but hundred times and let me now say very frankly what I think about my friends from the north. I do not wish to offend the susceptibilities of anyone: I have never done it. But let me ask a question, especially from my friends from the Punjab. Punjab is divided into Hindus, Sikhs and Muhammadans. I take it that Government consider all these three communities as more brave than the other communities in the other provinces. The Hindus and the Sikhs together are 45 per cent. in the Punjab and they are afraid of the Muhammadans who are 55 per cent. If the Hindus and the Sikhs were a set of brave people, could they be afraid of the Muhammadan rule in the Punjab? But they are fighting now against this very fact that the Muhammadans will rule the Punjab and they do not know what will happen to their lives and to their property. And, Sir, what about the Muhammadans? The Muhammadans in the Punjab are 55 per cent. of the population and they are afraid that their lives and properties are in danger from 45 per cent. of the Hindus and Sikhs and, therefore, they want a statutory majority in the Legislative Council. These are not proposals that should come from a brave people. There is a limit to the patience of people who come from the south. Let my friends from the north remember that it will be helpful to the British people to create divisions amongst us, but it will not help us. Sir, I have done.

**Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Sahab Bahadur** (South Madras: Muhammadan): Sir, I rise to support the Resolution which has not been properly understood by some of the gentlemen here who were afraid of provincialism against nationalism. Here it is said:

"This Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council that the South Indian Infantry Battalions be again raised, etc."

It is not simply "raised", but "again raised". Now, the question is that we, the Madras and Bombay people, had battalions of our own for years together.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra:** And Bengalis also.

**Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Sahab Bahadur:** Yes, Bengalis also. And these battalions have proved very useful to the British Raj. The southerners have contributed a good deal towards the British army; so much so, that as my friend, Mr. Reddi, has proved, an Indian army consisting of southerners was able to defeat the Britishers at the time of Hyder Ali. And what about Tipoo Sultan who was named "the Tiger of Mysore"? Britishers were afraid of Tipoo Sultan and they were obliged to enlist the co-operation of the southerners, consisting of the

Hyderabad force and the Mahrattas. But for their co-operation they would not have been able to defeat the Tiger of Mysore. Then, Sir, as you know, I come from Trichinopoly which was the battle-field during the time of Lord Clive, the founder of the British Empire in India. The Golden Rock which has come to prominence owing to the workshop of the South Indian Railway was a battle-field when southerners, under the command of Ahrar Khan, were able to defeat the forces of Chanda Saheb, commanded by Dupleix. And, but for the army of Muhammad Ali, better known as Walajah, who was the first ally of the British in the whole of India, the British Raj would not have been able to establish itself in South India. Then, what happened in Arcot? The commissariat was quite inadequate and could not meet the necessary requirements. What did the Madras Army do then? They approached their commanding officer and said that they would be satisfied with rice water (Kanji) and the rice might be given to the European soldiers. They were so patriotic and so sympathetic, as generally is the case with Indians, that they did not care so much for themselves as for the Britishers. Now, what has been done? Such a force has been disbanded and that is why the word "again" is used in the Resolution. Madrasis and Bombay people were tried not once, but hundreds of times, and, for centuries, they proved themselves equal to the task. Now, if Britishers prove ungrateful to them, it would be very unbecoming on their part, and that is why this Resolution is tabled.

**An Honourable Member:** Sandhurst is open to all the provinces.

**Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Saheb Bahadur:** How can there be officers without soldiers and sepoy's?

**Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar:** Officers get more pay.

**Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Saheb Bahadur:** We are not concerned with the question of pay; we don't attach so much importance to  
 4 P.M. pay as we do to our right to defend the motherland.

Sir, as regards the Muslims, I would say that though we form only seven per cent. of the whole population of Madras, the Muslims contributed a great deal to the army, particularly the Moplahs. And then the peculiarity in our province is that our Hindu brethren will not grudge it, and if you have any number of Hindu officers or sepoy's in the regiments, the Muslims will not grudge it. So, when there is so much cordiality and amity among the Hindus and Muslims of Madras, I do not see any reason why they should not be enlisted in infantry battalions. Of course the question that they would be enlisted as artillery people is, in my opinion, mere eye-wash.

[At this stage Mr. Deputy President (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty) vacated the Chair which was taken by Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan.]

This is not a new thing for them. Prior to 1857, we had so many Madras artillerymen among the southerners. What are the Government giving them anew? Nothing.

Then, as regards the physiological point, it is well known that those who are intellectually strong must necessarily be strong in their physique and those that are not physically strong will be intellectually weak. That is a principle which cannot be questioned by anybody. So, Sir, this

[Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Saheb Bahadur.]

Resolution, as it stands, should be paid due regard to by Government. The southerners should not be confined to the artillery only, but they should be enlisted as sepoy also. With these few words, I support the Resolution whole-heartedly.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting this Resolution. My Honourable friend, Mr. Uppi Saheb, said that people from northern India did not hold a good opinion of the fighting qualities of the people of southern India, and it is, in refutation of that allegation, that I rise to add a few words on this occasion.

Coming from the province of Bihar, which is situated in the north of India, I think I should like to offer just a few observations in support of this Resolution. Government have purposely and deliberately divided the population of India as fighting and non-fighting classes. The fighting qualities or intellectual qualities of a race depend more or less upon the environments and upon the training, and it cannot be argued for one moment that a particular race or a particular community possesses all the necessary qualifications if it has not the necessary training behind it. In support of my proposition, I will only read one short sentence from the opinion of such an eminent military authority as Field-Marshal Earl Roberts in his book "Forty-one years in India". He says at page 532:

"In the British army, the superiority of one regiment over another is mainly a matter of training. The same courage and military instinct are inherent in English, Scotch and Irish alike."

Then, he goes on to say:

"But no comparison can be made between the martial value of a regiment recruited among the Gurkhas of Nepal or the warlike races of northern India and one recruited from the effeminate peoples of the south."

This indicates the mentality of even such a high military authority as Earl Roberts in trying to divide India into martial and non-martial races. If it is a question of the British, they are equal, whether they are English, Irish or Scotch. But when it comes to a question of Indian population, it suits his purpose to divide the population of India into martial and non-martial races. In order to keep up the superiority of the British as having the initiative to lead an army, Lord Roberts goes on to say that the qualities of initiative are virtually a monopoly of the English people. He says in the next page:

"Indian soldiers, like soldiers of every nationality, require to be led, and history and experience teach that eastern races (fortunately for us), however brave and accustomed to war, do not possess the qualities that go to make leaders of men, and that native officers in this respect can never take the place of British officers."

The expression "fortunately for us" is very significant. The wish is the father to the thought. It is not to the interest of the British Government to give the same training to the Indians; it is not to their interest to put us in positions of responsibility and trust, and it is, therefore, natural for them to presume that Indians are inherently incapable of possessing those requisite qualifications that go to the making of a successful General. My Honourable friend, Mr. Ramakrishna Reddi, said that it was with the help of the South Indian battalions that the foundation of the British

Empire in India had been laid. I wish he had not made that statement. What does it indicate? It indicates, if I may say so frankly, without mincing words, that they have not been loyal to their own motherland, by fighting for a foreign race who has now conquered them and has deprived them of what is legitimately due to them. It is not a matter of pride for any Indian that he or his forefathers should have been instrumental in helping a foreign nation to maintain hold upon his own motherland . . . . .

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi:** I mentioned it just to show their fighting qualities.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** If they have proved disloyal to their motherland at one time, it is not unnatural that the British Government should look upon them with an eye of suspicion. I am thankful to my friend, Mr. Yamin Khan, for giving a compliment to the Kshatriyas and Rajputs and to their martial qualities, a race to which I have the proud privilege to belong. My Honourable friend, in his speech, said that appointments in the army should be determined mainly on grounds of efficiency. I would ask him respectfully to advance his proposition a little bit further, and say that all appointments under Government should be by merit and by merit alone. There should be no question of communalism; there should be no question of territorialism; there should be no question that, because a man happens to belong to a particular community, he should be given an appointment. If our Madras friends claim that, because they are Madrasis, they should get a particular appointment whether in the Civil or Military Department of the Government of India, it is to be deprecated. It is by reason of their intellect that they are having their share of appointments in the civil side of the Government. If it comes to a question of giving an appointment to a particular community, we find that the enthusiasts of that community always claim that they should get a particular appointment, because they belong to a particular community. This should be no criterion. It was in this view of the matter that I once tabled a Resolution that appointments under Government should not be made by patronage, but as a result of open competitive examination, eliminating all distinction based on caste and creed. But a proposition like that would not find favour with particular communities. It is possible that a man possessing high intellectual attainments should also be gifted with physical and moral courage. As my Honourable friend has pointed out, physical bulk does not determine the moral courage of a man; and, as an example, reference was made to my Honourable friend, Mr. Kabeer-ud-Din Ahmed (Laughter). I am not going to make any personal aspersions. As has been pointed out by my Honourable friend, Sayyid Murtuza Saheb Bahadur, there were already South Indian Infantry Battalions in existence. When these battalions came into existence, it must be presumed that they came up to the scratch. They were recruited not because they belonged to a particular community or to a particular territory of India, but they were recruited for reasons of physical fitness and efficiency. Now that they have been disbanded, it is quite natural that our friends from the South should have a legitimate grievance, and it is up to Government to remove that source of grievance. Sir, when a class or community finds itself entrenched in a position of privilege or monopoly, it is natural that it should be unwilling to part with those privileges, but we must rise above these personal, petty communal considerations. We must give the same



[Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh.]

opportunities to our friends from the South which we in the North have received from time immemorial, and which has gone to make the people of the North as efficient as any people elsewhere. With these few words, I support the Resolution before the House.

**Kunwar Raghubir Singh:** I move that the question be now put.

**Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali** (Lucknow and Fyzabad Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I thank you for having given me an opportunity in spite of my friend, Kunwar Raghubir Singh, asking for the question to be put now. The subject which has been discussed today on the floor of the House has been discussed in the spirit of the philosophers differing. It is quite possible that when one Commander-in-Chief is here, he dictates one policy, and when another Commander-in-Chief comes, he dictates another policy, because from the references, which have been read out before the House today, we find that the policies have always differed from time to time. When the Honourable the Army Secretary was speaking today, he referred to the present Commander-in-Chief's policy; we have also heard of the policy laid down by General Roberts and several others. It is just like the case of doctors differing about the diagnosis of a disease; here also it is a question of diagnosis of the disease as to who should be enlisted in the army, whether a Southerner should be taken or a Northerner should be recruited, but the fact remains that it is not the Southerner or the Northerner who is to decide the policy as regards recruitment, but the policy is laid down by the rulers of the country who determine what exactly should be the policy.

Sir, there were times in this Indian Empire when the Muhammadans were ruling in this country, and they too had their own policy. *e.g.*, their policy was, as we find today, the policy of the Afghan Government of taking hostages. Now, if Muhammadans took hostages from different Indian States, so are the Afghans doing at present, and some of the border races are doing the same thing. It is really a question of policy which the rulers of the country determine from time to time. Now, as Indians, we have a right to ask the present Government to enlist us as much as they can in the Indian army. Sir, Indianisation is one of the subjects for which India has been crying for a very very long time. If our friends from the South ask this House to help them to be recruited in the British Army, I think it is not from any provincial view point that they do so, but they ask for that privilege as a matter of right. I do not grudge them their right to come into the army, and I think nobody will grudge this right to all those who are capable of being enlisted in the British Army. The only point is this, whether our friends from the South are capable enough or have strength enough, or if my friend, Mr. Mitra, would like me to say, if they have brains enough to be enlisted in the British Army. Every kind of qualification should be considered, and it is but meet and proper that Government should enlist such people in the army who may be able to defend not only the people of the country, not only their borders, but also the present ruling nation itself. If we look at this matter from a patriotic point of view, I think there is none here or outside who will deny this right. If today the British Government decide not to enlist men from the Punjab or from Northern India, I am sure, tomorrow our friends from the Punjab will come to this House and demand, as a matter of their

legitimate right, that they should be enlisted not only on account of their physical fitness, but as a due share, as a matter of right; and it will not be quite correct to say that from two big provinces of Bengal and Southern India you will not be able to find enough people to fight in the British Army. If the stature of a man is to be considered, if the strength and prowess of a man are to be considered, I would ask, then, as some of my friends asked on the floor of this House, why the pigmies are being enlisted from outside the borders of India. Why are they enlisted? Why are the Gurkhas recruited in such large numbers? It is not because that they have a big stature, but because the Government really know that the Gurkhas are a good fighting nation. If these disqualifications are removed, not only for the Southerners or for the people of Bengal, but for every Indian who is not now enlisted in the army so freely, Government would be doing a great service to the people, and no province will have any cause to complain, whether it be in the Army or in the Civil Department.

It is quite obvious that the services of the State should not be the monopoly of any one class, clan or province, and I think my friend, Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar, will subscribe to this view, whether it is the Army or the Civil Department. Every one knows that in this age of democracy such rights are conceded and they are bound to be conceded hereafter. As we come to the new constitution, every one of us knows that the democratic principles will have to be applied, and we shall have to act upon them. So, why should we not prepare ourselves to have those democratic principles expounded and acted upon from today? It is a rule of democracy that if the people have to defend themselves, why should the armies of Southern India be called upon to defend the Punjab? The Punjab people will be very good fighters with their neighbours in the North. If the people of the South are called on to fight our neighbours in the North or on the borders, it is quite possible that they may not be able to endure the sufferings which are inevitable in these parts of India and which the Punjab people will be able to sufficiently endure. Similarly, if our Punjab friends have to fight on the borders of Bengal, I am sure, unless they get the same quality of food like meat and other things which they use in their daily diet on this side of India, it will be very difficult for them to carry on the fight in the plains of India, against attacks from Nepal side. It is the indigenous people of a province alone who will be able to efficiently fight with their neighbours. But there are undoubtedly policies that underlie all these matters. Every one of us knows that service to our motherland should be our prime duty. And if our friends from Bengal or from Madras today want this House to endorse this Resolution, it is simply because they want to serve their motherland. They want to defend their own hearths and homes, they want to defend their own country, and I should ask my friends, who have today opposed this Resolution, to consider this fact very seriously. If these people come forward to lay down their lives for the defence of their motherland and for their own provinces, why should people from other provinces come forward and say: "No, you have no right to do that. We will defend your hearths and homes"? My submission is, that this is not only in accordance with the principles of democracy, but it should be the feeling of every son of this motherland. Let those, who come forward to lay down their lives for their country, do so. That should be the motto. In these words, I welcome the Resolution of my Honourable friend, Mr. Jadhav.

**Some Honourable Members:** Let the question be now put.

**Mr. B. V. Jadhav:** In the first place, I have to offer my thanks to all those who supported the Resolution which I had the honour to move, and also to those who opposed it. I understand their feelings and their difficulties, and I also appreciate their points of view. I am very thankful to them for the expression of their views. Many of my Honourable friends rather misunderstood me and have taken exception to the wording of the Resolution inasmuch as it is confined to the South Indian Infantry Battalions alone and the province of Bengal has been omitted. Far be it from me to entertain any idea that the Bengalis are not fit for the army. I had no intention of omitting them. As a matter of fact, I am not at all responsible for the wording of this Resolution. I had not tabled this Resolution, but Mr. Rajah, who had tabled it, had to leave for Bombay very suddenly and, in the Simla Session, somebody asked me to adopt this child. I could not neglect an orphan child and, therefore, I placed it before this House.

**Mr. K. Ahmed** (Rajshahi Division: Muhammadan Rural): You are the adoptive father?

**Mr. B. V. Jadhav:** Call it rather mother. My friend, Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar, is a keen army man and he has given some sound advice. He is very grateful to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief for taking 60 cadets into the Indian Military Academy every year. I am also very grateful to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief for this mercy, but I must say, I am not at all satisfied. The annual wastage in the army is computed at about 120 and the new policy of doing away with the Viceroy's Commission and replacing the Viceroy's Commissioned Officers by King's Commissioned Officers has created a situation which will put off the Indianisation of the Army to a very lengthy period.

[At this stage Mr. Deputy President (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty) resumed the Chair.]

Ultimately the annual wastage of 120 officers will grow to no less than 280 officers, and, for that reason, the number of cadets admitted to the Indian Military Academy ought to be raised at least to that number.

**Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar:** It will be increased proportionately.

**Mr. B. V. Jadhav:** Till then I shall not be satisfied. Of course, I am not in any hurry; I am not very impatient; but I have to state on the floor of this House that the number 60 is not at all adequate and, I hope, that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will see his way to increase that number in the near future.

My Honourable friend from Madras, Mr. Reddi, charged the British Government with ingratitude. I think he forgets the principle that gratitude is a lively sense of favours to be expected. It is not for past favours or past services. If a man will be useful to one in the future, then that one is very grateful to him, but if no favours are to be expected, then, of course, the services are soon forgotten, and I think that is an almost every day experience. In the case of the army too, there is a Resolution lower down, which, had there been time enough, would have shown that even those, who shed their blood and became disabled for life, are not treated

generously and liberally by the British Government. I am not dealing with that now, but I state that only with respect to the feeling of gratitude.

Then, I come to my friend, Mr. Yamin Khan. I rather admire his credulity. He has read somewhere that the Mahrattas were so very useless that when they invaded Delhi, the goondas of Delhi slapped their faces. I really admire the credulity of the man. But let me tell him that when in 1802, the British, under Lord Lake, took possession of Delhi, it was in possession of the Mahrattas in spite of the goondas of that place. The goondas could not drive them out, the English had to do it. But, I think, the authority on which my friend relies may also be true. If the goondas belonged to a questionable sex, then, of course, no Mahratta soldier would raise his finger to resist that sort of person.

As regards the comments offered in this House condemning the provincialisation of the Army, I have only to say that I never claimed that each province should have regiments recruited from its people. But, at the same time, I may point out that the question of raising provincial levies will have to be dealt with in the near future. When provincial autonomy comes, people will demand their proper share in the recruitment and maintenance of the army and, for the purpose of preserving peace and law and order, local levies will have to be recruited and maintained and trained. Some may say that it is the business of the provinces to incur expenditure on those levies; but I do not think that when the provincial levies come, they will be in addition to the present strength of the army. That will be increasing the expenditure on the army quite abnormally. Some adjustment will have to be made, but the question of raising provincial levies will have to be tackled in the near future and cannot be avoided.

Much has been said about the martial qualities and the non-martial qualities of men. The whole of the ancient history, from the days of Rama to the present day, has been drawn upon on this occasion. I have no reason to traverse over such a vast period. I have to admit that many of the theories and many of the incidents of ancient history trotted out here have raised a doubt in my mind about my scanty knowledge of history and, I admit, that on a future occasion I shall try to revise my knowledge. But let me tell this House that at one time or another in the past history of this country, the people of every province proved that they possessed martial qualities. Empires have risen in every province and, in those days, they took their victorious armies over vast territories. Some have done that in the very long past. Some have done that in the very near past. But, all the same, military qualities are not the monopoly of any one province or race. India has proved that if opportunities and proper training are given, the people will show that they are able to do military work as their forefathers did in ancient times. Now, the cry is not only that the commissioned ranks of the army should be open to the people of India, but, at the same time, the rank and file of the regular army should also be open and I have given one of the reasons why it has become very necessary that the recruitment of the army should not be limited to particular races and to particular provinces. The doctrine that higher officers should be in proportion to the number of the rank and file is, I think, not very objectionable; but it presupposes that every community has an opportunity of being recruited. When you make rules that a particular community only will be recruited in

[Mr. B. V. Jadhav.]

the ranks and another community will not be taken in at all, then, to say, that the officers' rank should be only available in proportion to those who are working in the rank and file of the army, is a futile one. If you keep the army open for recruitment, then alone you can lay down that principle and say that the officers in the higher military service should be in proportion to the number of men recruited in the rank and file. The complaint of the southern people usually is that in making selections to the Academy, the northern people are given more preference and candidates from the two southern Presidencies do not get in at all. There have been two selections to the Academy and it is very difficult to say whether my own people, the Mahrattas, have got a single seat. I leave that to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Army Secretary to look into.

In response to the demand from the country, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has reduced the number of fighting units, and the Army Secretary has told us that the total strength of the army now stands at less figure by 40,000 from the numbers in 1913. This is a matter for congratulation and I am very thankful to the Commander-in-Chief and the Army authorities for giving their consent to the reduction of this number. But I think that even the present number which stands at about 1,88,000 is much too high for the docile people of this country.

**Mr. S. O. Mitra:** What is the reduction in expenditure since 1918?

**Mr. B. V. Jadhav:** I do not think there is any reduction. The total expenditure might have increased.

**Mr. S. O. Mitra:** Not *might*. It *has* increased several times.

**Mr. B. V. Jadhav:** The country expects that this huge burden on the army expenditure would be lightened in the near future.

**Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar:** How can the military burden be lessened if more battalions are raised?

**Mr. B. V. Jadhav:** My friend asks me how the military burden can be lessened. He misunderstands me. I do not claim that the present strength should be increased in order to do justice to a particular province or a particular race. There ought to be a proper adjustment and, in that way, opportunities should be given to other people.

**Mr. Deputy President (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty):** The Honourable Member should conclude now.

**Mr. B. V. Jadhav:** In conclusion, Sir, I am really satisfied with the assurance given by my Honourable friend, the Army Secretary, that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has come to realise the claims of the Madras people and that, in the scheme of Indianization of the army, in the artillery arm, advantage will be taken of engaging the Madras people for that work. It is a great compliment to the Madras people no doubt and, on their behalf, I thank His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief for this concession. (Applause.) Of course the numbers that will be recruited

will not be very large in the beginning, but I expect that they will gradually increase. At the same time, I may say, that the country as a whole expects that when more and more men will be recruited for the artillery, Madras will not be the only recruiting centre, but other provinces will also share in the responsibility and honour of such chances. On this assurance, Sir, from the Army Secretary, I beg the permission of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

**Mr. Deputy President** (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty): Does the Army Secretary wish to reply?

**Mr. G. B. F. Tottenham**: I understood, Sir, that I had no right of reply, but actually I have very little to add to what I have already said this morning. There is only one point I should like to make clear; that is, as regards the policy which now governs the matter of recruitment to the army. I should like to assure the House that that policy has nothing of a political nature behind it, but, as I have said, is prompted entirely and solely by the desire to secure the best fighting material. As regards what Mr. Jadhav said just now about future recruitment for the artillery, that is a matter that, of course, must wait for the future; but, if I did not make it clear before, I wish to explain that Madras is not the only classes that are going to be recruited now. The first brigade of artillery will contain four batteries, and Madras is going to be recruited for one of these. The other three batteries will be recruited from other classes,—although I cannot say that they will be recruited from what are called the non-martial classes. (Laughter.) I do not think I have anything more to say.

**Mr. Deputy President** (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty): The Honourable Member asks the leave of the House to withdraw the Resolution.

The Resolution was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

**Mr. Deputy President** (Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty): I am prepared, if the Non-Official Members so desire, to sit longer today. (Voices: "It is about five now.") The House now stands adjourned till tomorrow morning, at 11 A.M.

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 9th February, 1933.