

1st September, 1933

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

(Official Report)

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Volume V, 1933

(22nd August to 4th September, 1933)

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## SIXTH SESSION

OF THE

FOURTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,  
1933



NEW DELHI  
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# Legislative Assembly.

*President :*

THE HONOURABLE SIR SHANMUKHAM CHETTY, K.C.I.E.

*Deputy President :*

MR. ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURY, M.L.A.

*Panel of Chairmen :*

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MR. K. C. NEOGY, M.L.A.

SIR LESLIE HUDSON, KT., M.L.A.

SIR ABDULLA-AL-MAMUN SUHRAWARDY, KT., M.L.A.

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MIAN MUHAMMAD RAFI, BAR.-AT-LAW.

*Assistant of the Secretary :*

RAI BAHADUR D. DUTT.

*Marshal :*

CAPTAIN HAJI SARDAR NUR AHMAD KHAN, M.C., I.O.M., I.A.

*Committee on Public Petitions :*

MR. ABDUL MATIN CHAUDHURY, M.L.A., *Chairman.*

SIR LESLIE HUDSON, KT., M.L.A.

MR. B. SITARAMARAJU, M.L.A.

MR. GAYA PRASAD SINGH, M.L.A.

KUNWAR HAJEE ISMAIL ALI KHAN, O.B.E., M.L.A.

## CONTENTS.

VOLUME V.—22nd August to 4th September, 1933.

	PAGES.
<b>TUESDAY, 22ND AUGUST, 1933—</b>	
Members Sworn . . . . .	1—2
Questions and Answers . . . . .	2—26
Short Notice Question and Answer . . . . .	26—30
Unstarred Questions and Answers . . . . .	30—37
Motion for Adjournment re Reservation of Appointments for Minority Communities—Not moved . . . . .	37—38
Governor General's Assent to Bills . . . . .	38—39
Statements laid on the Table . . . . .	39—50
Deaths of Sir Zulfiqar Ali Khan and Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Husain Khan . . . . .	50—55
The Indian Medical Council Bill . . . . .	55
The Indian Petroleum Bill—Introduced . . . . .	55
The Indian Income-tax (Third Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	56
The Indian Merchant Shipping (Second Amendment) Bill—Referred to Select Committee . . . . .	56—61
The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill—Discussion not concluded . . . . .	61—86
<b>WEDNESDAY, 23RD AUGUST, 1933—</b>	
Member Sworn . . . . .	87
Questions and Answers . . . . .	87—116
Motion for Adjournment re Facilities given to Mahatma Gandhi in Jail—Talked out . . . . .	116, 147—69
The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill—Discussion not concluded . . . . .	116—46
<b>THURSDAY, 24TH AUGUST, 1933—</b>	
Questions and Answers . . . . .	171—96
Statement of Business . . . . .	196—97
Statements laid on the Table . . . . .	197—207
The Hindu Temple Entry Disabilities Removal Bill—Circulated . . . . .	208—41
The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill—Discussion not concluded . . . . .	241—44

	PAGES.
<b>MONDAY, 28TH AUGUST, 1933—</b>	
Member Sworn . . . . .	245
Questions and Answers . . . . .	245—87
Statements laid on the Table . . . . .	287—93
Election of the Standing Committee for the Department of Commerce . . . . .	293
Election of the Standing Committee for the Department of Industries and Labour . . . . .	293—94
The Indian States (Protection) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	294
The Cotton Textile Industry Protection (Second Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . .	294—96
Amendment of Standing Orders—Referred to Select Committee . . . . .	296—97
The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended . . . . .	297—98
The Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill—Discussion not concluded . . . . .	298—334
<b>TUESDAY, 29TH AUGUST, 1933—</b>	
Questions and Answers . . . . .	335—75
Statements laid on the Table . . . . .	375—82
The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill—Motion to refer to Select Committee negatived . . . . .	382—414
The Indian Coastal Traffic (Reservation) Bill—Motion to continue adopted . . . . .	415
The Hindu Widows' Right of Maintenance Bill—Discussion on the motion to refer to Select Committee not concluded . . . . .	415—16
<b>WEDNESDAY, 30TH AUGUST, 1933—</b>	
Address by His Excellency the Viceroy to the Members of the Council of State and the Legislative Assembly . . . . .	417—25
Questions and Answers . . . . .	426—62
Panel of Chairmen . . . . .	462
Committee on Petitions . . . . .	462
Statements laid on the Table . . . . .	463—66

PAGES.	PAGES.
<b>WEDNESDAY, 30TH AUGUST—</b>	<b>FRIDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER, 1933—</b>
1933— <i>contd.</i>	<i>contd.</i>
The Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill—Discussion not concluded . . . . . 466—91	The Indian Petroleum Bill—Circulated . . . . . 715—14
<b>THURSDAY, 31ST AUGUST, 1933—</b>	The Indian Income-tax (Third Amendment) Bill—Referred to Select Committee . . . . . 716—1
Questions and Answers . . . . . 493—551	The Indian Wireless Telegraphy Bill—Passed as amended . . . . . 718—22
Motion for Adjournment <i>re</i> Aerial Bombardment of Kotkai in the Trans-Frontier—Ruled out of order . . . . . 551—55, 565—66	The Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill—Passed . . . . . 723—24
Statements laid on the Table . . . . . 555—64	The Murshidabad Estate Administration Bill—Referred to Select Committee . . . . . 724—28
Resolution <i>re</i> Release of Mr. Gandhi, Mufti Kifaetullah and other Political Prisoners—Withdrawn . . . . . 566	<b>MONDAY, 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1933—</b>
Resolution <i>re</i> Raising of Duty on Foreign Cotton Imports—Withdrawn . . . . . 566—79	Questions and Answers . . . . . 729—78
Resolution <i>re</i> Repayment of Half Currency Notes—Withdrawn . . . . . 579—97	Short Notice Question and Answers . . . . . 778—80
<b>FRIDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER, 1933—</b>	Motion for Adjournment <i>re</i> Aerial Bombardment of Kotkai in the Trans-Frontier—Talked out . . . . . 780—83, 865—89
Member Sworn . . . . . 599	Amendment of Standing Orders—Election of Members to the Select Committee . . . . . 783
Questions and Answers . . . . . 599—678	Statements laid on the Table . . . . . 784—96
Short Notice Question and Answer . . . . . 679—84	The Indian Merchant Shipping (Second Amendment) Bill—Presentation of the Report of the Select Committee . . . . . 797
Statements laid on the Table . . . . . 684—90	Presentation of the Report of the Public Accounts Committee . . . . . 797—839
The Indian Medical Council Bill—Presentation of the Report of the Select Committee . . . . . 690—91	The Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Bill—Introduced . . . . . 839
Statement of Business . . . . . 691	The Cotton Textile Industry Protection (Second Amendment) Bill—Discussion not concluded . . . . . 839—65
The Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended . . . . . 692—708	
The Indian Income-tax (Second Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended . . . . . 708—15	

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, 1st September, 1933.

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The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at Eleven of the Clock, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) in the Chair.

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## MEMBER SWORN.

Mr. Bertrand James Glancy, C.S.I., C.I.E., M.L.A. (Political Secretary).

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## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### ALLOWANCES OF MEMBERS OF DIFFERENT COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS.

318. \*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim : (a) Is it a fact that the Finance Department issued certain instructions in September, 1931, for fixing the allowances of members of different committees and commissions ?

(b) Is it a fact that the said instructions contained two different categories of committees :

(i) continuous committees, *i.e.*, " committees likely to sit continuously for 15 days ", and

(ii) intermittent committees or " committees which meet at intervals for a day or so at a time " ?

(c) Is it a fact that membership of a committee of the continuous type will extend over joining time, as defined in Government of India Supplementary Rules (S.R.-304), at the beginning and end ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, but it has now been made clear that the second category also includes Committees likely to sit continuously for less than 15 days.

(c) Yes. I would add that Supplementary Rule 304 has no application to journeys of the kind in question and that the definition of joining time is contained in the Fundamental Rules, not the Supplementary Rules.

### COMMITTEE ON THE GREAT WAR PENSIONS.

319. \*Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the committee on the Great War Pensions was a committee of the Legislature as defined in the foot-note No. 213 of the

( 599 )

Audit Code which prescribes that "the cost of committees which are appointed by the Legislature, with instructions to report to it, should be charged to the Minor Head, Legislative Body" ?

(b) If the answer to (a) above be in the negative, will Government be pleased to state whether the said committee was treated as an intermittent committee or a continuous committee ?

(c) Is it a fact that the first meeting of the said committee was held in New Delhi on the 6th April, last, and, that subsequent meetings of the committee were held in Simla from the 5th to the 15th May ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether by including the "joining time at the beginning and end", together with the 11 days of actual sitting of the said committee, it is to be considered as a *continuous committee* ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) No, as it was not appointed by the Legislature.

(b) As an intermittent committee.

(c) Yes.

(d) The inclusion of joining time is only for the purpose of calculating the subsistence allowance admissible to members and is not relevant to the classification of a committee as 'continuous' or 'intermittent'.

#### RAIL ROADS CONFERENCE HELD AT SIMLA.

320. \***Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the last Rail Roads Conference, which was held in Simla in April last, was treated as an intermittent, continuous, or a committee of the Legislature, and for how many days was it held ?

(b) At what rate were the non-official members paid ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) The recent Road Rail Conference was neither a continuous nor an intermittent committee of public enquiry, nor was it a committee of the Legislature. It was a Conference called by the Government of India and met on the 24th, 25th and 26th April last.

(b) The non-official members of the Conference were of two categories, namely, representatives from the Central Legislature and representatives of private bodies. Travelling allowances were in both cases paid at the same rate, i.e., at 1½ first class railway fares to and from Simla, while halting allowance was paid at the rate of Rs. 20 *per diem* in the case of the former and at Rs. 15 *per diem* in the case of the latter.

#### CONSIDERATION OF THE HEDJAZ PILGRIMS (*Muallims*) BILL IN THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

321. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Is it a fact that Government want to move in this Session that the *Muallims* Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** No, but the matter is under consideration.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Will the Honourable Member be pleased to say if there is any mention about the *Muallims* in the confidential report of the Standing Committee ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : I have never admitted that there is such a thing as a confidential report.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : I have made inquiries and I have come to know that the conclusions and items of the Standing Committee are not confidential. May I know that in Simla in the Standing Committee for Hedjaz some items of the confidential report were discussed ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : My Honourable friend is a member of the Select Committee himself and I cannot imagine that that Committee could have discussed a confidential matter and not treated it as confidential. He will forgive me if I do not associate myself with him in disclosing confidential matter.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : I inquired from the Honourable Sir Fazl-i-Hussain himself who told me that the conclusions of the Standing Committee and the items on which those conclusions had been arrived at were being treated as confidential. May I ask the Honourable Member if it is a fact that the conclusions of the Standing Committee are not confidential ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : It is not a fact.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Does the Honourable Member then differ with the opinion expressed by the Honourable Member in charge of the Department ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : Sir, I am not aware whether the Honourable Member to whom my Honourable friend has referred has expressed any such opinion.

GOLD BULLION IN RESERVE IN THE CURRENCY.

322. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Is it a fact that on the 15th July, 1933, gold bullion of 29,06,59,942 was in reserve in the Currency ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state how many tolas of gold were in treasury on that date ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the rate per tola at which they have calculated the price of the gold ?

(d) If the reply to part (b) be in the ounces, will Government be pleased to state what is the weight of a rupee (in ounce) ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : (a) The correct figure is 29,06,50,942.

(b) None.

(c) Gold in the Reserve is valued at Re. 1 per 8.47512 grains troy of fine gold.

(d) Does not arise.

## SILVER BULLION IN RESERVE IN THE CURRENCY.

323. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that on the 15th July, 1933, silver bullion of 9,43,96,977 was in reserve in the Currency ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state how many tolas of silver was in treasury on that date ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the rate per tola at which they have calculated the price of the silver ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) Yes.

(b) The Mints held silver bullion to the value of Rs. 51,59,623 on treasury account on the 15th of July, 1933.

(c) All silver in the Reserve is valued at Re. 1 per 165 grains troy of pure silver.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Part (b) of my question is " Will Government be pleased to state how many tolas of silver was in the treasury on that date ? "

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** If my Honourable friend will do a little sum of arithmetic and combine the answers which I have given to parts (b) and (c), he will be able to work out the sum in tolas for himself.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Do Government realise that the working out of the figure will take some time and that we will not be able to put supplementary questions ? (Laughter.)

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** I should be very pleased if that were the result. (Renewed Laughter.)

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Is it a fact that silver of that amount, that is, 9,43,96,977, as mentioned in part (a) of the question, was actually not in the treasury ? Was it not rather the fact that if silver in coins were to be taken into consideration, the amount of silver would come to this figure ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** The amount of silver bullion referred to represents the amount of silver bullion held in the Currency Reserves in addition to all the silver coins which are held in the Currency Reserves.

## SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL OF THE IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

324. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the subscribed capital of the Imperial Bank of India on the 7th July, 1933, was 11,25,00,000 ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state what amount of the capital has been subscribed by Indians ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) Yes.

(b) Government have no information but under the Imperial Bank of India Act, 1920, the register of shareholders is open to the inspection of any shareholder.

PUBLICATION OF ADVERTISEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE SERVICES AND EDUCATIONAL MATTERS, ETC., IN THE GAZETTE.

325. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Do Government propose to issue a circular letter to the effect that all advertisements in connection with the services and educational matters, etc., and all information which requires publication should be published in the Gazette ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig** : The policy of Government is to publish in the Gazette of India matters which concern the public generally or which must be published under some provision of the law. In pursuance of this policy it is already the practice to publish notices issued by the Public Service Commission inviting applications for posts which are filled by selection and giving details of dates, syllabus, etc., for competitive examinations held by them. The results of public examinations held in centrally administered areas by Boards of Education, etc., are also published in the Gazette.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Is it a fact that vacancies in other departments and the vacancies which are not to be filled up by the Public Service Commission are not published in the Gazette ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig** : I have no information about that.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Is it a fact that advertisements are generally published in different newspapers ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig** : What kind of advertisements ?

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : About vacancies ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig** : I have observed in my perusal of the Indian press advertisements in various newspapers in connection with vacancies, but I imagine that it is convenient to the public on the whole, as they read the newspapers more diligently than they do the Gazette of India.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Is it a fact that the advertisements are given only to those newspapers which are in the list of favourites ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig** : That, Sir, seems to me to be getting on to a different point on which I have no information at the moment.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Do Government realise that if these vacancies are published in different newspapers, it becomes very difficult for the public to know them ? Will it not be better to publish them in the Gazette which all the candidates could read or to announce them in a particular paper in which Government advertisements should usually be published for the convenience of the candidates ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig** : The matter will be examined.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Thank you.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Is it not a fact that the publication in different papers should give a greater publicity to the advertisements than if they are merely published in the Gazette ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig** : That was what I had suggested in a previous answer.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : I do not suggest that they should not be published in other newspapers except one paper. What I want the Government to do is to mention one particular paper and in that paper particularly all the advertisements should be published. It may be published in other papers as well, but in the particular papers all the advertisements must appear.

(No answer.)

#### MILITARY EXPENDITURE IN 1930-31.

326. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Is it a fact that the military expenditure in the year 1930-31 under different heads was not in accordance with the military budget ?

(b) Is it a fact that the original estimates were upset and disturbed seriously the appropriations under every head of the military budget ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to disclose the important factors which seriously affected the original estimates ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham** (a), (b) and (c). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to paragraphs 7 to 10 of the Appropriation Accounts of the Army, Marine and Military Engineer Services for the year 1930-31, a copy of which is in the Library.

#### LOSS ON COINAGE IN THE CURRENCY DEPARTMENT.

327. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Is it a fact that loss on coinage takes place in the Currency Department ?

(b) Is it a fact that in the year 1930-31 the loss on the nickel coinage was much more than usual ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : (a) No.

(b) The so-called loss is merely an accounting adjustment showing that a large number of nickel coins, which had passed into circulation in previous years, returned from circulation in that particular year.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : What was the reason for this loss in that particular year.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : The reason is that an abnormally large number of nickel coins were returned from circulation in that particular year.

#### SELLING PRICE OF MILK AND CREAM AT THE WELLINGTON FARM.

328. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Is it a fact that the selling price of milk and cream at the Wellington Farm in the year 1930-31 was much below the cost of production as shown below ?

	All-in-cost.			Average selling price.		
	per lb.					
	Rs.	s.	p.	Rs.	s.	p.
Milk .. .. .	0	7	4·4	0	3	1·7
Cream .. .. .	4	10	6·5	1	12	0

(b) Is it a fact that the supply is made to the troops stationed at Coonoor and Wellington ?

(c) Do Government propose to raise the selling price so as to cover the cost of production, or to close down the institute ?

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

(c) A similar suggestion was made by the Public Accounts Committee in its Report on the Accounts for 1930-31. The Government of India, however, decided that consideration of the question should be postponed until the Accounts for the year 1932-33 had been prepared, as the economies introduced in the working of the Farm from the 1st April, 1932, were expected to reduce the cost of production. These Accounts have now become available and show that in 1932-33 the costs of production of milk and cream were 3 annas and Rs. 2 per lb., respectively, while the average selling price was 3 annas 2 pies per lb. of milk and Re. 1-12-0 per lb. of cream. The selling price of milk is now higher than the cost price ; that of cream is still slightly lower than the reduced cost price. The question whether the selling price of cream should be raised is being considered.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Will the Honourable Member please state whether this loss was shown in the army expenditure or in the civil budget ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** As a matter of fact, the accounts are kept on the civil side and, so, if there was any loss, it was debited to the civil side.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** If this is a fact, may I take it that the military budget is actually much higher than what is shown in the military budget, because some portion of that is shown on the civil side ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** My Honourable friend's generalisation is a little too sweeping, because the amount of loss in this case is not very large.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** But is he substantially correct ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** I am not in a position to answer that question.

LOSSES INCURRED IN WORKING THE EXECUTIVE COMMISSARIAT DEPARTMENT  
IN THE ANDAMANS.

329. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** (a) Is it a fact that the losses incurred in working the Executive Commissariat Department in the Andamans in the year 1930-31 were partly due to the sale of the products of the Butchery and the Dairy at a rate lower than the cost price, particularly in the case of supplies made to the Army ?

(b) Was the attention of the Chief Commissioner, Andamans, drawn to the facts mentioned in part (a) above ? If so, what was the reply ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig :** (a) I would refer the Honourable Member to pages 228—230 of the Appendix to the Appropriation Accounts of the Central Government (Civil) for the year 1930-31 in which the reasons for the losses under the Andamans Commissariat Department are fully explained.

(b) The recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee contained in their Report on the Accounts of 1930-31 was brought to the notice of the Chief Commissioner who has taken certain measures, the results of which will be seen in the Accounts for 1932-33.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** May I take it that this loss also was not mentioned in the army budget ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig :** I cannot suppose that it was included both in the civil and the military budget.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Perhaps the Army Secretary might inform us whether this loss was mentioned in the military budget ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** I must have notice of that question.

#### STORES AND STOCKS IN FACTORIES UNDER THE ARMY DEPARTMENT.

330. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the value of Stores and Stocks in hand in the factories under the Army Department on the 31st March, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932 and 1933 ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** A statement giving the information desired by the Honourable Member is laid on the table.

The figures for 1929 to 1932 will be found in the published Appropriation Accounts of the year in question. The figure for March 31st, 1933, was Rs. 3.04 crores as compared with Rs. 3.29 crores on 31st March, 1932.

*Statement showing the value of Stores and Stocks in hand in the Factories under the Army Department on the 31st March, 1929.*

The value of mobilisation and working stocks held by the Army Ordnance and Clothing Factories on the various dates was :

					Rs.
31st March, 1929	..	..	..	..	2,81,07,000
31st March, 1930	..	..	..	..	3,06,53,000
31st March, 1931	..	..	..	..	3,28,74,000
31st March, 1932	..	..	..	..	3,29,15,000
31st March, 1933	..	..	..	..	3,04,15,000

#### EXCESS IN EXPENDITURE UNDER "PAY AND ALLOWANCES" OF RDSERVIST.

331. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** (a) Is it a fact that there was an excess in expenditure under 'pay and allowance' of Reservist in the year 1930-31 ?

(b) What was the explanation given by the department to the Auditor General in India ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** (a) and (b). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to paragraph 78 of the Appropriation Accounts of the Army, Marine and Military Engineer Services for 1930-31, paragraph 58 of the Proceedings of the Military Accounts Committee reproduced on page 35 of the Report of the Public Accounts Committee

on the Accounts for that year, and Appendix A, Item 13 of the Appropriation Accounts for 1931-32. Copies of these papers are in the Library.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Is the explanation mentioned in part (b) also in the papers which have been mentioned now ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** Yes, Sir. It is contained in item 13 of Appendix A to the Appropriation Accounts for 1931-32.

DISCOURAGEMENT OF THE FORMATION OF MUSLIM TRADE UNIONS.

332. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** (a) Is it a fact that Government policy is to discourage origination of Trade Unions by Mussalmans ?

(b) Is it a fact that Government policy is that Muslim labour should not be organised ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) and (b). The Government of India are anxious to encourage healthy trade unionism and they would regret, therefore, to see a development of communalism within the trade union movement. But it is no part of their policy to attempt to regulate the manner in which the membership of trade unions of private workmen should be composed. So far as unions of Government servants are concerned, I propose to give further information in reply to the next question.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Have Government issued any circular that in future Muslim trade unions should not be registered ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** If the Honourable Member is referring to Government servants, I shall give him an answer in reply to the next question.

\* RECOGNITION OF MUSLIM TRADE UNIONS.

333. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** (a) Have Government recognised any Trade Union of Muslim labour ?

(b) Have Government received any application for recognition from any Trade Union of Muslim labourers ?

(c) Do Government propose to recognise Muslim labourers Trade Unions ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) and (b). Not so far as I am aware.

(c) The Government of India do not propose to accord recognition to any trade union of their employees which may be formed on a communal basis.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** May I know if Government have issued any circular that Muslim trade unions should not be registered ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** No, Sir.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Have Government issued any circular that trade unions formed on communal lines should not be registered ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** The Government of India are not concerned with the registration of trade unions which comes under the Act passed to regulate trade unions.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Do Government suggest that they have not issued any circular about registration of trade unions ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** Not as far as I am aware. There are definite recognition rules and, as I have said, these recognition rules do not permit of the formation of trade unions on a communal basis so far as Government employees are concerned.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** My question is about registration and not recognition. My Honourable friend is always referring to recognition. I want to know whether the Government of India have issued any circular in connection with registration of trade unions ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** I have already told the Honourable Member twice that Government have issued no circular in regard to the registration of trade unions as they are not concerned with it. It is regulated by an Act which has been passed for that purpose.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it not a fact that the very object of trade unions will be frustrated if they are run or organised on communal lines ?

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : That is asking for opinion.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi :** May I ask whether Government have any power to issue instructions to the Registrar of Trade Unions under the Act ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** None, Sir.

†334\*.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT IN INDIA.

335. **\*Shaikh Sadiq Hasan :** (a) Are Government aware that there is great unemployment in India ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the number of unemployed in British India ?

(c) If the answer to (b) be in the negative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons why statistics are not kept ?

(d) What steps have Government taken to fight unemployment during this year ?

(e) How do they intend to reduce unemployment in future ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply given to part (a) of Lala Rameshwar Prasad Bagla's starred question No. 775 on the 26th September, 1932.

(b) and (c). I would refer the Honourable Member to the answers given by me to Mr. S. G. Jog's starred question No. 1134 of the 5th April last and to the supplementary questions thereto.

(d) and (e). As has been explained more than once in this House, the question is one primarily for the Provincial Governments. But the proposals which we intend to lay before the House in the Factories Bill, if accepted, should have some effect in spreading employment in

†This question was withdrawn by the questioner.

certain industries ; and in Delhi, where the Central Government has more direct responsibility, we have proposals for fresh building work which should be of assistance in this direction.

**Shaikh Sadiq Hasan :** Is it not the duty of Government to help the public at such a critical juncture ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** As I have stated in reply to the question, this is primarily a matter for Local Governments, who are paying considerable attention to it. If the Government of India can help them in any way, they will be glad to do so.

DIVERSION OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY PUNJAB MAI LS FROM THE MAIN LINE TO THE GRAND CHORD.

336. \***Mr. Badri Lal Bastogi :** (a) Are Government aware that the East Indian Railway authorities intend to divert the Up and Down Punjab Mails through the Grand Chord ?

(b) If the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons that led the East Indian Railway authorities to do so ?

(c) Are Government aware that the Punjab Mail trains are running on the main line from time immemorial ?

(d) Are Government aware that the proposed diversion of the Punjab Mail from the main line will put the travelling public of North Bihar and Patna to a considerable inconvenience and hardship while travelling long distances ?

(e) Are Government aware that the Bombay Mail is already running via the Grand Chord Line ?

(f) Are Government aware that the diversion of the Punjab Mails from the main line means the running of two mail trains via the Grand Chord Line ?

**Mr. P. E. Rau :** (a), (b), (d) and (f). I would invite my Honourable friend's attention to the reply I have already given to Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh's question No. 123 on the subject.

(c) and (e). Yes.

TRAINS RUNNING ON THE GRAND CHORD AND MAIN LINE OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY BETWEEN HOWRAH AND MOGHALSARAI.

337. \***Mr. Badri Lal Bastogi :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state (i) the number of junction stations, (ii) the approximate number of passengers travelling, and (iii) the number of express trains running on both the Grand Chord and Main Lines, respectively, between Howrah and Moghalsarai ?

(b) Is it a fact that the idea of diverting the Punjab Mail from the main line is merely to avoid the so-called train-wreckers ?

**Mr. P. E. Rau :** (a) (i). The number of junction stations on the main line and the Grand Chord between Howrah and Moghalsarai is 17 and 14 respectively.

(ii) I regret that statistics of the number of passengers travelling on separate sections or by individual trains are not available.

(iii) I understand the number of express trains running on the Main Line and the Grand Chord between Howrah and Moghalserai is 6 in each case.

(b) No.

#### INTRODUCTION OF A NEW PATTERN OF FIVE-RUPEE NOTE.

338. \***Mr. Badri Lal Rastogi** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons that led them to introduce recently a new pattern of five-rupee note ?

(b) Are Government aware that this new five-rupee note is very unpopular among the masses because of its liability to damage, and deterioration on account of the thinness of its paper and smallness of size ?

(c) Are Government aware that this new note runs the risk of being destroyed, defaced and even torn because of its being handled and folded frequently and constantly ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : (a) The change is expected to result in a considerable economy without causing any inconvenience to the public.

(b) No. The note is less liable to damage and the paper though thinner is actually stronger than before.

(c) As a small note is likely to be subjected to less folding than a large note and as the paper of which the new notes are composed is of strong quality, Government consider that notes of the new pattern should last at least as long as the old notes.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Is it a fact that the numbers on these notes are printed only in one place ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : If my Honourable friend would care to read the questions, which are not asked by himself, he will find that that particular question is asked in the next question on the paper.

#### INTRODUCTION OF A NEW PATTERN OF TEN-RUPEE NOTE.

339. \***Mr. Badri Lal Rastogi** : (a) Are Government aware that ten-rupee notes of the same pattern and of similar character as five-rupee notes are going to be issued shortly ?

(b) Are Government aware that these new pattern notes contain only one number in the middle while the old ones have two numbers on opposite corners ?

(c) Do Government propose to have the two numbers printed on opposite corners of these new notes as usual ? Are Government aware that the one number note cannot be halved and if halved, the number is likely to be made doubtful at the time of gumming the two halves together ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : (a) Ten-rupee notes of the new pattern have already been issued.

(b) Yes.

(c) No. There are very few instances of the cutting of five and ten-rupee notes and Government are ready to pay full value on such notes which have been accidentally torn if the halves are identifiable as part of the same note.

**GOLD EXPORTED FROM INDIA SINCE ENGLAND WENT OFF THE GOLD STANDARD.**

**340. \*Mr. Badri Lal Rastogi :** (a) Will Government please state the quantity of gold exported from India and imported into it up to the 15th August, 1933, since England went off the gold standard ?

(b) Do Government propose to levy some export duty on gold, with a view to bringing in a good revenue to them ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) The approximate figures up to the 5th of August, 1933 are :

Exports	..	..	..	..	145 crores.
Imports	..	..	..	..	3½ crores.

(b) Government do not give intimation in advance of their intentions about taxation.

**SILVER BARS LEFT IN STOCK WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AFTER PAYMENT OF THE SAME TO AMERICA AS A WAR DEBT.**

**341. \*Mr. Badri Lal Rastogi :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total number of silver bars left in stock with the Government of India after payment of the same to America as a war debt ?

(b) Do Government propose to buy silver bars for making up the shortage effected as a result of payment to America ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) The amount of silver bullion left in stock with the Government of India after the payment to America was 911.35 lakhs of tolas as shown in the Abstract of the Accounts of the Currency Department published by the Controller of the Currency on the 19th of June, 1933.

(b) No.

**CANTONMENTS IN INDIA.**

**342. \*Mr. B. R. Puri :** Will Government be pleased to state the total number and names of Cantonments in India :

(a) Where Class I Executive Officers have been posted ?

(b) Where Class II Executive Officers have been posted ?

(c) Where part-time Executive Officers are working ?

(d) Where Civilian Executive Officers paid from Cantonment Fund are working ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** A statement giving the information asked for is laid on the table.

*Statement giving the information about Cantonments and their Executive Officers.*

(a) Class I Executive Officers have been posted to 22 Cantonments, *viz.*, Peshawar, Nowshera, Rawalpindi, Ambala, Jullundur, Lahore, Quetta, Karachi *cum* Manora and Drigh Road, Dehra Dun *cum* Landour, Meerut, Ranikhet, Lucknow, Dinapore, Jubbulpore, Mhow, Belgaum, Kirkee, Poona, Secunderabad, Wellington, Nasirabad and Mandalay. At present Civilian Executive Officers have been appointed temporarily at Peshawar and Belgaum, *vice* permanent incumbents granted leave, and a part-time Executive Officer at Nowshera pending the appointment of an officer of the Cantonments Department to this cantonment.

(b) Class II Executive Officers have been posted to 12 Cantonments, *viz.*, Sialkot, Ferozepore, Multan, Kohat, Hyderabad (Sind), Agra, Bareilly, Barrackpore, Allahabad, Cawnpore, Neemuch and Ahmednagar. At present a part-time Executive Officer is working temporarily at Barrackpore pending the appointment of an officer of the Cantonments Department to that cantonment.

(c) Part-time Executive Officers are working in 10 Cantonments, *viz.*, Loralai, Lansdowne, Roorkee, Fyzabad, Fatehgarh, Jalapahar, Leborg, Pachmarhi, Baroda and Ahmedabad.

(d) Civilian Executive Officers paid from Cantonment Funds are working in 36 Cantonments, *viz.*, Risalpur, Cherat, Mardan, Campbellpore, Abbottabad, Jhelum, Murree, Murree Hills, Kasauli, Amritsar, Bakloh, Dalhousie, Dagshai, Dharamsala, Jutogh, Subathu, Bannu, Dera Ismail Khan, Chakrata, New Delhi, Almora, Naini Tal, Muttra, Shahjahanpur, Sitapur, Shillong, Benares, Jhansi, Nowgong, Kamptee, Saugor, Aurangabad, St. Thomas Mount and Pallaveram, Deolali, Maymyo and Rangoon and Mingaladon.

#### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF CANTONMENTS IN INDIA.

343. \***Mr. B. R. Puri** : Will Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement giving the following information regarding all the Executive Officers coming under category (d) in the preceding question :

- (i) Academic qualifications ?
- (ii) Experience of Cantonment work ?
- (iii) Pay and other allowances drawn ?
- (iv) Date since when working ?
- (v) Name of the Executive Officer ?

**Mr. G. E. F. Tottenham** : The information has been called for and a reply will be laid on the table in due course. The appointments are made by General Officers Commanding-in-Chief, Commands.

#### WITHDRAWAL FROM CANTONMENT AUTHORITIES THE MANAGEMENT OF CLASS ' B ' LAND AND ENTRUSTING THE SAME TO THE MILITARY ESTATES OFFICERS.

344. \***Mr. B. R. Puri** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if it is intended to withdraw in the near future from the various Cantonment Authorities the management of all class ' B ' land and entrust the same to the Military Estates Officers ?

(b) If the reply to (a) above be in the affirmative, are Government aware that a large number of Cantonment Authorities who now depend on revenue from ' B ' Class land are likely to become insolvent ? If so, what steps do Government propose to adopt to avoid the financial loss ?

**Mr. G. E. F. Tottenham** : With your permission, Sir, I propose to answer questions Nos. 344 and 345 together.

The matters are under consideration but no final decisions have yet been reached.

CREATION OF AN ALL-INDIA CADRE FOR THE CIVILIAN EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF CANTONMENTS.

†345. \*Mr. B. R. Puri : Is it a fact that Government propose to create an All-India cadre for the civilian Executive Officers ? If so, will all the civilian Executive Officers at present working in the various Cantonments be absorbed in the cadre ? If not, what will be the standard to guide the Government in selecting candidates for the cadre ?

RE-EMPLOYMENT OF RETRENCHED PERSONNEL OF THE SURVEY OF INDIA.

346. \*Mr. B. R. Puri : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of (i) Indian officers of the Class II service of the Survey of India, who had served for 15 years or under and were retrenched as a result of the recommendations of the Class II Retrenchment Board ; and (ii) Anglo-Indians so retrenched ?

(b) Are Government aware of the fact that a letter dated the 16th January, 1933, was issued under the authority of the Assistant Surveyor General, Survey of India, Calcutta, to a retrenched Class II Officer of the same Department, saying that " if vacancies occur in the near future retrenched personnel of this Department will be given the first chance of being re-employed " ?

(c) If the reply to (b) above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state if they intend to re-employ, in view of the letter referred to above, the retrenched personnel of the Class II service before making fresh recruitments to that Service ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : (a) (i) Four.

(ii) Nil.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Government of India had already considered this question before sanctioning the recruitment of new candidates this year. They came to the conclusion that the records of service of the retrenched officers did not justify the hope that their re-employment would conduce to the efficiency of the Department.

STRENGTH OF OFFICERS IN THE SURVEY OF INDIA DEPARTMENT.

347. \*Mr. B. R. Puri : Will Government be pleased to state (a) the present strength of Class I officers in the Survey of India Department, and (b) the present strength of (i) Indians, (ii) Anglo-Indians in Class I Service of that Department ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : (a) 35.

(b) (i) Nil.

(ii) Five.

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 344.

## PROMOTION OF OFFICERS IN THE SURVEY OF INDIA DEPARTMENT.

348. \***Mr. B. R. Puri** : Will Government be pleased to state their policy regarding the promotion of Class II officers to Class I Service of the Survey of India ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : Promotion is made by selection on grounds of merit.

## PROMOTION AND RECRUITMENT OF OFFICERS IN THE SURVEY OF INDIA DEPARTMENT.

349 \***Mr. B. R. Puri** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of (i) Indians, and (ii) Anglo-Indians, promoted from Class II to Class I Service of the Survey of India Department during the last six years ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the present number and percentage of (i) Indians, and (ii) Anglo-Indians in the Class II service of the Survey of India ?

(c) In view of the small population percentage of Anglo-Indians, will Government be pleased to state the reason why Anglo-Indians are recruited in the Class II service in much greater strength than their population percentage permits ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : (a) (i) Two.

(ii) Twelve including four officers whose domicile was declared later to be non-Asiatic.

(b) The total cadre consists of 55 officers of whom 29 are Indians and 26 Anglo-Indians.

(c) Owing to the special circumstances of the Survey of India the policy has been to employ Anglo-Indians in Class II of the department in excess of the percentage to which they would be entitled on a strictly population basis. I may, however, state for the Honourable Member's information that the proportion of Anglo-Indians recruited has been steadily diminishing.

## INCREASE IN THE PROPORTION OF INDIAN OFFICERS IN THE SURVEY OF INDIA DEPARTMENT.

350. \***Mr. B. R. Puri** : Are Government prepared to increase the proportion of Indian officers in the Class II service of the Survey of India ? If not, why not ? If so, do Government propose to bear this point in mind when making fresh recruitments, as it is intended to do, in November, 1933 ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : The Honourable Member is presumably referring to the proportion of officers of unmixed Asiatic descent as compared with that of Anglo-Indians. As stated by me in the reply which I have just given to his preceding question, the proportion of Anglo-Indians recruited has been steadily diminishing. While the practice before 1920 was to recruit three Anglo-Indians to one Indian, Government have recently decided in respect of fresh recruitment during the current year that only two out of seven vacancies should be filled by Anglo-Indians.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HAJ ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

351. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have accepted all the recommendations of the Haj Enquiry Committee ?

(b) Do Government propose to publish the evidence taken by the Haj Enquiry Committee, or to keep a copy of the same in the library of the Central Legislature ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : (a) Most of the recommendations of the Committee have been accepted by Government either wholly or in a slightly modified form.

(b) No. The evidence has not been printed up.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Will Government be pleased to state whether they have accepted the recommendations of the Haj Inquiry Committee which were printed in book No. G.I.P.D.-L-50 (C)-C-P ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : I am afraid it is not possible for me to identify the document to which my Honourable friend refers.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Is it a fact that the confidential report No. G.I.P.D.-L-50 (C)-C.P. was not printed in the Government of India Press ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : I have no information.

PROPOSAL FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF A MODIFIED SYSTEM OF COMMERCIAL ACCOUNTS IN THE BENGAL CINCHONA DEPARTMENT.

352. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Is it a fact that there was a proposal for the introduction of a modified system of Commercial accounts in the Bengal Cinchona Department, and that the Bengal Government have dropped the proposal on account of the present financial stringency and that the Government of India were to reach a decision in the matter ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state if they have reached any decision on the question mentioned in part (a) in respect of the transactions of the Government of India and of the verification of stocks of cinchona bark at Mungpoo ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : Reply to both parts of the question is in the affirmative.

RUNNING OF THE FRUIT FARM AT QUETTA ON COMMERCIAL LINES.

353. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Is it a fact that the Fruit Farm at Quetta is working on a clear loss ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state what steps were taken by them to reduce the loss and to run the farm on strictly commercial lines ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : (a) and (b). The farm is working at a loss, but the amount of this has recently been considerably reduced. The net loss in 1931-32 was reduced to Rs. 12,069 as compared with Rs. 21,210 in the previous year. The farm exists for experimental demonstration and propaganda purposes. It is not a commercial concern and the receipts cannot be expected to cover the whole expenditure.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Is it a fact that the depreciation on those stocks was counted when mentioning the lesser loss ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** I am not aware to what my Honourable friend refers. As far as I am aware, there is no depreciation on trees.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** I am referring to the stock.

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** There is no other stock.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Is it a fact that all fruit farms and all agricultural farms in India are running at a loss ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** If my Honourable friend wishes information as regards farms throughout India, I would request him to address himself to the Annual Reports of the various provinces. I have no information about all farms in India.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** What about fruit farms ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** I have already mentioned about the only fruit farm with which the Government of India are at present concerned, namely, the fruit farm at Quetta.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Am I to understand that there are no fruit farms elsewhere ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** My Honourable friend perhaps has appreciated the fact that I am answering in regard to farms which are directly under the control of the Government of India. Whether there are fruit farms under the control of the Local Governments, I am not in a position to say.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Then am I to understand that the Quetta fruit farm is the only one under the control of the Government of India ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** That is perfectly true ; that is the only fruit farm.

AMENDMENT OF LEAVE RULES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE INCHEAPE  
COMMITTEE.

354. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** (a) Have Government accepted the Incheape Committee's recommendation to amend the leave rules which seemed to them to be unnecessarily complicated ?

(b) Have Government finished the consideration of the draft revised rules and the scope of their application ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the revised rules, if any, accepted by them ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) Government accepted the suggestion of the Incheape Committee that the leave rules for the subordinate services should be reconsidered and the matter was consequently carefully examined.

(b) and (c). The revised leave rules for new entrants are still under consideration. The Honourable Member's attention is invited in this connection to the answer which I gave yesterday to question No. 281.

DECISIONS OF THE TRIBUNAL ON CAPITATION CHARGES.

355. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the tribunal appointed to settle the question of capitation payments made from Indian Revenues to Departments of the Imperial Government for services arising out of the maintenance of British troops on the Indian Establishment, have submitted their report ?

(b) If the reply to part (a) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to circulate a copy of the same to the members of this House ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham** : (a) and (b). I regret that I am not yet in a position to add anything to the replies which I gave to Mr. Sitaramaraju's starred question No. 622 on the 3rd March last. The Secretary of State, however, informed the Joint Select Committee on the 28th July, 1933, that he hoped to be able to make a fuller statement on the subject in the autumn.

CLAIMS OF THE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT AGAINST THE RAILWAYS.

356. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Is it a fact that the claim of the Posts and Telegraphs Department against the Railways is under consideration of the Railway Board since 1927-28 ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau** : I am not aware what particular claim, my Honourable friend is referring to, but both the Posts and Telegraphs and Railway Departments are commercial departments and there are always certain claims and counter-claims under consideration and investigation by both the departments. There are certain claims of the Posts and Telegraphs Department at the present moment on which discussions have been proceeding for some time. The representatives of the two departments met recently and have arrived at an agreement on the general principles on which these should be settled. The details are being worked out at present by the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Is it a fact that the items which are under consideration have been pending since 1927-28 ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau** : I do not remember exactly on what date the original claim was made, but, as I have already said, discussions have been proceeding for some time.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Did the Honourable Member notice that in the question that was particularly asked ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau** : If my Honourable friend had told me what claim he was referring to, I could have given him a reply.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : The claims which were mentioned by the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, before the Public Accounts Committee.

**Mr. P. B. Rau** : I wish my Honourable friend had specified these claims in his question. In the question the word "claim" is used in the singular.

DECLARATION OF DEBENTURES OF THE CENTRAL LAND MORTGAGE BANK OF  
MADRAS AS TRUSTEE SECURITIES.

357. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in August, 1931, the Government of India informed the Madras Government that necessary legislation would be taken up at the Simla Session of this House to declare the debentures of the Central Land Mortgage Bank of Madras as trustee securities, and that towards the end of the same year the Government changed their attitude ?

(b) If the reply to (a) above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what happened between August and December to warrant a change of policy ?

(c) Has there been any correspondence with the Madras Government in this connection since February, 1933 ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The subject is now under discussion with the Government of Madras.

EXPENDITURE OF THE INDIAN RAILWAY CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION.

358. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state under what head of expenditure the contribution of the State-managed Railways to the Railway Conference Fund was shown in the year 1932-33 ?

(b) What was the total cost of the Association during the year 1932-33 ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : (a) The expenses in connection with the Indian Railway Conference Association of the State-managed railways are shown under head I (ii) of Abstract G.—Miscellaneous Expenses—of the Accounts of the respective railways.

(b) The total expenditure of the Indian Railway Conference Association for the year 1932-33 was Rs. 3,88,375.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi** : May I ask whether any railways that are not State-owned contribute to this fund ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : Yes, Sir.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Do Government propose to allow Muslim Railway Employees' Associations to send their representatives also to attend this Conference ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : This, Sir, is not a Conference of employees.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Then will the Honourable Member be pleased to state who attends this Conference if not the employees ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : Representatives of the railway administrations.

PREPARATION OF ROLLING STOCK PROGRAMME OF RAILWAYS.

359. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Is it a fact that the rolling stock programme is prepared by the Railway Board in consulta-

tion with the Agents of the different railways in the absence of the members of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways ?

(b) Is it a fact that the programme is placed before the Standing Finance Committee for Railways for sanctioning the expenditure in the absence of the authorities of the different railways ?

(c) If the reply to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the difficulties which are generally felt by the Standing Finance Committee for Railways ?

(d) Do Government propose to prepare the rolling stock programme in consultation with the Agents and the Standing Finance Committee for Railways, or to include this item in the agenda of Central Advisory Committee for Railways for their opinion ?

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

(c) I am not aware what difficulties the Honourable Member is referring to, but as a member himself of the Standing Finance Committee he has full opportunities for discussion of these difficulties and suggestions for improvement of the procedure in the Committee itself.

(d) Government are of opinion that the present procedure is the most convenient from the practical point of view, and see no reason to change it. They consider that any difficulties that are at present being experienced by members of the Standing Finance Committee can be discussed more suitably in that Committee itself initially than in the Central Advisory Council.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi :** May I ask whether Government will give an opportunity to this House to discuss the question of the Statutory Railway Authority ?

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The Chair does not think that question arises out of this.

MARKING OF SIXTEEN SQUARE FEET SPACE FOR EACH PILGRIM IN PILGRIM SHIPS.

360. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** (a) Is it a fact that the Haj Enquiry Committee have mentioned in their Report that by marking 16 square feet space for each pilgrim the carrying capacity of the pilgrim ships will be decreased ?

(b) Is it a fact that for the reason mentioned in part (a) above, Government do not propose to mark 16 square feet space for each pilgrim ?

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

(b) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the official report of the debate in this House on Saturday, the 8th April, 1933. As I then undertook to do, provision has been included in the rules which it is hoped to publish before the next Haj season for the demarcation by lines of small blocks capable of accommodating groups of pilgrims varying in number from 5 to 12.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Is it a fact that the Haj Enquiry Committee have mentioned in their report that by marking 16 sq. ft. off for each pilgrim the carrying capacity of the pilgrim ship will be decreased ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** Probably my Honourable friend did not follow what I said in reply to part (a) of his question : I said, Yes.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Does it mean that actually 16 sq. ft. is not given to the pilgrims on the ships ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** My information is that on an average passengers do get 16 sq. ft.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Do Government realise that when pilgrims on ships are full, according to the number which is announced by the survey officer, 16 sq. ft. space is nearly impossible for each pilgrim ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** I do not quite know what my Honourable friend means by the pilgrims being full : I think he is thinking of the ship.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** I mean the total number which is announced by the survey officer to be on a ship : if that number is on the ship, then, in that case, 16 sq. ft. space is not provided to pilgrims ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** I have already said that on an average pilgrims do have 16 sq. ft.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** But not in all cases ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** I am talking in terms of averages. If my Honourable friend would investigate the matter a little further, he will find that even if 16 sq. ft. were allowed to each individual pilgrim, it would not be occupied.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Have they got sufficient space to lie down straight ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** Yes, except when their hardier neighbours encroach upon the space to which they are entitled by law.

#### SPACE FOR ALLEY-WAYS IN PILGRIM SHIPS.

361. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the statement " There are several small blocks in the ship and all these small blocks are measured in the way in which it has been suggested by the Haj Enquiry Committee, alley-ways being excluded " is correct ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether any deduction for the space for alley-ways between two rows of unberthed pilgrims is made at the time of the survey of pilgrim ships ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** (a) The system of measuring is described in Appendix C to the report of the Haj Enquiry Committee.

(b) There is no such rule at present, although in actual practice deduction is made for an alley-way space  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ft. in width on the upper deck. Government now propose to make a rule that an alley-way shall be provided on the upper deck as well as in every compartment on the between decks.

DOCTORS IN CHARGE OF HOSPITALS ON PILGRIM SHIPS.

362. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Is it a fact that all the doctors in charge of the hospitals on the pilgrim ships (last Haj season) were Muslims ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : No.

STEAMING CAPACITY OF CERTAIN PILGRIM SHIPS.

363. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Is it a fact that there is a rule that pilgrim ships sailing between May, 20th and September, 20th in any year must be capable of steaming at least eight knots an hour in ordinary monsoon weather ?

(b) Do Government propose to increase the minimum speed limit of pilgrim ships from eight to ten knots an hour ?

(c) How many knots is Jeddah from Bombay and from Karachi ?

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

(b) No. If shipping companies were required to provide, for the pilgrim traffic, steamers capable of a higher speed they might find it necessary to enhance the fares.

(c) The distance from Bombay to Jeddah is 2,350 miles and from Karachi to Jeddah 2,180 miles.

EMPLOYMENT OF MUSLIM DOCTORS AND HOSPITAL ASSISTANTS ON PILGRIM SHIPS.

364. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have made any rule to employ suitable Muslim doctors and hospital assistants on pilgrim ships ?

(b) If the reply to (a) above be in the negative, do they propose to make such rules for the next coming Haj seasons ? If not, why not ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : (a) and (b). The rules which will be published shortly will contain a provision that every medical officer and attendant employed on a pilgrim ship should preferably be Muslims.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi** : May I ask whether it is the policy of Government to provide communities in this country with doctors on communal lines ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : This is rather a special case, because the ships are utilised exclusively for Muslim passengers.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi** : May I ask whether if a particular village or a particular part of the country consists of only Hindus, Government will provide only Hindu doctors ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : Medical administration being a transferred provincial subject, I suggest that this might be addressed to Ministers in Provinces.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : Has there been a specific demand by the Muhammadans that there should be Muhammadan doctors ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : That is the recommendation of the Haj Enquiry Committee.

EXCLUSION FROM CUSTOMS DUTY OF *Tabarrukats* IMPORTED BY HAJ PILGRIMS.

365. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Do Government propose to exempt from customs duty all *Tabarrukats* (articles brought by Haj pilgrims with them from Hedjaz on their return to India) imported by Haj pilgrims ?

The Honourable Sir George Schuster : Exemption is already allowed subject to certain limits in respect of articles having a substantial commercial value.

REFUSAL BY MESSRS. TURNER MORRISON COMPANY TO ISSUE CONCESSION TICKETS TO POOR PILGRIMS.

366. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that in the past Messrs. Turner Morrison Co. used to issue two or three hundred concession tickets every year for poor pilgrims on their pilgrim ships ?

(b) Are Government aware that, when requested this year, Mr. E. Brown, Managing Director, Messrs. Turner Morrison, Bombay, refused to issue such tickets ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether the issue of the concession tickets was stopped this year by the Company on the instruction of the Government, or on account of the views of the Haj Enquiry Committee who were opposed to the grant of any concession ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : (a), (b) and (c). The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the reply given by me on the 27th February, 1933, to Shaikh Fazal Haq Piracha's starred question No. 572.

PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR TIBBI TREATMENT ON PILGRIM SHIPS.

367. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Are Government aware that on account of the alcohol used in many of the allopathic medicines, many pilgrims do not use those medicines ?

(b) Are Government aware that alcohol is *haram* according to Islamic *Shariat* ?

(c) Do Government propose to provide facilities for Tibbi treatment on pilgrim ships ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : (a) Government are aware that some pilgrims may object to the use of allopathic medicines.

(b) I am prepared to accept the Honourable Member's statement.

(c) The Honourable Member will remember that when he moved, during the last Session, an amendment to the Indian Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill to provide for the employment of Hakims on pilgrim ships, I pointed out that these ships were governed by the International Sanitary Convention and that it was necessary to employ only such doctors as could be recognised internationally. Should, however, a Port Haj Committee wish to make provision for the pay of a *Unani Tabib* and his medicines on board a pilgrim ship, it would be open to the Committee to negotiate the details regarding his employment with the shipping company concerned.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Do Government propose that in future when International Conventions take place, at least the views of Muhammadans in this connection will be placed before them ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** I am not sure that any effort on the part of Government, to put the views of the Muslim community as regards the employment of *tabibs*, would carry much weight with international medical opinion.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Just as it has been said by my Honourable friend that as doctors are only appointed on account of International Convention, so I wanted to know whether they are prepared to place before International Conventions that such restrictions should be omitted, because there is a great desire in India for *hakims* as well ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** I have already stated in reply to part (c) of the question that it would be open to the Port Haj Committees if they are prepared to find the funds to employ *tabibs* and *hakims* on these ships in addition to allopathic doctors whom the shipping company employs.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Do not Government propose to place this fact before the International Convention ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** I do not myself think that any useful purpose will be served by Government making such representations.

SILVER TRANSACTION WITH ENGLAND FOR PAYMENT OF WAR DEBT TO AMERICA.

368. \***Mr. Nabakumar Sing Dudhoris :** Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) the policy which they have followed with respect to the recent silver transaction with the Home Government for payment of the latter's War Debts to America ?
- (b) when it was first that they themselves were consulted in the matter ?
- (c) whether it was before or after the Honourable the Finance Member left this country on official business abroad ?
- (d) the rate per fine ounce at which the sale was effected by them ?
- (e) the rate per fine ounce at which the Home Government parted with the stock to America in payment of their War Debts ?
- (f) whether any profit arose out of the transaction to any party anywhere ? If so, to whom and where ?
- (g) whether they are aware that a lot of public feeling has been roused over their recent silver deal ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a), (d) and (e). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the replies given to starred questions Nos. 89 and 92 asked by Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon and Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh on the 28th August, 1933.

(b) and (c). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the reply given to starred question No. 109 asked by Mr. Bhuput Sing on the 28th August, 1933.

(f) and (g). These are matters of opinion.

### FALLING OFF IN THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN THE BENARES AND ALIGARH UNIVERSITIES.

369. \***Mr. Nabakumar Sing Dudhoria** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether reports have come to them of the falling off in the number of admissions of students to the post-graduate classes and Law Department in the Benares and Aligarh Universities owing to the unusual financial stringency consequent upon trade depression, extensive retrenchment of salaries and emoluments and widespread unemployment ?

(b) If so, what steps have Government so far taken for meeting the situation ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : (a) and (b). The Quinquennial Reports of the Benares Hindu and Aligarh Muslim Universities for the period 1927-32 submitted by the authorities of those Universities show that there has been a fall in the number of admission of students to the various classes only of the Aligarh University. The decrease is said to be largely due to the economic depression. The authorities of that University have, with the approval of the Government of India, accordingly decided to remit the registration fee which the University used to charge from students on their admission to the University.

### FORMATION OF THE STATUTORY RAILWAY BOARD IN INDIA.

370. \***Mr. Nabakumar Sing Dudhoria** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have been asked for any opinion by the Home Government about the formation of the future Statutory Railway Board in India ? If so, will they please state the specific views which they have expressed on the subject ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have been apprised of the specific recommendations that the majority of the London Committee on that subject have recently made there ? If so, what are those recommendations ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : (a) Yes, but the correspondence is confidential and Government are unable to state what are the views they have expressed on the subject.

(b) Yes ; the report has been published in full in the Press, and copies circulated to Members of the Legislature.

### UNSATISFACTORY WORKING OF THE OTTAWA AGREEMENT IN SOME PARTICULARS.

371. \***Mr. Nabakumar Sing Dudhoria** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state (a) whether it is not a fact that it has been found that the Ottawa Agreement has not been working quite satisfactorily in some particulars so far as some Dominions are concerned ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is not a fact that directly after the World Economic Conference finally adjourned, a Conference of the Dominions and British Delegates took place in London in order to remove some of the obstacles and implement some provisions of the agreement in view of recent experiences ?

(c) If the answer to (b) above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether they were duly represented at that Conference? If so, by whom?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Legislatures will be duly informed of the specific complaints removed and specific provisions supplemented as a result of that Conference?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Ottawa Agreement formed the subject-matter of any debate or discussion at the World Economic Conference? If so, in what connection?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** (a) The Government of India have no information. They have not so far entered into any Trade Agreement with the Dominions.

(b), (c) and (e). The Government of India have no information.

(d) Does not arise.

ARREST AND DEPORTATION OF MR. GEORGE MRAZ WHO WAS RUNNING A GERMAN THERAPEUTIC INSTITUTE IN DELHI.

372. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it a fact that a German Doctor, Mr. George Mraz, who was running a German Therapeutic Institute in Delhi, has been recently arrested and deported? If so, for what offence and on what evidence?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig :** George Mraz was deported under the provisions of section 3 of the Foreigners Act, 1864, as being an undesirable character. I understand that he is not a German subject.

STORES PURCHASE POLICY OF THE CALCUTTA PORT TRUST.

373. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, recently addressed Government on the subject of the stores purchase policy of the Calcutta Port Trust, and in the course of their communication pointed out that "the existence and growth of the Port Trust depends ultimately on the prosperity of Indian trade and industry, and that the Commissioners should in respect of their stores purchase follow a policy which tends to encourage goods produced and manufactured in India"?

(b) Will Government be pleased to make a statement regarding the stores purchase policy of the Calcutta Port Trust, and lay on the table a comparative statement showing the value of stores purchased in England and abroad, and those purchased in India during the last five years?

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

(b) Certain information is being called for and a complete reply will be laid on the table in due course.

RETRENCHMENT IN THE CALCUTTA PORT TRUST.

374. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will Government be pleased to state the general plan of retrenchment pursued by the Calcutta Port Trust, indicating how many Indians and how many foreign employees and officials were retrenched during the last three years and the amount of saving effected under each head?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** The information asked for is being obtained and will, when received, be laid on the table.

REVENUE EARNED AT THE DOCKS BY THE CALCUTTA PORT TRUST.

375. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it a fact that about one-third of the Revenue earned at the docks by the Calcutta Port Trust goes every year to Messrs. Bird and Co. for the supply of labour ; and that if the Port Trust elects to employ itself the labour required for handling cargo at the docks, it will save about four lakhs annually ? What approximately is the amount paid to Messrs. Bird and Co. every year for the contract to supply labour ? And for how long ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** In 1932-33, the year for which information is available, the payment to Messrs. Bird and Company for the supply of labour at the Calcutta Docks amounted to about 14½ lakhs while the receipts at the Docks in that year were nearly 50½ lakhs. The advisability of employing more departmental labour has been considered by the Port Commissioners but they regard it as extremely doubtful whether any saving would be affected by this means, as in that case they would have to engage more supervising staff and incur heavy capital expenditure on coolie lines. The total payments made to Messrs. Bird and Company for the supply of labour to the Port Commissioners during the last five years were approximately as follows :

1928-29	..	..	Rs. 29.28 lakhs.
1929-30	..	..	Rs. 29.53 "
1930-31	..	..	Rs. 21.63 "
1931-32	..	..	Rs. 18.83 "
1932-33	..	..	Rs. 15.73 "

This Company has supplied labour to the Port Commissioners for over forty years.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** May I know if tenders were invited from other contractors also for the supply of labour during this long period ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** I cannot give my Honourable friend information on that point, because my Honourable friend will realise that it is not a matter which is directly under the administration of the Government of India.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will Government take it from me that no tenders were invited as a matter of fact, and that the contract with Messrs. Bird and Company is terminable at three months' notice ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** I am quite prepared to take it from my Honourable friend until the contrary is proved.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Are Government aware that there are only five Indian Commissioners on the Port Trust of Calcutta as against fourteen non-Indian Commissioners, and that the majority of them are non-Indians ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** I do not carry the figures in my head, but I have no doubt that my Honourable friend's information is quite correct : but I would like for the information of the House to make

the position clear in regard to the constitution of Port Trusts. I know this is a matter on which Honourable Members in the House feel strongly and it is a matter which has been constantly before me. The constitution of a Port Trust reflects the commercial interests concerned. Now, Sir, as Indian commercial interests grow, they will naturally, from time to time, I take it, be represented by larger numbers. This was, as a matter of fact, done some years ago when the Act was revised, and I have no reason to believe that as Indian interests begin to grow larger and larger, that fact will not also be reflected in time in the constitution of Port Trusts.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Are Government aware that Indian commercial interests are not represented on this Port Trust of Calcutta except by means of nomination by the Government ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** I think that is right.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Whereas the European commercial interests are allowed representation by direct election ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** But does my Honourable friend mean to say that the representation of Indian interests, though it is by nomination, is not a suitable representation ?

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** If nomination is a suitable method of securing proper representation, why don't they extend it to European commercial interests as well ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** I am quite prepared to consider the question of nomination as against election, but I am not prepared here on the floor of the House to commit myself to either one or the other method.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi :** May I ask whether Government are aware that the Royal Commission on Indian Labour has recommended that dock labour should be represented on the Port Trusts ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** I am afraid, Sir, my recollection of the recommendations of the Labour Commission is somewhat distant by this time.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Are Government aware that out of the 12 elected Commissioners, six are returned by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, one by the Calcutta Trades Association, one by the Corporation of Calcutta and four by such bodies as the Government select as being representative of the Indian commercial community ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** I am afraid I do not remember the exact method of representation, but I take it that the facts given by my friend are correct.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Will Government consider the desirability of giving better representation to Indian commercial interests when revising the constitution of the Port Trust of Calcutta ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** I have already told my friend the fact that that aspect of the case is constantly kept in view, but I can give him the assurance that I will personally look into it again.

**Mr. S. C. Sen :** Is it not a fact that these four commercial bodies, whom the Governor General nominates as the forum entitled to elect the four nominees on the Board, appoint them by election amongst themselves ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** I think so, Sir.

PROPOSAL OF RESTRICTING THE PASSAGE OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS,  
PROCEEDING TO ENGLAND, TO BRITISH STEAMERS.

376. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will Government be pleased to state if any correspondence has passed between them and the India Office relating to the proposal of restricting the passage of Government officials, proceeding to England, to British steamers "in view of the serious position of British shipping, and also to avoid subsidising of Italian steamers" ?

(b) Is it intended to issue any instructions on the subject ? If so, on what lines ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig :** I have nothing to add to the reply which I gave to Mr. Neogy's starred question No. 640 on the 6th of March, 1933, except that the matter is still under consideration.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** May I know what is the answer to the last part ? I did not quite catch the Honourable Member.

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig :** Except that the matter is still under consideration.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** And that no instructions have been issued so far ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig :** No decision has yet been reached.

POST OF OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT, KARACHI DIVISION, NORTH WESTERN  
RAILWAY.

377. **\*Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** (a) Is it a fact that one Mr. H. C. S. Bennet, an European, who was a Traffic Inspector on the North-Western Railway was transferred as Office Superintendent, Karachi Division and his post as Traffic Inspector declared surplus ? If so, why was the above-mentioned post of Traffic Inspector again revived after a short time, and another person, also an European or Anglo-Indian, allowed to officiate as Traffic Inspector in this appointment, Mr. Bennet having been allowed to remain as Office Superintendent ?

(b) Is it a fact that by this arrangement the claims of some Senior Indian Head Clerks in the Divisional offices of the North-Western Railway who aspired for the post of the Office Superintendent and were fully qualified for this appointment in every way, were ignored ?

(c) Do Government propose in view of their policy communicated to me in the Railway Board letter No. 1662-E.G., dated 23rd May, 1933, in reply to my starred question No. 1127, to issue instructions to the Agent, and Divisional Superintendent that racial discrimination in the Railway appointments has been removed, and that they should act up to it ?

(d) Is it a fact that Selection Boards are always held for selecting candidates for filling any posts of Office Superintendents ? If so, was any

Selection Board held on the occasion of the transfer of Mr. Bennet as Office Superintendent? If so, who were the other candidates who appeared before this Selection Board, and if not, why was a departure made from the usual procedure in this particular case?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : I have called for the information and will lay a reply on the table in due course.

DANGEROUS CONDITION OF THE CITY WALL OF DELHI.

378. \***Rai Bahadur Kunwar Raghur Singh** (on behalf of Kunwar Hajee Ismail Ali Khan) : (a) Is it a fact that the city wall of Delhi between Ajmeri Gate and Turkman Gate is in a very dangerous condition and many lives have been lost by its collapse during the monsoon of July, 1933?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, do Government propose to consider the question of improving the situation by demolishing the whole portion of the city wall between Ajmeri Gate and Turkman Gate?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : (a) During the recent rains a portion of the Delhi City Wall fell and resulted in the death of two persons and serious injury to a third.

(b) The dangerous portions of the wall have been dismantled. The major portion, however, has been left standing as it is not at present considered dangerous. The question as to whether any further portion should be demolished, or whether any repairs should be effected, is under consideration.

TROUBLES AT THE NORTH WEST FRONTIER OF INDIA.

379. \***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Will Government be pleased to make a statement relating to (i) the trouble and activities on the North West Frontier of India for some time, (ii) and the steps taken by them, and (iii) the present situation obtaining there?

**Mr. B. J. Glancy** : I would refer the Honourable Member to that portion of the speech of His Excellency the Viceroy delivered on the 30th August in this House which dealt with Frontier affairs and which gave a full account of recent activities in that area.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Will Government kindly state the circumstances under which the recent bombing operations were resorted to for the purpose of suppressing any portion of the disturbances?

**Mr. B. J. Glancy** : The reason why bombing was resorted to was that that was regarded as being likely to prove the most successful and economical method. Any other method would almost infallibly have led to serious loss of life. Peaceful methods were actually tried for two months, but without effect.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Are Government aware that their resort to bombing entails danger to innocent men, women and children?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham** : Sir, I am going to answer shortly a short notice question on the subject of bombing, and I would ask Honourable Members to reserve their fire until then.

## OBJECTIONABLE ADVERTISEMENTS IN NEWSPAPERS.

380. \***Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah** : (a) Are Government aware that all newspapers advertise remedies for impotency, health, strength, vigour and birth-control ?

(b) Are Government aware that such advertisements are forbidden on the Continent and in England ? If so, why are they being tolerated in India ?

(c) Have Government analysed any of the medicines so offered ? If not, why not ?

(d) Do Government contemplate to legislate in order to prevent the public from being swindled ? If so, when ? If not, why not ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : (a) It is a matter of common knowledge that such advertisements are published in newspapers.

(b) Government have no detailed information.

(c) Government have not analysed the medicines, but understand that a certain number have been analysed in England and other countries.

(d) The Honourable Member's suggestion is already under the consideration of Government in connection with the Report of the Drugs Inquiry Committee.

## INDIAN RAILWAY GAZETTE OF CALCUTTA.

381. \***Mr. Nabakumar Sing Dudhoria** : Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the State Railway Administrations which patronise the Indian Railway Gazette of Calcutta with their advertisements ?

(b) whether it is a fact that the Gazette in question occasionally receives news and official information for publication from the State Railways ?

(c) whether the Railway Board also extend their patronage to the Gazette ? If so, in what way ?

(d) whether reports of proceedings of Legislative Assembly Committee meetings for Railways are sent to the Gazette for publication and comment ?

(e) whether such reports are also supplied to other papers dealing mainly with Railway matters ?

(f) whether such reports are ordinarily supplied to newspapers which apply for them ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau** : (a) and (b). Government have no information. This is a matter within the competence of Railways to decide for themselves.

(c) The Railway Board subscribe for a copy of the Gazette.

(d), (e) and (f). Copies of the proceedings are supplied to the Gazette for information. They are also supplied to the Associated Press of India.

Any requests for such supply from other papers are considered on merits.

†382.\*

**RUNNING OF SPECIAL TRAINS BETWEEN BARSUI AND KISHANGANJ ON THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.**

383. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether there was a proposal to run special trains for three days on or about 25th, 26th and 27th between Barsui to Kishanganj on the Eastern Bengal Railway ?

(b) Is it a fact that the special train which was to run on the third day was cancelled without previous notice ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the real situation and cause of the cancellation of the running of the special train on the third day ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state the actual number of the passengers who travelled by each of the trains ?

(e) On whose recommendations and request was the running of the special train decided ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau** : (a) and (e). Government understand that it was proposed to run a Special train daily on the 24th, 25th and 26th June, 1933, but not on the 27th June, in connection with the Bihar Muslim Conference which was held this year at Kishanganj. The running of these Specials was arranged at the request of Messrs. Muhammad Shafi Daoodi, M.L.A., and Badi-uz-Zaman, M.L.A.

(b) The Special train which was to run on the 26th June was cancelled.

(c) The Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway, reports that stock, power and staff to work the Special train on the 26th June were ready on the spot. But as no passengers offered either at Barsui or at Kishanganj, it was, in consultation with the General Secretary, Reception Committee of the Muslim Conference, decided to cancel the Special.

(d) 24 passengers by Up Special on 24th June, 1933.

11 passengers by Down Special on 24th June, 1933.

5 passengers by Up Special on 25th June, 1933.

35 passengers by Down Special on 25th June, 1933.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Did Government sustain any loss on account of these trains ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau** : I think it is sufficiently obvious, Sir.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi** : Are Government aware that there was a heavy downpour when the Conference was held there ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau** : I suppose, Sir, my Honourable friend is speaking from personal experience, and I am quite prepared to accept his statement.

†This question was not put by the questioner.

## PAY OF INDIAN STATION MASTERS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

384. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Is it a fact that on the East Indian Railway the starting pay of Indian Station Masters is only Rs. 40 rising to Rs. 120 in four grades in the old scale and Rs. 40 to Rs. 95 in the new one ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : With your permission, Sir, I propose to reply to questions Nos. 384 to 395 together. I have called for certain information and will lay a reply on the table in due course.

## PAY OF INDIAN ASSISTANT STATION MASTERS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

†385. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the Indian Assistant Station Masters on the East Indian Railway are not placed in the higher grade of Rs. 350 in the old scale and of Rs. 310 in the new one ?

(b) Is it a fact that in the special grade of Assistant Station Masters on the East Indian Railway carrying a salary of Rs. 350 per month, persons are not recruited on merit, but the posts in this grade are reserved for Anglo-Indians and Europeans ?

## PAY OF GUARDS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

†386. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that guards on the East Indian Railway are subordinate to Assistant Station Masters, and trained only in guards' duties ?

(b) Is it a fact that their grades are Rs. 100 and Rs. 210 *plus* lump sum allowances which are added to the salary in deducting provident funds ?

## PAY OF TRAVELLING TICKET EXAMINERS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

†387. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that Travelling Ticket Examiners on the East Indian Railway are to work under Assistant Station Masters and are qualified only in a part of coaching duties ?

(b) Is it a fact that the pay of their grade is Rs. 120 *plus* a fixed allowance of Rs. 65, *i.e.*, Rs. 185 altogether ?

## PAY OF TRAIN CLERKS, TELEPHONE CLERKS, ETC., ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

†388. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that Trains Clerks, Telephone Clerks, Booking Clerks, Goods Clerks, Signallers and Ticket Collectors, are all subordinate to Assistant Station Masters on the East Indian Railway ?

(b) Is it a fact that their grades are Rs. 80, Rs. 115, Rs. 210 ?

## SUPERSESSION OF INDIAN ASSISTANT STATION MASTERS BY EUROPEAN AND ANGLO-INDIAN GUARDS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

†389. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the European and Anglo-Indian guards on the East Indian Railway after

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 384.

reaching the maximum of their grade of Rs. 210 enjoy the privilege of being promoted to Assistant Station Master's grade of Rs. 350, superseding the Indian Assistant Station Masters, without qualifying themselves in all the duties, as Indian Assistant Station Masters are required to do ?

(b) Do Government propose to see that the European and Anglo-Indian guards should be made to qualify themselves in all the duties of Indian Assistant Station Masters before they are taken in as such and that in the matter of promotion they should not be allowed to supersede the Indian Assistant Station Masters who might already be their seniors in office ?

UNIFORMS SUPPLIED TO THE ASSISTANT STATION MASTERS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

†390. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Is it a fact that the European and Anglo-Indian Assistant Station Masters on the East Indian Railway get better kind of uniform than the Indian Assistant Station Masters get ?

DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT OF EUROPEAN, ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDIAN ASSISTANT STATION MASTERS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

†391. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Is it a fact that if the eye-sight of an Indian Assistant Station Master on the East Indian Railway fails, he is made a Number-Taker, Booking Clerk or a Signaller, but, if the eye-sight of an European or Anglo-Indian servant of the Railway fails, he is forthwith provided with a high salaried post, such as a controller on pay of rupees four hundred, etc. ?

INTRODUCTION OF NEW SYSTEM OF HOURS OF REST ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

†392. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the difference between the new system of hours of rest, based on Washington and Geneva Conventions and the old system of hours of rest, on the East Indian Railway ?

(b) Were the Assistant Station Masters on the East Indian Railway consulted before the introduction of the new system of hours of rest ?

NIGHT DUTY OF ASSISTANT STATION MASTERS ON CERTAIN BRANCH LINES OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

†393. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that over the B. Division on branch line on the East Indian Railway Indian Assistant Station Masters perform 12 hours' night duty each? If so, is it not in contravention of Geneva and Washington rules ?

(b) Are Government aware that such duty is described as intermittent ? Is it a fact that such duty is continuous and that they have to keep on in train passing duty for 12 hours, no fixed timing for engines and other goods trains being prescribed ?

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 384.

REST FOR CERTAIN STATION MASTERS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

†394. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Is it a fact that on some stations on the East Indian Railway where train passing is managed by switchman and supervised by one station master who does all coaching and goods duty, the said station master is not given any rest either weekly or fortnightly ?

DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT OF EUROPEAN, ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDIAN ASSISTANT STATION MASTERS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

†395. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Is it a fact that Indian Assistant Station Masters on the East Indian Railway are debarred from promotion, or are reduced from the grade they hold, if they fail in the prescribed examination or in the Chandausi training or if they do not pass in the first chance the Chandausi training, but the European and Anglo-Indian Assistant Station Masters are exempted from this practice ?

MOPLAHS CONVICTED OF OFFENCES CONNECTED WITH THE MALABAR REBELLION IN JAILS AND IN THE ANDAMANS.

396. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) How many Moplahs, who were convicted of offences connected with the Malabar Rebellion of 1921, are now suffering imprisonment ?

(b) How many of the Moplahs, who were convicted of offences connected with the Malabar Rebellion of 1921, are in jails in the Madras Province and how many of them are in jails outside Madras ?

(c) How many of them are still in Andaman Island ?

(d) Did the release of such prisoners during the past few years disturb the peace of the district ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig** : (a) 196.

(b) and (c). 62 in jails in the Madras Presidency, 5 elsewhere in India and 129 in the Andamans, 41 of whom have been ordered to be released and are awaiting a passage to India.

(d) I have nothing to add to the reply given by me on the 16th September, 1932, to part (a) of the Honourable Member's question No. 364.

MOPLAHS WANTED BY POLICE UNDER REGULATION III AND THE MOPLAH OUTRAGES ACT.

397. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : What is the number of the Moplahs who are even now wanted by the Police under the State Regulation III and Moplah Outrages Act and in connection with the Malabar Rebellion of 1921 ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig** : No Moplah is wanted by the police under Madras Regulation II of 1819 or the Moplah Outrages Act in connection with the Malabar Rebellion of 1921.

MOPLAHS DETAINED UNDER REGULATION III AND THE MOPLAH OUTRAGES ACT.

398. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : (a) How many Moplahs have been detained under State Regulation III and Moplah Outrages Act ?

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 384.

(b) Do Government propose to grant a general amnesty to the Moplahs, viz., to release those who are still suffering imprisonment in that connection, and to permit those who are detained to return to their homes ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig :** (a) The information in my possession is that only one is under restraint under Regulation II of 1819. No Moplah is detained under the Moplah Outrages Act or under Regulation III of 1818 in connection with the Malabar Rebellion of 1921.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration. The Local Government are following a liberal policy of removing restraint wherever possible.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Since what time has that one man been under detention ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig :** I am afraid I shall require notice of that question.

**NOMINATION OF A MOPLAH MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL LEGISLATURE TO THE COMMITTEE TO BE FORMED FOR ARRANGING THE CONSTITUENCIES OF THE FEDERAL ASSEMBLY.**

399. **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** (a) Do Government propose to form a committee to arrange the constituency for the seats allotted to Muslims by the Premier's decision for the Federal Assembly, and to decide the franchise for the same ?

(b) If so, do they propose to nominate any Moplah member of the Central Legislature to serve on the committee ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** (a) and (b): Government are not at present considering the appointment of any such Committee. The question of its personnel does not therefore arise at present.

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.**

400 **\*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of postal and telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March 1932 in the Gazetted rank in the Direction was as follows :

(1) Europeans cum Anglo-Indians ..	10 in number
(2) Hindus .. .. .	5 in number
(3) Muslims .. .. .	1 in number
(4) Others .. .. .	1 in number
	—
Total ..	17 in number
	—

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Indians in general and of Muslims in particular in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** Sir, as the 120 questions, Nos. 400 to 459 and Nos. 486 to 545 inclusive, are all of the same general purport, and as the same considerations apply to them all I shall deal with them together, with your permission.

I regret that I cannot undertake the research and calculations necessary to give precise replies to these questions ; to do so would be both laborious and useless for the following reasons :

- (a) The Honourable Member is aware that there are in force certain orders of Government regulating the admission to the services of members of different communities, and also that these orders relate specifically only to first appointments, not to the filling of posts by promotion. He nevertheless makes no discrimination in his questions between the staffing of cadres which are filled by direct recruitment and those which are filled otherwise. Furthermore the Honourable Member is probably aware that the staff on many individual cadres is scattered over different offices and circles, so that no significance attaches to the question of the composition of the staff of a particular office or circle in such a case.
- (b) The Honourable Member is also aware that the orders to which I have referred have not been in force for very many years, whereas the actual composition of the staff in any cadre or branch of the service is the result of recruitments and promotions made extending over a long period possibly 25 or 30 years.
- (c) The Honourable Member is also aware (if not, I would refer him to page 1871 of the Legislative Assembly Debates of the 10th March, 1933) that a system of check has been introduced which makes it impossible for recruiting officers in the Posts and Telegraphs Department to evade strict compliance with such orders as may be in force from time to time relating to communal recruitment.

The Honourable Member will thus see that only misleading or useless conclusions could be drawn from even the most detailed replies to the 120 questions with which I am now dealing. Comprehensive information as to the communal composition and recruitment of the different branches of the Posts and Telegraphs staff is however already available : I would refer the Honourable Member to paragraphs 71 and 72 of the Director General's Annual Report on the Posts and Telegraphs Department for the year 1931-32 ; I may add that arrangements have been made to have the corresponding information, to be included in the Annual Report for 1932-33, exhibited in greater detail than in past years.

I may mention that the Government are at present reconsidering the general orders to which I have referred, and will probably issue revised instructions in due course.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** I am now in a very difficult position. The questions have been answered by one stroke of the pen and there are only five minutes left for putting supplementary questions.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Supplementary questions to what answers, because we must know the answers before we put supplementary questions ?

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Are Government aware that about four days ago many of these questions were taken away from the starred list to the unstarred list, and have Government replied to the parts of the unstarred list as well ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** I was not aware of that fact as the unstarred list has not yet reached me. I can assure the Honourable Member that, if there are any questions in the unstarred list, they will be duly answered. But, if they are a repetition of the questions which appear in this list, then they will be given the same answer as I have given here.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Are Government aware that there were not 120 questions for today's answer, because many of them have been taken away from the list ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** That, Sir, is not a matter for me. The questions appear in the list of business which is before the House this morning and it was, therefore, my bounden duty to answer the questions on the list.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Is it a fact that information relating to those questions are in eight pages only in the office of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs.

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** If the Honourable Member has information in his hand which he considers as a sufficient reply to these questions, I presume no further information is wanted.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Will Government be pleased to state whether the information published at page 38 of the report for 1931-32 was supplied by all the circles to the Government and whether from those figures they have compiled the statement which has been published in half a page at page 38 ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** I have not before me the document from which the Honourable Member is reading and I am unable to give him an answer.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** I am ready to give it to him if he wants it. May I know whether the figures which are referred to in paragraphs 71 and 72 which have been answered by my Honourable friend were supplied by different circles in half pages ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** I can assure the Honourable Member that if I were to give him the detailed information for which he has asked in these questions, I should require additional staff in my office for quite an extensive period.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** What additional staff, do Government think will be required for typing 8 or 10 pages of the reply to these questions ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** That, Sir, seems to be a hypothetical question.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Are Government aware that this is not a question concerning the Muslim community alone, but rather that this is a question concerning Indians as a whole ? In all these questions it has been shown that Europeans and Anglo-Indians have got in some cases 60, in some cases 70 and in some cases 80 per cent. of posts, while Indians have got 3, 5, 10 or at the most 20 per cent. only ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** I do not think that I can add anything useful to the reply I have already given.

**Mr. R. S. Sarma :** Will Government be pleased to give this House an idea of what it would have cost Government to find answers to the communal questions of Mr. Maswood Ahmad since January, 1931 ? (Laughter.)

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Is it not the accepted policy of Government that once an officer has been appointed, it is more his efficiency and experience in the departmental work and not his religion that should determine his promotion ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** That is so.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Do Government propose that in future in the Posts and Telegraphs Department, instead of publishing figures as a whole in paragraph 71, they will give information for circles as well ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** I have said in my reply that arrangements have been made to have information exhibited in greater detail than in past years.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Thank you for this undertaking.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

†401. **Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1932 in the Gazetted rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service was as follows ?

(1) Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians	..	69 in number
(2) Hindus	.. .. .	104 in number
(3) Muslims	.. .. .	33 in number
(4) Others	..	23 in number
		Total
	..	229 in number

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Indians in general and of Muslims in particular in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

†402. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1932 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Traffic was as follows ?

(1) European <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..	48 in number
(2) Hindus	27 in number
(3) Muslims ..	1 in number
(4) Others	4 in number
	Total
	80 in number

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Indians in general and of Muslims in particular in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

†403. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1932 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Engineering was as follows ?

(1) European <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..	..	128 in number
(2) Hindus ..	..	23 in number
(3) Muslims ..	..	8 in number
(4) Others	..	8 in number
	Total	.. 167 in number

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Indians in general and of Muslims in particular in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

†404. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct

control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1932 in the Gazetted rank in the Wireless was as follows ?

(1) European <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians .. .. .	24 in number
(2) Hindus .. .. .	4 in number
(3) Muslims .. .. .	<i>nil</i> in number
(4) Others .. .. .	<i>nil</i> in number
Total .. .. .	28 in number

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Indians in general and of Muslims in particular in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

†405. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1932 in the Gazetted rank in the total service was as follows ?

(1) European <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians .. .. .	279 in number
(2) Hindus .. .. .	168 in number
(3) Muslims .. .. .	38 in number
(4) Others .. .. .	36 in number
Total .. .. .	521 in number

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Indians in general and of Muslims in particular in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM POSTAL CIRCLE.

†406. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Direction for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†407. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†408. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†409. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†410. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Wireless for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM POSTAL CIRCLE.

†411. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the total service for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†412. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Direction for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†413. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs in the

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†414. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims ..		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†415. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†416. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Wireless for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†417. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the total service for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY POSTAL CIRCLE.

†418. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Direction for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY POSTAL CIRCLE.

†419. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Posts and Railway Mail Service for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY POSTAL CIRCLE.

†420. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims ..		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY POSTAL CIRCLE.

†421. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY POSTAL CIRCLE.

†422. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Wireless for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY POSTAL CIRCLE.

†423. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the total service for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†424. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Direction for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†425. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

**March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?**

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.**

†426. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.**

†427. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.**

†428. \***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Wireless for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus ..	..	
Muslims .. ..	..	
Others ..	..	
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†429. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the total service for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus ..		
Muslims ..		
Others ..		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL POSTAL CIRCLE.

†430. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Direction for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. ..	..	
Muslims .. ..	..	
Others .. ..	..	
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL POSTAL CIRCLE.

†431. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL POSTAL CIRCLE.

†432. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL POSTAL CIRCLE.

†433. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the Gazetted rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL POSTAL CIRCLE.

†434. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the gazetted rank in the Wireless for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL POSTAL CIRCLE.

†435. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the gazetted rank in the total service for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS POSTAL CIRCLE.

†436. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the gazetted rank in the Direction for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS POSTAL CIRCLE.

†437. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

March, 1933 in the gazetted rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS POSTAL CIRCLE.

†438. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the gazetted rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS POSTAL CIRCLE.

†439. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the gazetted rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS POSTAL CIRCLE.

†440. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Wireless for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS POSTAL CIRCLE.

†441. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the total service for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†442. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Direction for the Punjab and North-West Frontier Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†443. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Punjab and North-West Frontier Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†444. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Punjab and North-West Frontier Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†445. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Punjab and North-West Frontier Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†446. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Wireless for the Punjab and North-West Frontier Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†447. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the total service for the Punjab and North-West Frontier Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†448. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Direction for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†449. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†450 \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 499.

direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†451. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†452. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Wireless for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†453. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 490.

direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the total service for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE UNITED PROVINCES  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†454. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Direction for the United Provinces Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE UNITED PROVINCES  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†455. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the gazetted rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the United Provinces Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE UNITED PROVINCES  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†456. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the gazetted rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the United Provinces Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE UNITED PROVINCES  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†457. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the gazetted rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the United Provinces Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE UNITED PROVINCES  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†458. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the gazetted rank in the Wireless for the United Provinces Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE GAZETTED STAFF IN THE UNITED PROVINCES  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†459. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933 in the gazetted rank in the total service for the United Provinces Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		

†460.\*—485.\*

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

†For these questions and answers thereto, see Legislative Assembly Debates, dated the 4th September, 1933.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

†486. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1932, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Direction was as follows ?

	Number.	Percentage.
1. Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..	4	
2. Hindus ..	143	
3. Muslims	20	
4. Others ..	1	
	-----	
Total	168	
	-----	

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Muslims in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

†487. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1932, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service was as follows ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..	304	
Hindus ..	23,513	
Muslims ..	5,360	
Others	2,297	
	-----	
Total ..	31,474	
	-----	

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Muslims in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.**

†488. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1932, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Traffic was as follows ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..	1,716	
Hindus	2,123	
Muslims	249	
Others	.. 406	
<b>Total</b>	<b>.. 4,494</b>	

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Indians in general and of Muslims in particular in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.**

†489. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1932, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in Telegraph Engineering was as follows ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..	237	
Hindus .. ..	1,006	
Muslims .. ..	239	
Others	138	
<b>Total</b>	<b>.. 1,620</b>	

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Indians in general and of Muslims in particular in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

†For answer to this question: see answer to question No. 400.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

†490. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1932, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Wireless was as follows ?

	Number.	Percentage.
1. Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..	122	
2. Hindus ..	75	
3. Muslims	21	
4. Others ..	19	
	Total ..	237

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Indians in general and of Muslims in particular in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

†491. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : (a) Is it a fact that the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1932, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the total service was as follows ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..	2,383	
Hindus ..	26,860	
Muslims ..	5,889	
Others	2,861	
	Total ..	37,993

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the figures in the same schedule for the year ending the 31st March, 1933 ?

(c) What action do Government propose to take to increase the number of Indians in general and of Muslims in particular in the posts mentioned in part (a) above ?

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM POSTAL CIRCLE.

†492. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Direction for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. ..		
Muslims .. ..		
Others .. ..		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM POSTAL CIRCLE.

†493. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. ..		
Muslims .. ..		
Others .. ..		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM POSTAL CIRCLE.

†494. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. ..		
Muslims .. ..		
Others .. ..		
Total ..		

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM  
POSTAL CIRCLE.**

†495. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM  
POSTAL CIRCLE.**

†496. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Wireless for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BENGAL AND ASSAM  
POSTAL CIRCLE.**

†497. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-Gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the total service for the Bengal and Assam Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†498. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Direction for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†499. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus . . . . .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†500. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†501. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. ..		
Muslims .. ..		
Others .. ..		
Total .. ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†502. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Wireless for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. ..		
Muslims .. ..		
Others .. ..		
Total .. ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†503. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the total service for the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. ..		
Muslims .. ..		
Others .. ..		
Total .. ..		

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY POSTAL CIRCLE.

†504. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Direction for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..	..	..
Hindus .. ..	..	..
Muslims .. ..	..	..
Others .. ..	..	..
Total ..	..	..

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY POSTAL CIRCLE.

†505. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..	..	..
Hindus .. ..	..	..
Muslims .. ..	..	..
Others .. ..	..	..
Total ..	..	..

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY POSTAL CIRCLE.

†506. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..	..	..
Hindus .. ..	..	..
Muslims .. ..	..	..
Others .. ..	..	..
Total ..	..	..

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†507. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians		
Hindus		
Muslims ..		
Others ..		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†508. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Wireless for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. ..		
Muslims .. ..		
Others .. ..		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BOMBAY  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†509. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the total service for the Bombay Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. ..		
Muslims .. ..		
Others .. ..		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†510. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Direction for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†511. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†512. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 490.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†513. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†514. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Wireless for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE BURMA POSTAL CIRCLE.

†515. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the total service for the Burma Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL POSTAL CIRCLE.

†516. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Direction for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL POSTAL CIRCLE.

†517. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL POSTAL CIRCLE.

†518. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†519. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†520. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Wireless for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE CENTRAL  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†521. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the total service for the Central Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS POSTAL CIRCLE.

†522. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Direction for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS POSTAL CIRCLE.

†523. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS POSTAL CIRCLE.

†524. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†525. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus ..		
Muslims ..		
Others ..		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†526. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Wireless for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus ..		
Muslims ..		
Others ..		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE MADRAS  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†527. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the total service for the Madras Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus ..		
Muslims ..		
Others ..		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†528. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Director for the Punjab and N.-W. F. Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†529. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Postal and Railway Mail Service for the Punjab and N.-W. F. Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†530. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Punjab and N.-W. F. Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†531. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Punjab and N.-W. F. Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†532. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Wireless for the Punjab and N.-W. F. Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians		
Hindus ..		
Muslims ..		
Others ..		
Total		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE PUNJAB AND NORTH-WEST FRONTIER POSTAL CIRCLE.

†533. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the total service for the Punjab and N.-W. F. Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†534. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Direction for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†535. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Postal Railway Mail Service for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†536. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†537. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†538. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Wireless for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE SIND AND BALUCHISTAN POSTAL CIRCLE.

†539. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the total service for the Sind and Baluchistan Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE UNITED PROVINCES  
POSTAL CIRCLE.**

†540. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Direction for the United Provinces Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE UNITED PROVINCES  
POSTAL CIRCLE.**

†541. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Postal Railway Mail Service for the United Provinces Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE UNITED PROVINCES  
POSTAL CIRCLE.**

†542. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Traffic for the United Provinces Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total ..		

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 400.

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE UNITED PROVINCES  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†543. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Telegraph Engineering for the Burma Circle in the following following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF NON-GAZETTED STAFF IN THE UNITED PROVINCES  
POSTAL CIRCLE.

†544. \*Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state the composition of the staff of Postal and Telegraph officials under the direct control of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs on the 31st March, 1933, in the non-gazetted (excluding line delivery and menials) rank in the Wireless for the United Provinces Circle in the following schedule ?

	Number.	Percentage.
Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

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Europeans <i>cum</i> Anglo-Indians ..		
Hindus .. .. .		
Muslims .. .. .		
Others .. .. .		
Total .. .. .		

## SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER.

### AIR BOMBARDMENT ON THE TRIBAL AREA OF THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Will Government be pleased to state the full facts about the air-bombing on the tribal area of the North-West Frontier recently ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** As explained by His Excellency the Viceroy in his address to the Legislature on August 30th, the Government of India received information that certain agitators, whose activities were likely to disturb the peace of the Frontier and to be a source of embarrassment to our neighbours, had come to Bajaur and that the most important of them was being harboured in the village of Kotkai. Kotkai is a small walled village containing about 130 inhabitants, and situated at a distance of about 30 miles from the nearest road over very mountainous country and another 45 miles from railhead at Dargai.

A notice was conveyed by messenger to the Khan of Kotkai on July 23rd to the effect that, unless this agitator was surrendered before August 1st, Government would take such action as they might think necessary. The Khan adopted a defiant attitude, and refused to surrender the man. Warnings were then dropped on, and in the vicinity of the village by aeroplane on July 30th to the effect that the village would be liable to be bombed on August 1st and succeeding days. The first bombardment was carried out on August 1st by 12 machines of the Royal Air Force, which dropped 42 bombs. No bombing took place on August 2nd. On August 3rd, and again on August 4th, further bombing took place by six machines, which dropped 24 bombs on each occasion. The total number of bombs dropped was 90. So far as can be ascertained, about 20 houses were destroyed or damaged, and one man was slightly injured. The village presented a deserted appearance when the bombing took place, and there is every reason to believe that all women and children had been removed to a place of safety, and that none of them was hurt. The total cost of these operations was under Rs. 15,000.

No further bombing has taken place either of Kotkai or of any other village.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Will Government be pleased to say whether the source of information that only one man was injured is a confidential one ?

12 Noon.

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** No, it is not confidential. It is information that we received from the political authorities in the locality.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** How was it possible to say that so many men were killed at a particular place, when no man from Government was in the village to see that ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** I imagine that certain people from that area came into the important towns and gave information to the political authorities.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Then there is no surety of the information.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Is my impression correct, that warning was given that bombing would take place on a particular date and at a particular hour, so that those who wanted to go away from the place might do so, if they liked ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** Yes, warning was given on July 30th and the bombing took place two days later at a particular hour.

**Shaikh Sadiq Hasan :** Is bomb throwing so accurate that it will only hit the target and will not fall astray ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** Great progress has been made in the accuracy of aerial bombardment and I believe the Royal Air Force now claim to be more accurate than the artillery.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Is it not a fact that bombing has been proposed to be absolutely abolished by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom in the Disarmament Conference at Geneva ?

**Mr G. R. F. Tottenham :** The position in that respect is as follows. As Honourable Members are aware, the Disarmament Conference has been taking place for some time and any success that the Conference has achieved is due very largely to the efforts made by Great Britain and the President of the Conference, Mr. Henderson. The British Government put certain proposals before the Conference. The first proposal that they put on the subject of aerial warfare was that there should be complete abolition of military aviation of all kinds, provided firstly, that satisfactory arrangements could be made to control civil aviation, to prevent military preparations being made under the guise of civil development, and, secondly, that all other nations agreed to the abolition of their air forces. The second proposition that was put forward was that, failing agreement on this major proposal, aerial bombardment should be abolished as an international weapon of warfare. His Majesty's Government agreed to this proposal, but made the stipulation that they would wish to retain the right to use aerial bombing for police purposes in certain specified outlying portions of the Empire.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Am I correct when I find in this " Monthly Summary of the League of Nations " the following statement :

" His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom desire to suggest that it would be advisable, . . . . to agree on a programme of work which would enable the Conference to embody in a Convention the proposals made by various delegations since the opening of the Conference. . . . . The aim of the Bureau should be to organise without delay practical discussion of the following topics, with the object of framing a Convention or Conventions embodying them so far as they are ultimately approved. . . . . The Bureau shall at once constitute a committee of representatives of the principal air Powers to examine the possibility of the entire abolition of military and naval machines and of bombing from the air, combined with an effective international control of civil aviation."

Is this correct ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** I have no doubt that is perfectly correct.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** If that is correct, I do not see any mention of exception of bombing for police purposes ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** As I explained just now, there were two propositions. The first proposition, the major proposition, is the complete abolition of all military aviation. It was only failing agreement on that, that the second proposition was made, that there should be a limitation of aerial bombardment and it was in connection with the second alternative that His Majesty's Government made the stipulation I have referred to with regard to police bombing. I may add that both these matters were discussed in the Disarmament Conference a few

months ago, but no final decision was reached and the second reading of these proposals is to take place sometime in the coming autumn.

**Maqvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Has the consideration been finished ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** The discussion is to be resumed when the Conference meets again, I believe, sometime this autumn.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi :** May I ask whether it is a fact that agreement at the Disarmament Conference has become very difficult on account of the attitude taken up by Great Britain as regards air bombing ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** No, Sir. That, I think, is a gross misrepresentation of the facts. Any success that the Conference has achieved has been due more to the efforts of the British Government than to any other nation in the world ; and it is most unlikely that the British Government in particular, who have much to fear from the dangers and possibilities of aerial bombardment, should wish to wreck the Conference as a whole on a matter of this kind.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi :** May I ask if the British Government are insisting upon reserving to themselves this power ?

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) :** We cannot discuss on this question the attitude of the British Government in the Disarmament Conference.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi :** May I ask what is the attitude of the Indian Government ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** The Indian Delegation has followed the lead of the British Delegation in all matters relating to the Disarmament Conference and are prepared, if there is general agreement on the subject, to agree to the abolition of military aviation.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Is it a fact that to the demand for giving up the absconders the villagers replied that it was the immemorial custom in the tribal area, on principles of hospitality, to give asylum to the political refugees ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** I think the Political Secretary might have more information on that point. I am only concerned with the military aspect of it.

**Mr. B. J. Glancy :** It is a fact that the people in the tribal area are reluctant to give up those who are enjoying their hospitality : this custom is not peculiar to the tribal area, it is to be found all over the world ; but it has to be subordinated sometimes to the maintenance of peace.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** May I take it that the Government accept that it is the usual practice in all civilised countries to give asylum to political agitators.

**Mr. B. J. Glancy :** That is a custom that has to be modified, as I said, in the interests of peace.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Is it not a fact that even in England asylum is given to political agitators from foreign countries ?

**Mr. B. J. Glancy :** As regards this particular tribal area, it is the Government that is responsible for the peace there.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Are the British Government responsible for the peace in this tribal area ?

**Mr. B. J. Glancy :** Yes, Sir.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Who were the agitators who caused this trouble ?

**Mr. B. J. Glancy :** I do not think it is in the interests of Government to give that information.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** If the Government are not going to give the names of the agitators, did they do any overt act either in the British territory or in the Afghan territory.

**Mr. B. J. Glancy :** As regards the tribal territory about which we are speaking, the action of the agitators had the effect of disturbing the peace.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Did they do any overt act either in this part of the country or in the other part of the country ?

**Mr. B. J. Glancy :** As far as I am aware, in this part of the country, that is to say, the tribal country, they did not actually commit any criminal offence.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** If they did not do any overt act, why did the Government take action on that ground ?

**Mr. B. J. Glancy :** But the peace was being disturbed and the country was being inflamed.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** When there was no overt act, how could the peace of the country be said to be disturbed ?

**Mr. G. B. F. Tottenham :** I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to a passage in His Excellency's speech on the subject. He said :

“ Realising that this particular portion of the frontier holds many firebrands whose main occupation in life is to flout all recognised forms of law and order, and knowing the pace at which infection is likely to spread on the Frontier, I, in consultation with my Government, decided that immediate action was imperative.”

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Was not the action of the Government of India more than was necessary in view of the fact that there was no overt act and there was no chance of these people committing any disturbances ?

**Mr. G. B. F. Tottenham :** That, Sir, is a question of opinion. In the opinion of the Government of India, the action was necessary and it had the desired effect.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** May I know if the Government of India took any hint from the proposals made by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom to the Disarmament Conference at Geneva that bombing by air should not be resorted to at least during the period when the proposal was under consideration before the Disarmament Conference ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** I think it would be most unreasonable to expect that any country, even the most ardent supporter of disarmament, should deprive itself, in advance of any general agreement that had been reached on that subject, of the use of a weapon which, in its opinion and subject to the restrictions and safeguards that are invariably imposed, has proved itself to be a very effective, economical and humane method of preserving peace on the Frontier.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Is it not correct to infer that there was no urgency to take to bombing during the month of July especially when the matter was under discussion before the Disarmament Conference ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** If this air action had not been taken, the alternatives before the Government of India would have been two—either to take no action at all or else to send a military force to Kotkai. This would have cost a great deal more than the operations by air and would have entailed a large number of casualties, not only to the tribesmen, but also to our own Indian soldiers ; and it would ultimately have had precisely the same effect on the village of Kotkai as the aerial bombardment had on August 1st. (Applause.)

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Am I not right in saying that it was the imaginary troubles which caused the Government of India to take to bombing ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** I can assure the Honourable Member that the Government of India would not resort to action on any imaginary grounds.

**Bhai Parma Nand :** May I ask, Sir, whether the decisions of the League of Nations are applicable to India in the case of air bombing or can they be made applicable to the settlement of other questions such as the communal question of India ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig :** Is this question addressed to me ? I am no great authority on the proceedings of the League of Nations which, I fancy, are dealt with by the Legislative Department, but my impression is that agreements reached by the League of Nations are binding on those nations which subscribe to them.

**Bhai Parma Nand :** Is not India a member of the League of Nations ?

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig :** Yes, Sir.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Will Government be pleased to say whether the danger of the disturbance of peace was in India or in Afghanistan ?

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) :** No question can be asked in this House with regard to the foreign territory.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Then, may I know whether the danger of the disturbance was in India ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** I think that question has already been answered.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** What was the reply ?

**Mr. G. E. F. Tottenham :** The reply was that there was danger of a breach of the peace in India.

**Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali :** Is it humane to take steps so devastating in anticipation of the commitment of any overt act ?

**Mr. G. E. F. Tottenham :** I think we have already discussed that matter fully.

**Mr. President :** Order, order. Statements.

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### STATEMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE.

**The Honourable Sir Harry Haig (Home Member) :** Sir, I lay on the table :

- (i) the information promised in reply to starred questions Nos. 214, 354, 355 and 383 asked by Khan Sahib Shaikh Fazal Haq Piracha, Pandit Satyendra Nath Sen and Mr. S. C. Mitra on the 13th September, 1932 ; and
- (ii) the information promised in reply to starred question No. 1214 asked by Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi on the 12th April, 1933.

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### PRO-REPEATER ALARM PISTOLS AND THEIR DETONATING DISCS.

\*214. (a) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The discs contain a minute quantity of an explosive of the fulminate class.

(b) Government have seen some of the advertisements in question.

(c) It has been ascertained from the Government of the United Provinces that no restrictions have been placed by the local authorities on detonating discs. In Bihar and Orissa, the local authorities of one district placed restrictions on the sale of detonating discs under a misapprehension ; these restrictions have since been withdrawn.

(d) In Burma the import of the pro-repeater alarm pistol has been restricted under the Finance Department Notification No. 35, dated the 6th September, 1930 (copy enclosed), to cases in which a permit to import the article has been obtained, in the case of import at Rangoon, from the Commissioner of Police, and in the case of import elsewhere from the District Magistrate. Discs are considered by the Local Government to fall within the definition of "ammunition" given in section 4 of the Indian Arms Act, 1878, and the provisions of the Arms Act and Rules are applied to discs intended for weapons which are capable of being used otherwise than as toys.

(e) In exercise of the power conferred by the proviso in column 3 of entry 1 in Schedule II to the Arms Rules, the Local Government have issued a notification declaring that no person in the Bengal Presidency—

(a) shall manufacture, convert or sell or keep, offer or expose for sale, or

(b) shall go armed with alarm pistols, except under a licence and in the manner and to the extent permitted thereby.

(f) Some types of toy pistols closely resemble lethal weapons in appearance and make a loud report when fired. Cases have occurred in Bengal and Burma of their use in an objectionable manner, for example, by dacoits to frighten people. In one case a hole was bored in a toy pistol to enable a ball cartridge to be fired from it. The Local Governments therefore considered it necessary to impose restrictions on these weapons. The Government of India are not prepared to interfere with the discretion of the Local Governments in this matter and they do not, therefore, propose to issue any general orders on the subject.

**RESTRICTIONS IN BURMA AND BENGAL FOR GERMAN AUTOMATIC REPEATENT ALARM PISTOLS.**

\*354. (a) Yes.

(b) The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given to clause (f) of question No. 214.

**LICENCE FOR TELL AND DIANA BRAND GERMAN AIR PISTOLS IN BENGAL.**

\*355. (a) and (b). The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given to clause (f) of question No. 214.

**RESTRICTIONS IN BURMA AND BENGAL FOR GERMAN AUTOMATIC REPEATENT ALARM PISTOLS.**

\*383. (a) The position in regard to these pistols in Burma and Bengal has been explained in the replies given to clauses (d) and (e), respectively, of question No. 214.

(b) and (c). The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given to clause (f) of question No. 214.

*Copy of a Finance Department (Central Revenues) Notification, Government of India, No. 35, dated the 6th September, 1930.*

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878 (VIII of 1878), and in supersession of the notification of the Government of India in the Finance Department (Central Revenues) No. 38, dated the 18th June, 1927, the Governor General in Council is pleased to restrict the bringing into British India of toy, dummy or imitation revolvers or pistols to cases in which a permit to import the same has been granted, in the case of import at a Presidency town or Rangoon, by the Commissioner of Police, and in the case of import elsewhere by the District Magistrate :

Provided that the restriction imposed by this notification shall not apply to revolvers or pistols which in the opinion of the Collector of Customs are of such construction and character as to render them incapable of being used otherwise than as toys or of being converted into lethal weapons.

**MUSLIM SUPERINTENDENTS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA SECRETARIAT AND ATTACHED OFFICES.**

\*1214.

*Statement.*

	Total number of Superintendents.	Total number of Muslims.
Government of India Secretariat .. .. .	59	5
Attached Offices .. .. .	106	6

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham (Army Secretary) :** Sir, I lay on the table :

(i) the information promised in reply to part (b) of starred question No. 712 asked by Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh on the 8th March, 1933 ;

(ii) the information promised in reply to starred questions Nos. 809 and 810 asked by Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon on the 21st March, 1933 ;

- (iii) the information promised in reply to starred questions Nos. 1100 to 1102 asked by Khan Bahadur Haji Wajihuddin on the 1st April, 1933 ; and
- (iv) the information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 194 asked by Khan Bahadur Haji Wajihuddin on the 10th April, 1933.

#### TROOPS FROM BRITISH INDIA SENT TO ALWAR.

\*712. (i) No portion of the cost was borne by Indian revenues ; the normal charges were borne by Alwar State and the extra cost was charged to His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.

(ii) There is nothing to show that any part of the expenditure was met from Indian revenues on this occasion, when Alwar troops were absent from the State for two days.

#### OFFICERS AND CLERKS IN THE MILITARY ENGINEERING SERVICE, WESTERN COMMAND, QUETTA.

\*809. (b) The figures given are substantially correct ; but those for Hindus include Sikhs.

(c) Does not arise.

#### REPRESENTATION OF MUSLIMS IN THE CLERICAL STAFF OF THE MILITARY ENGINEERING SERVICE, WESTERN COMMAND, QUETTA.

\*810. (a) 18.

(b) Two Muslims and 16 non-Muslims.

(c) and (d). Part (c) of the question does not strictly arise, but I may add that every endeavour is made to recruit Muhammadans, provided that suitable candidates are available. Government do not therefore consider that there is any justification for the issue of fresh orders regarding communal representation.

#### PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF CERTAIN HOUSES IN THE SECUNDERABAD CANTONMENT.

\*1100. (a) Such notices were issued but were subsequently withdrawn.

(b) The notices were issued as a preliminary to the clearance of the area as recommended by a committee including non-official members of the Board who considered that it was overcrowded and insanitary.

(c) The notices were issued in order that the areas might be cleared, *vide* answer to (b) above. As the clearance of the area was also necessary in pursuance of the Town Planning Scheme, the notices under section 138, Cantonments Act, 1924, were withdrawn and further action was taken under the Town Improvement Law.

(d) The area referred to by the Honourable Member is that covered by the road project ; that affected by the notices was smaller.

(e) and (f). I understand that the Local Administration (not the Cantonment Authority) estimate that the execution of the Improvement Scheme will involve a monetary loss of about twelve lakhs ; they consider that this heavy expenditure should be undertaken in the interest of the health of the residents. I have no reason to believe that any person is really of opinion that the scheme is intended to secure a monetary profit.

(g) The figures are approximately correct.

(h) I am informed that one Housing Trust has built 150 houses and that they have 50 more under construction. Work has also begun on a scheme promoted by

another Trust for the construction of 200 houses specially intended for poor people. Moreover there are 54 houses available for sale or lease in other localities, and 438 building sites are offered for lease.

(i) I have no details but I am assured that it was not contemplated that any people should be left without accommodation during these months.

(j), (k) and (l). As the notices have been withdrawn I presume that the Honourable Member does not desire to have an answer to these questions. I should like to add, however, that Section 192 of the Cantonments Act does not and did not apply.

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PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF CERTAIN HOUSES IN THE SECUNDERABAD CANTONMENT.

\*1101. (a) Yes.

(b) Does not arise as notices to quit were not issued.

(c) Government have no information.

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PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF CERTAIN HOUSES IN THE SECUNDERABAD CANTONMENT.

\*1102. (a) It was considered that notices under Section 138 of the Cantonments Act were not legal as regards these houses. All notices under this Section were consequently withdrawn and action was taken under the Town Improvement Law.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. As a result of the representation from the owners, action under Section 138 of the Cantonments Act was not completed.

(d) Action under Section 138 was contemplated to suit the convenience of the population at a time when they had already vacated their houses owing to the outbreak of plague in the area, and were living in temporary huts elsewhere.

(e) Very few objections were received and the compensation offered was believed to be on a generous scale.

(f) I understand that sites are being offered. Prices vary from nothing to about H. S. Rs. 2-8-0 per sq. yard. It is not expected that the amount realized by the sale of these sites will pay for the cost of acquisition, development and drainage. A small part adjoins a graveyard, but houses already exist there and the number of applications received indicates that this area will be extremely popular.

(g) The object is to clear as much ground as possible in this insanitary and congested area. New houses are required to replace the hovels that are being removed.

(h) No.

(i) I am informed that opposition to the proposals is confined to individuals interested in the perpetuation of existing housing conditions, under which, according to the figures given by the Honourable Member in part (g) of Question 1100, the average number of occupants of a house is seventeen. House-owners are being freely consulted by officials and numerous non-officials who have given their services voluntarily for the promotion of the scheme and no committee appears to be necessary.

(j) The present constructions are entirely without plan and nothing less than their complete removal and an entirely new lay-out of the area will be sufficient.

(k) Many more than this number vacate their houses of their own accord for the greater part of the year to escape the ravages of plague. Government believe that the local authorities are already taking all possible steps to prevent hardship.

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CONTEMPLATED LAYING OUT OF A NEW ROAD IN SECUNDERABAD.

\*1104. (a) to (e) and (l) to (s). The Honourable Member is referred to the answers given to his starred questions Nos. 1100 to 1102.

(f), (g) and (s). I am assured by the local authorities that all possible arrangements and remedies suggested by the Health Officers have been tried.

(h) Every effort has been made to induce people to rebuild their houses or make the floors rat-proof. Over Rs. 9,82,000 have been spent to build rat-proof grain godowns and houses for the poor.

(j) Members of the Town Improvement Trust went specially to Bombay for the purpose before the scheme was launched. Two of the Engineers of the Board have several years experience in large town improvement schemes.

(k) No orders to this effect have been passed.

(o) No. The Local Government have their own experts.

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

- (i) the information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 123 asked by Sir Zulfiqar Ali Khan on the 27th September, 1932 ;
  - (ii) the information promised in reply to parts (b) and (d) of starred question No. 290 asked by Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad on the 8th February, 1933 ;
  - (iii) the information promised in reply to starred questions Nos. 729 to 732 asked by Mr. B. Das on the 13th March, 1933 ; and
  - (iv) the information promised in reply to starred question No. 966 asked by Mr. B. N. Misra on the 28th March, 1933.
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#### CHECK OF THE WORK IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUE OF PASSES ON THE NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

123. The Statutory Auditor checks occasionally a certain (undefined) percentage of passes. The Accounts Department of the North Western Railway checks once in three years 10 per cent. of passes issued by each railway office (other than their own offices) but since most of the pass receipts are destroyed after one year this check is, in effect, confined to the year preceding the year of inspection.

The Agent's inspection staff checks every year 25 per cent. of passes issued by Accounts offices (which also issue passes for Audit Department), by non-railway offices (Police and Telegraphs) and by other railway offices which are not inspected by Accounts Department during the year.

There is accordingly no overlap of check between the Accounts staff and the Agent's staff and there is no triplication as stated by the Honourable Member. The Government consider it desirable therefore to continue the check by the Agent's staff.

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#### EXPORT OF BIHAR RICE.

\*290. (b) and (d). Figures supplied by the Agent, East Indian Railway, show that during 1932-33 the tonnage of rice booked from stations on that railway in Bihar fell by 48 per cent. as compared with the previous year. The estimated yield of the rice crop in 1932-33 was also considerably lower. It amounted to only 4,200,000 tons compared with 7,170,000 tons during the previous year. There is no evidence to show that the existing railway rates on the East Indian Railway have prevented the free export of rice from Bihar. Government do not, therefore, consider that there is any necessity to reduce the rates for rice on the East Indian Railway.

**PURCHASE OF CHEAP ELECTRIC POWER IN PREFERENCE TO ITS GENERATION  
BY THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.**

\*729. (a) Prior to the electrification the technical work in the Power Branch of the Bombay Division was confined to the supervision of the steam locomotive work, but the electrification has resulted in considerably increased work having to be undertaken, including the generation and supply of electric power for the scheme as well as supervision, direction and control of work connected with the use of electric power and the up keep of the electric engines and rolling stock. The extent of the work involved in this is shown by the following items :

- 40,000 K. W. Power House.
- 15 Sub-stations.
- 270 miles of extra high tension transmission lines.
- 571 single track miles of electrified lines.
- 65 Electric locomotives.
- 51 Multiple unit trains.
- 2 Electric Rolling Stock repair sheds.

(b) The number of officers in the Electric Traction Department of the Great Indian Peninsula, Bombay, Baroda and Central India and South Indian Railways respectively is as follows :

*Great Indian Peninsula Railway.*

Transportation (Traction) Department	..	..	..	8
Power House Branch	..	..	..	4
Leave Reserve	..	..	..	1
			<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

B. B. and C. I. Railway	..	..	..	2
S. I. Railway	..	..	..	1

Originally there were 10 officers in the Transportation (Traction) Branch and 9 in the Power House Branch of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway and the total strength has already been reduced from 19 to 13.

The activities of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Traction Department including as it does the Power House and Sub-Stations, etc., are not correctly comparable with those of the B. B. and C. I. or the S. I. Railway, both of which operate only suburban trains. The electrified mileage of those railways is also considerably less than the electrified mileage of this railway and is shown below :

	No. of officers.	Route mileage.	Track mileage.
G. I. P. Railway	.. .. 8	181.70	425.90
B. B. and C. I. Railway	.. .. 2	21.25	62.54
S. I. Railway	.. .. 1	18.14	36.28

It is considered that the staff employed in the Transportation (Traction) Branch of the G. I. P. Railway, in the 8 working posts is not excessive as compared with the B. B. and C. I. or the S. I. Railway.

(c) The post of Assistant Divisional Transportation Superintendent is a permanent one. A technical officer is required to co-ordinate the work of the three sections, i.e., Power House, Distribution and Rolling Stock. For convenient working he reports on routine and divisional matters to the Divisional Transportation Superintendent of the Bombay Division which is the electrified division and on technical matters to the Chief Transportation Superintendent. Before the re-arrangement of Traction work, the position was held by a special Deputy on higher pay and the Government consider it necessary to retain the post of Assistant Divisional Superintendent.

(d) The Agent, G. I. P. Railway, reports that no definite proposal for the purchase of the Chola Power House by the Tata Hydro-Electric Power Supply Company can be traced.

(e) Does not arise.

**POST OF SUPERINTENDING FOREMAN FOR THE MULTIPLE UNITS SECTION OF THE TRACTION DEPARTMENT OF THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.**

\*730. The whole electric locomotive section is controlled by an officer on the spot, and the post of a Superintending Foreman on the maximum of Rs. 850 for this Section was, therefore, not considered necessary, while in the absence of such an arrangement for the Multiple Unit Section, a Foreman is considered essential in order to exercise direct local supervision.

It is correct that the electric locomotive section is considered more important than the multiple unit section.

**RECRUITMENT OF A FOREMAN IN ENGLAND FOR THE DISTRIBUTION SECTION OF THE TRACTION DEPARTMENT OF THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.**

\*731. The Agent, G. I. P. Railway, reports that a Foreman for the Distribution Section was obtained from England because after due advertisement in India a suitable candidate possessed of such experience as was considered absolutely necessary, was not obtainable locally. A number of applicants were actually interviewed but were not found suitable.

**INDIANISATION IN THE TRACTION DEPARTMENT OF THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.**

\*732. The number and percentage of Indian, Anglo-Indian and European Officers and senior subordinates in the Traction Branch are as shown below :

<i>Officers.</i>	No.	Percentage.
Indians ..	2	15.8
Anglo-Indians ..	1	7.7
Europeans ..	10	77
<i>Senior Subordinates.</i>		
Indians ..	11	46
Anglo-Indians ..	6	25
Europeans ..	7	29

Electrification being new to India specialists had to be recruited for the electric Traction Branch and it was, therefore, not found possible to adhere to the proportions fixed for the older and more stabilised branches of the superior and subordinate services.

With reference to the supplementary question by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney regarding Superintendent Foreman it may be stated that the present incumbent of the post of Superintending Foreman had been originally covenanted as a Car Shed Foreman on a five years' agreement commencing from the 15th September, 1926, and on the termination of that contract he was permanently retained in the service on and from the 15th September, 1931. He was subsequently promoted as Superintending Foreman from 1st October, 1932, on that post having fallen vacant.

**NON-RECOGNITION OF SERVICES RENDERED DURING THE GREAT WAR ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.**

\*966. (a) and (b). Employees who proceeded on War service, with the approval of the Railway administration, have been allowed to count their military service for purposes of retiring gratuity, seniority and increment on the East Indian Railway.

**THE INDIAN MEDICAL COUNCIL BILL.**

**PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.**

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** (Secretary, Department of Education, Health and Lands) : Sir, I beg to present the report of the Select Committee on the

Bill to establish a Medical Council in India and to provide for the maintenance of the British Indian Medical Register.

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STATEMENT OF BUSINESS.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore** (Leader of the House) : With your permission, Sir, I desire to make a statement as to the probable course of Government business in the week beginning the 4th September, 1933. As already directed by you, the House will sit for official business in that week on the 4th, 6th and 8th. Should the programme for the week not be concluded on the last of these days, it is probable that we shall ask you, Sir, to direct that the House shall sit on Saturday, the 9th.

On Monday, motions will be made to take into consideration and pass the Cotton Textile Industry Protection (Second Amendment) Bill. Thereafter, a motion will be made to refer to a Select Committee the Indian States (Protection) Bill. These Bills, the House will remember, were introduced on the 28th August. On the conclusion of these two items, any legislative business which may remain undisposed of, at the end of today's meeting, will be taken up in the order in which it appears on the Agenda. In the course of the week, motions will also be made for leave to introduce :

1. A Bill to provide for the control of the export of tea from India and for the control of the extension of cultivation of tea in British India,
2. A Bill to constitute a Reserve Bank of India,
3. A Bill to amend the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930, for certain purposes, and
4. A Bill to consolidate and amend the law regulating labour in factories.

In addition to the above legislative business, the following programme will be brought forward :

On Monday, my Honourable colleague will present the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the accounts of 1931-32. In the Order Paper for Friday, after Legislative Business, the following items will be included :

1. A motion in my name in connection with the levy of dues in respect of light houses and buoy imposed under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894,
2. Presentation of certain Supplementary and Excess Demands for Grants, and
3. A motion relating to the future administration of Aden of which Honourable Members have received notice.

Should any time be available after the conclusion of the above programme, motions will be made to take into consideration and pass the Indian Medical Council Bill, as reported by the Select Committee.

## THE INDIAN RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The House will now resume further consideration of the Bill to amend the Indian Railways Act, 1890, for a certain purpose, as reported by the Select Committee, and resume consideration of the following amendment moved by Mr. A. Das :

“ That in clause 2 of the Bill, to sub-section (1) of the proposed section 51A, the following proviso be added :

‘ Provided the scheme does not involve any preferential treatment or creates a monopoly against private enterprise.’ ”

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** (Patna and Chota Nagpur *cum* Orissa : Muhammadan) : I think the amendment moved by my Honourable friend is not an amendment which should be taken very seriously, because all the suggestions which are in that amendment were considered in the Select Committee as well. If you will see, Sir, you will find, in para. 2 of the report, it is said :

“ In these circumstances, we are agreed that the most elastic method will be to require the Governor General in Council to consult Local Governments concerned before any scheme is sanctioned, and we have no doubt that the Local Governments will consult local authorities interested in the scheme, and will pay due regard to all local interests.”

When you see the clause itself, you will find the following :

“ The company shall be deemed not to be a railway administration for the purposes of this Act or of any other enactment affecting railways, and no property used exclusively for purposes of the service shall be deemed to be included in the railway or its rolling stock.”

Further, sub-clause (b) makes the position more clear. You will find that “ the scheme shall be published in the Gazette and thereupon the railway company shall, subject to sub-section (4), have the power to provide and maintain a service in accordance therewith ”. In view of these facts you will find that no monopoly has been given to the railway companies in this connection and so all these facts, which have been mentioned by my Honourable friend, were discussed in the Select Committee and I oppose this amendment on the ground that there is no need for it at all in view of the shape in which the Bill has been recommended by the Select Committee.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bore** (Member for Commerce and Railways) : I have nothing to add to what my Honourable friend, Mr. Maswood Ahmad, has just now said. But I would only point out that, as this amendment reads, it conveys an impression quite different to what is intended by my Honourable friend. The proviso is :

“ Provided the scheme does not involve any preferential treatment or creates a monopoly against private enterprise.”

My Honourable friend, therefore, seems to suggest that the scheme should provide a monopoly against private enterprise. I am afraid, I cannot agree as yet to such an advanced proposal as that. As regards the first part of the amendment, as pointed out by my Honourable friend, Mr. Maswood Ahmad, it is amply provided for by clause (4) (a) and (b).

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That in clause 2 of the Bill, to sub-section (1) of the proposed section 51A, the following proviso be added :

‘ Provided the scheme does not involve any preferential treatment or creates a monopoly against private enterprise.’ ”

The motion was negatived.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi** (Madras ceded Districts and Chittoor : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I beg to move :

“ That in clause 2 of the Bill, in sub-section (2) of the proposed section 51A, after the words ‘ Local Governments concerned ’ the words ‘ and with the mutual agreement ’ be inserted.”

Sir, after what has taken place last time, this amendment assumes a very great importance. We have given the railway companies permission to open bus service either on parallel lines or on any other lines and hence there must be some restriction to be provided so that they may not exercise that power indiscriminately. It has been conceded at the Rail-Road Conference that Local Governments’ advice would be taken and that their consent would be obtained whenever the Central Government would deal with the matter of Rail-Road competition. This matter of Rail-Road competition is of very great importance. In the Rail-Road Conference, originally a resolution was proposed by the Central Government to this effect :

“ That this Conference considers it desirable that measures should be considered (a) for the prevention of further wasteful competition between rail and road transport, (b) for the development of rural motor transport complementary with railways, and (c) for the development of the road system in harmony with the objectives defined under (a) and (b), upon a comprehensive and more uniform plan than at present exists.”

By this resolution the Central Government wanted to empower themselves to take any steps to minimise or to put down this competition between rail and road traffic. In that Conference there were representatives of Local Governments and all the representatives, who were mostly Ministers of the different Local Governments, were not able to accept this Resolution. They said that this would be a serious infringement on their rights as they were in charge of all the roads and hence the Central Government had to yield to their unanimous voice. Subsequently, a sub-committee was formed which drafted a Resolution which was agreeable both to Local Governments as well as to the Central Government. I will give you, Sir, in one sentence the sort of opinions which the representatives of Local Governments hold. At page 20 of the proceedings of the Rail-Road Conference, Mr. Conran Smith, the representative of the Madras Government, says :

“ It would not be possible for the Government of Madras to agree to the restrictions of road traffic in the interests purely of railways when such restrictions would lead to the curtailment of the revenue of local bodies available for the upkeep of roads.”

This power given to the railways to open their bus service indiscriminately would, the Local Governments apprehended, seriously interfere with their revenues ; they wanted certain restrictions and wanted that they should be taken into consultation at every step that the Central

[Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi.]

Government might take. So, Sir, they eventually agreed to the resolution which was passed in the following terms :

“ This Conference is of opinion that in the general public interest, the time has come for increased co-operation and more intelligent co-ordination of effort between the various authorities and interests concerned, in the matter of (a) future railway development and of (b) the future development of road communications, whether used for motor transport or other purposes, so as to secure a more comprehensive and uniform plan of general development than at present exists. In areas where uneconomic competition between railway and road transport has been proved to exist, such increased co-operation and co-ordination may necessitate the adoption by mutual agreement.”

—I want this thing to be taken particular note of—

“ of measures designed to reduce such uneconomic competition to the minimum compatible with the maintenance of healthy competition.”

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** I do not want to interrupt the Honourable Member, but I should like to tell the House that what he has read has got absolutely no connection whatever with this amendment. The resolution which he has referred to is in regard to the development of future communications, that is to say, building future roads and future lines of railway.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi :** I do not want to say anything against what the Honourable Member has said, but I should like to point out that this Conference was convened chiefly for the purpose of meeting this competition between railways and roads and they also considered this present Bill, and the whole effect of this Conference was....

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** They did not reject the Bill. They accepted the principles of the Bill entirely.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi :** Yes, they accepted it on one condition alone that the railways should not have any monopoly or special privileges at all.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** And that condition is entirely satisfied in the present Bill.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi :** Exactly ; and this Resolution must be taken along with the consent which they have given. This should not be taken separately. They gave their consent on the understanding that at every step there should be mutual agreement, and hence this Resolution, which I have just now read, ought not to be taken separately from the consent which the Local Governments have given. The Local Governments did not consider this Bill separately. The Local Governments were not called to give their opinion on the present Bill. They gave their opinion after the previous Resolutions had been passed and hence this Resolution has a direct bearing on the opinions which they have given on the present Bill. They have given their consent on the understanding that the Central Government would also follow the policy laid down by the previous Resolutions, and one of the previous Resolutions is that the opinion of the Local Governments will be taken into consideration and, not only taken into consideration, but their agreement must be taken for every step that the Central Government are going to take. It is only on that ground that they have given their approval to this Bill. And now I am asking Government, in justice and in fairness

to the Local Governments, to agree to what they have agreed in this Resolution and to give effect to this Resolution. That is all that I am saying ; and in this matter it has been agreed that it is the Local Governments that are directly interested, because all the revenues derived from bus licences will go to the Local Governments, and so they are directly interested in seeing whether the opening of bus services by the railways has the effect of crippling or increasing their bus services. That will be made clear from the other paragraph which says :

“ Any comprehensive or uniform plan of general development ”

—this may even refer to the bus services and it does not exclude the opening of bus services—

“ must sooner or later involve a gradual expansion of facilities for rural motor transport, complementary to the railways and to other existing arterial forms of transport, but as internal district communications—apart from the main arteries—are largely controlled by local bodies, any intra-provincial co-ordination of effort must necessarily, in the first instance, be a matter for the Local Governments and Legislatures, who, in such matters, should consult, and to the best of their ability, co-operate with the Railway and other interests concerned.”

The Conference has given approval to the Bill, because road traffic is directly a matter which concerns the Local Governments and the local boards, and they should take their advice at every step. And this Bill also, to some extent, gives effect to that agreement. The Bill says :

“ The scheme shall be submitted to the Governor General in Council who, after consultation with the Local Government or Local Governments concerned, may sanction the same \* \* .”

Thus they have, to some extent, given effect to this Resolution. The Government need not have fettered themselves by this clause with the obligation of consultation with the Local Governments. It may appear to be quite unnecessary. But, in order to give effect to this Resolution, they have made this provision, namely, that the Local Governments should be consulted. I am going only a step further and I want to conform to the spirit as well as the very letter of this Resolution. Not only should the Local Governments be consulted, but their agreement should be obtained for this purpose, that is to say, for the purpose of opening these bus services. The effect will be that whenever any railway wants to open bus services, they must be empowered to do so only after the Governor General in Council and also the Local Governments who are interested in that, agree to allow them to open the services. That is all that I have to say in moving this amendment. In fairness to the Local Governments, I only want that the Resolution, to which they have agreed, should be given effect to.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bore :** Sir, I will not say anything about my Honourable friend's suggestion as to what were the intentions of the members of the Rail-Road Conference that met here. Not having been there, he obviously knows far more about it than I do who was present on the occasion. I cannot agree to the amendment. I have not the faintest doubt that the Government of India will pay the utmost consideration to the views of the Local Governments. In fact I personally cannot conceive of the Government of India not accepting the views of the Local Governments except in very exceptional cases. But the Government of India, as a matter of principle, must have the final voice and must be the final judges in this matter. Sir, I oppose the amendment.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That in clause 2 of the Bill, in sub-section (2) of the proposed section 51A, after the words ‘ Local Governments concerned ’ the words ‘ and with the mutual agreement ’ be inserted.”

The motion was negatived.

**Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil** (Bombay Southern Division : Non-Muham-  
madan Rural) : Sir, I beg to move :

“ That in clause 2 of the Bill, to sub-section (2) of the proposed section 51A, the following proviso be added :

“ Provided that, before according his final sanction, the Governor General in Council may also cause the scheme to be published in the official Gazettes of the Local Government or Local Governments concerned and call for objections from the public and the local bodies in the area selected for operating such service ”.

Sir, this amendment does not go against the principle of the Bill, nor does it go against the procedure of sanctioning schemes. It will not also go against the working of the scheme. Therefore, this amendment, in my humble opinion, is so simple and so harmless that the Commerce Member should accept it. However, Sir, my grounds for moving this amendment are these. Sub-section (3) of the proposed section 51A provides that, after the final sanction of the Governor General in Council is given, it should be published in the Gazette of India. But this will not serve any useful purpose. It will only give notice to the public that a particular scheme is sanctioned by the Government of India. What is necessary is that before any scheme is finally sanctioned by the Governor General, it must reach the ears of the public and the objections of the public should be called for and, after considering those objections, if any, the scheme should be finally sanctioned. That is the object ; and that object can be achieved by first publishing the scheme in the local Gazettes concerned ; and, in my opinion, it will not take much time to do that. You will find in the report of the Select Committee that they found it difficult to provide in the Bill itself that the local bodies should be consulted. If, as I have proposed, the schemes are published first in the local official Gazettes, not only local bodies but the general public and the travelling public will get notice of the scheme and sufficient time to put in their objections either before the Local Governments or the Government of India. Then there is also another object that will be served by so publishing the schemes in the local Gazettes. It is an admitted fact that by sanctioning such schemes the private bus owner and the private companies who run motor buses will be to some extent at least adversely affected. In that case, I ask, whether it is not just and fair to give them sufficient time to make their own arrangements. Then it will also affect, in my opinion, contractors of tolls and others. I may just cite an instance before this House. According to the rules, at least prevailing in my Presidency, a vehicle that runs through a particular toll bar is required to pay a toll only once in a period of 24 hours irrespective of the number of trips it makes. If a railway company is to run its buses, it may run the same bus a number of times to and fro before that toll bar and thus cause loss and, I should say, immense loss, to the contractor who has taken that toll ; and thus it is very difficult to imagine at this stage how many people will be affected and in what way they will be affected. Therefore, in order to give such people an opportunity to consider a

particular scheme in detail and put in their objections, it is absolutely essential that the scheme should be previously published in the local official Gazettes.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The House now stands adjourned and will meet again at fifteen minutes past two.

The Assembly then adjourned for Lunch till a Quarter Past Two of the Clock.

The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at a Quarter Past Two of the Clock, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) in the Chair.

**Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil** : Sir, when we rose for Lunch, I was urging on the House the necessity of giving sufficient notice to private bus owners and to private companies, so that, before the powerful competitor entered the field, they might dispose of their rolling stock, etc. They will have to give notice of discharge to their servants, they will have to make other arrangements. Supposing, Sir, a company or a private individual has entered into a contract and thereby has taken upon himself certain obligations, entailing in some cases certain penalties in case of failure to fulfil those obligations, in such cases it is necessary that the owners of private buses or companies should get some breathing space before the powerful competitor is given free field.

Then, Sir, let us imagine what such schemes may include. They may include the schedule of fares, they may include certain hidden concessions, they may also include routes and timings. Now, I ask, Sir, are these not things in which the public are interested ? Are these not matters in which it is very necessary that Government should hear the objections or the conveniences or the inconveniences that are likely to cause to the public ? I might bring to the notice of this Honourable House what I have just read in a publication which was sent to me last evening. It is with regard to the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway Company. It is stated in that document that with regard to the transport of tea, before the advent of the motor lorry, the railway company charged Rs. 0-13-9 per maund, and now that very company has reduced the rate recently to Rs. 0-9-0 per maund. This document raises one important question. If Rs. 0-9-0 a maund is profitable now to the railway company, why did they charge such exorbitant rates for the transport of tea all this time ? And if 0-9-0 a maund is not profitable now, why should they carry the tea at all ? Obviously, the intention is to start competition with private bus owners and private companies ; the object is evidently to kill them. If such things can be resorted to by railway companies, is it not necessary that the schemes should be controlled by Government, the relevant rules should be scrutinised by this Legislature, and that the scheme should be framed in accordance with those rules and regulations ? There is no such clause unfortunately in this Bill providing for all these things.

[Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil.]

Then, Sir, I would invite the attention of this House to the Report of the Select Committee wherein they say :

“ We discussed also the insertion of some provision which would specifically limit the radius within which these services should be allowed to operate, but came to the conclusion that such a provision is not practicable and might have undesired results,”

—and, therefore, they recommended this :

“ We decided that, for the present, it will be best to leave the decision to the Governor General in Council, acting in consultation with the Local Government, to determine the extent of each service, on a full consideration of all the local circumstances.”

I do not mean to suggest that the Local Government should be altogether eliminated or ignored, the Local Government should be there ; they should of course give their opinion, but it is fundamentally essential that in each particular case the various details must be approved by the public for whose benefit, after all, the railway companies are to run their buses.

Then, Sir, there is another point. Much fuss has been made about the co-ordination of rail-road transport, but, as has been admitted by every one, there is no trace of any co-ordination between the various systems of transport in the Bill as amended. If, as I have suggested in my amendment, such schemes are published in the local official Gazettes, it is very likely that the people of the locality might suggest something which would fulfil this object so as to co-ordinate the different kinds of transport in a particular locality.

Sir, if we look to the form and general principles of the Bill, I might characterise it as a Bill which has neither a tail nor head. As more than one Honourable Member stated in this House, it gives a blank cheque to the Governor General in Council. I do not say that I do not trust the Governor General in Council,—I do trust him,—but for all practical purposes, it is the Commerce Member who will be guiding the whole thing. It is not improbable that the Honourable the Commerce Member will be influenced by the railways. Under these circumstances, it is highly dangerous that such a blank cheque should be given in the hands of the Governor General in Council, especially for the reasons I have stated. This is what is stated with regard to American Railways. In America also such a settlement has been arrived at, and the scheme has taken the form of a Statute. Here is an article in the *Indian Railway Gazette* entitled “ Emergency Railroad Legislation in the United States ”. According to that Statute an authority called the “ Co-ordinator ” is appointed and all the powers are given to that authority. In connection with this vesting of full powers, it has been said :

“ The whole conception is fraught with much peril for it places enormous power in the hands of a single individual, and, though much will depend on the personality of the individual, it would seem highly unwise to load any one person with such an enormous responsibility at the present time of crisis.”

I say these words are pertinent here.

Then, Sir, it may be argued, where is the necessity of publishing these schemes in the local official Gazettes when the Governor General in Council is going to consult the Local Governments concerned. True, but there is no procedure prescribed by which the Local Governments should ascertain the views of the people concerned. There is absolutely nothing of the sort,

and, after all, it will depend upon the sweet will of the Local Governments. At the utmost they may consult a few Collectors, or Commissioners of Divisions, or the Presidents of District Boards. But what about the public; what about the persons who will be vitally concerned? Undoubtedly under the scheme of this Bill they will come to know only after the scheme has been finally sanctioned and published in the Gazette of India. It is a deplorable state of affairs that the very people, for whose interests the railway is empowered, should not know what is being proposed in their interest, until it is too late. I, therefore, submit with all the emphasis at my command that it is absolutely necessary for Government to make this concession and to accept this amendment so that people in the country may know where they stand, and people interested in buses and private companies may know how they will be affected.

I am glad to hear that the Honourable Member in charge of this Bill has conceded a good deal in the Select Committee to improve the Bill and to meet the wishes of Honourable Members who served on the Select Committee and also the points of view expressed in the Press and by the bodies interested in private buses. I am gratified to hear all that; but, Sir, I cannot understand why the Honourable Member in charge should oppose such a simple amendment as this which does not in any way come in the way of his proposal. It is only a matter of a few months at the utmost; the publication may take at the most one or two months, and, by the time it is considered by the Government, objections will be before them and they will then be in a position to consider those objections, and, if necessary, to make necessary changes. For these reasons, I move my amendment.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Amendment moved :

“ That in clause 2 of the Bill, to sub-section (2) of the proposed section 51A, the following proviso be added :

‘ Provided that, before according his final sanction, the Governor General in Council may also cause the scheme to be published in the official Gazettes of the Local Government or Local Governments concerned and call for objections from the public and the local bodies in the area selected for operating such service ’.”

**Mr. G. Morgan** (Bengal : European) : Sir, I regret I have to oppose this amendment. I may mention, before I go further, that I am not afraid like my Honourable friend, who has moved this amendment, to give a blank cheque to the Governor General in Council. The Governor General in Council does not propose to sanction any scheme until he has consulted the Local Government. From the little I know of this country and the working of Government, I am perfectly certain that the Governor General in Council would not sanction a scheme when the entire opinion of the Local Government and of the area in which it was to be run was against it. I am prepared to take that risk. Also in the latter part of his amendment in connection with public and local bodies, my Honourable friend himself knows that when a Local Government is consulted, the first thing that the Local Government does is to consult always local bodies, municipalities and District Boards in connection with the scheme and all the objections will be received by the Local Government before it gives its opinion to the Government of India. I do not think myself that the proposed proviso would be of any use at all except to delay and multiply work. If I want to get objections to a local scheme it is one of the simplest things in this country. All that would mean delay and it is not always

[Mr. G. Morgan.]

certain that the objections which come up really have what I should call the power behind them that it looks on paper. So, I think my Honourable friend would be well advised not to press his amendment, because I can see no object to be gained by the delay which would be caused or the suspicion that the Governor General in Council would not give full weight to the Local Government's opinion; and Local Government's opinion would certainly be given after receiving the opinions of the local bodies, municipalities and District Boards and officials connected with the district in which the scheme is to be launched. I also have no fear that the Governor General in Council would override the strong opinion put up by the Local Government which might be entirely in opposition to the scheme. I, therefore, oppose the amendment.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** Sir, my Honourable friend, the Mover, described this amendment as harmless. I agree. Some of my Honourable friends in this House would perhaps be disposed to describe it by a less euphemistic term. If it is not out of order for me to suggest, I would certainly suggest that if my Honourable friend had read his own amendment carefully, he would certainly not have moved it. The amendment runs as follows :

“ Provided that before according his final sanction, the Governor General in Council may also cause . . . . ., etc., etc.”

The word is “ may ”. He wishes to give the Governor General powers which I submit he already possesses; there is nothing to prevent the Governor General in Council doing what my friend wishes. The amendment is, in my view, wholly unnecessary and I oppose it as being otiose.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That in clause 2 of the Bill, to sub-section (2) of the proposed section 51A, the following proviso be added :

‘ Provided that, before according his final sanction, the Governor General in Council may also cause the scheme to be published in the official Gazettes of the Local Government or Local Governments concerned and call for objections from the public and the local bodies in the area selected for operating such service ’.”

The motion was negatived.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi :** Sir, I move :

“ That in clause 2 of the Bill, after clause (b) of sub-section (4) of the proposed section 51A, the following new clause be inserted :

‘ (c) the company shall maintain separate accounts of such new services which shall be annually audited by the audit department and if it is found that such service or services are running at a loss the Governor General in Council after consultation with the Local Government or Governments concerned may take such steps as are necessary to safeguard public interests ’.”

This is a very mild amendment which, I hope, the Government will see their way to accept. It gives the power to the hands of the Governor General in Council and not to Local Governments. Here there are no obnoxious words such as “ mutual agreement ”, as was contained in the previous amendment. This gives ultimate power in the hands of the Governor General in Council. He will only consult the Local Governments in taking any steps the Government choose. Now, we know that in a short time there will be a railway authority with absolute powers over the administration of the railways and the Legislature will have very little

power to interfere with the administration of the railways and even the Member in charge of the Railway Department will have no power except to lay down certain general policies and hence this amendment is absolutely essential. This amendment seeks to impose a condition on the railway administration to maintain a separate account in the matter of running bus services, so that if the railway company sustains losses,—as we expect it will,—it may not show the whole losses under the head of “railway expenses”. This amendment will show the public whether the railway company is running its motor service successfully or at a loss and, if it is running at a loss, then the Governor General should immediately take steps to stop the bus service or take such other steps as is necessary in the interests of the public. For instance, Government have conceded the principle that there should be no special privilege extended to the railway company. The railway company, being a powerful organisation, can continue to run bus service for a number of years even though sustaining losses annually. The effect will be that all the private buses will be wiped out in the meantime. Hence it will not be a fair competition, and hence it is against the principle of this Bill. So this amendment is very salutary and I hope that Government will see their way to accept it.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Amendment moved :

“ That in clause 2 of the Bill, after clause (b) of sub-section (4) of the proposed section 51A, the following new clause be inserted :

‘ (c) the company shall maintain separate accounts of such new services which shall be annually audited by the audit department and if it is found that such service or services are running at a loss the Governor General in Council after consultation with the Local Government or Governments concerned may take such steps as are necessary to safeguard public interests ’.”

**Mr. Muhammad Muazzam Sahib Bahadur** (North Madras : Muham-madan) : When I look at sub-clause (5), wherein power is reserved to the Governor General in Council to withdraw his sanction to any scheme under sub-section (2) of this Bill after consultation with the Local Governments, I think it is fair that I should support the amendment which has been moved by my friend, Mr. Reddi. The intention of the Bill, which has been introduced with regard to feeder railways is the removal of the disability under which they have been suffering all these years. They will hereafter run a motor transport service directly in competition with private enterprise but the Honourable the Commerce Member may take my word for it that if this competition becomes very acute, as it is certain to be, the railway companies will not be able to stand the competition unless there is a further move on the part of the Government by taking action in other directions which might bring about greater co-ordination between these two kinds of transport. If, after a certain period, say, six months, when the accounts are audited, it is found that a particular railway company to which this right has been granted under the Bill has sustained loss, then it will be within the powers of the Governor General in Council to withdraw or modify the sanction which he has accorded to that railway company under sub-section (2). If the accounts are audited by the Auditor General, then, of course, the thing is very easy, but if these accounts are to be audited by a special officer, say, a competent accountant, I think, Sir, the railway company ought to be called upon to pay for the services of such an accountant and such action should be taken as may be desirable by the Governor General in Council in regard to continuing the transport service

[Mr. Muhammad Muazzam Sahib Bahadur.]

or stopping it. I, therefore, wholeheartedly support this amendment of Mr. Reddi.

**Mr. S. C. Sen** (Bengal National Chamber of Commerce : Indian Commerce) : It seems to me that this amendment is unnecessary. It all depends upon the reply which we get from the Commerce Member. As I understand it, every railway has to enter into an agreement with the Government that they would have the right to purchase the railway after a certain number of years and, accordingly, no railway can expend any money on any part of the railway without the sanction of the Government.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore** : Not all of them.

**Mr. S. C. Sen** : So far as regards the light railways.....

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore** : I do not think all of them. Some of them.

**Mr. S. C. Sen** : Very good. If some of them are under such an obligation to the Government, I do not know whether they will be able to purchase with the sanction of the Government or without their sanction, whether there are agreements or not. So far as the bigger railways are concerned, I understand they are all under such an agreement with Government. If they are subject to the agreement and if this new undertaking, namely, the running of the bus service, is to be treated as an undertaking by the railway, then there is no occasion for such a clause, because the whole of the account will come before the Railway Board in some shape or other and at some time or other.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore** : It certainly will be so in regard to some of them, but I cannot say whether it will be so in regard to all.

**Mr. S. C. Sen** : As regards those which are not under the agreement and whose accounts will not come before the Railway Board, I submit that in those cases such a clause ought to be inserted in the Bill.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore** : Sir, I very much regret that I cannot accept this amendment either. By the changes that have been made in the Bill, railway companies will, I think, be seriously hampered in instituting and running railway services and I am afraid I could not agree to any further statutory restrictions and conditions being imposed upon them. As a matter of fact, I have not the faintest doubt that the railway companies will maintain separate accounts for such services and I have equally no doubt that no railway company will, if left to itself, continue to work a service which does not pay. I submit that clause 5 gives the Governor General sufficiently wide powers to interfere in any way and for any reason that he considers right and proper. I think that these powers are a sufficient safeguard for the possible evils which my Honourable friends anticipate.

Sir, I oppose the amendment.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That in clause 2 of the Bill, after clause (b) of sub-section (d) of the proposed section 51A, the following new clause be inserted :

‘ (c) the company shall maintain separate accounts of such new services which shall be annually audited by the audit department and if it is found that such service or services are running at a loss the Governor General in

Council after consultation with the Local Government or Governments concerned may take such steps as are necessary to safeguard public interests'."

The motion was negatived.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore** : Sir, I beg to move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** (Sind : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, no one in the House should be surprised at my giving the last stroke to this Bill and on a very serious legal point. My point, when I put it to the House, will be easily appreciated by the legal Members of this Assembly, but I will make it so clear that I hope that it will be appreciably and easily understandable to the other lay Members of this House too. I may be accused of putting such a serious legal point before the House at this late stage, at the third reading of this Bill. It will be observed that I had no opportunity of putting that point forward at the time when the consideration of this Bill was going on.

**An Honourable Member** : Why not ?

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : Because I could not catch the eye of the President. Therefore, in my humble opinion, this is the proper stage when a legal question can be raised and, if the House agrees with me, it will be only on that one objection that the whole Bill can be rejected. Now, Sir, I am quite serious about my point and I must say to the House that I am not putting it without having consulted some of my legal friends in this House on this point who are in agreement with what I am going to place before the House. Therefore, without any further delay, I will come to the point.

Now, Sir, what is required by this Bill is to amend section 51 of the Indian Railways Act. Section 51 of the Indian Railways Act runs thus :

" Any railway company, not being a company for which the Statute 42 and 43 Vict. Ch. 41 provides, may from time to time exercise, with the sanction of the Governor General in Council, all or any of the following powers."

Now, it will be observed that this is a power for the Governor General to give sanction and that would be only under the circumstances which are prescribed in clauses (a) to (e). I will place before the House clause (e) and then show how it is that this enactment, if it is passed, will be absolutely *ultra vires*, and if it is *ultra vires*, the House will not give sanction to anything that is illegal. Clause (e) runs thus :

" It may provide and maintain any means of transport which may be required for the reasonable convenience of passengers, animals or goods carried or to be carried on its railway."

I will lay emphasis on the last words " which may be required for the reasonable convenience of passengers, animals or goods carried or to be carried on its railway ". This clause is a restricted clause and it gives power to the Governor General only to give sanction if a company's requirement for the reasonable convenience of the passengers, animals or goods carried or to be carried on its railway is established. If this is not established, then the Governor General will have no power to give sanction.

[Mr. Lalchand Navalrai.]

Now, the point that arises is this. What was it that the original Mover of the Bill wanted, and let us then consider what is it that the Select Committee has asked this House to pass. If both are in contradiction or in conflict, then this House cannot possibly pass what the Select Committee has recommended. Now, Sir, I will read clause 2 of the original Bill. It says :

“ For clause (e) of section 51 of the Indian Railways Act, 1890, the following clause shall be substituted, namely, ‘ it may provide and maintain any means of transport for the convenience of passengers, animals or goods in any area to which access is afforded by that railway ’.”

It will be seen that what the Mover of the Bill wanted was the deletion of the words “ required for the reasonable convenience of the passengers, animals or goods carried or to be carried on its railway ”. In other words, the Mover of the Bill wanted that there should be general power to the Governor General to give sanction even in cases where it is not established that it is required for the convenience of those passengers and goods which have to be carried on on its own railway. Now, therefore, I am asking that if this clause (e) exists, then let us see what is the Select Committee proposing. The Select Committee does not say just as the Honourable the Mover wanted that this clause be eliminated and another clause substituted. That means, the Mover wanted certain deletion and then a general clause. But the Select Committee did not ask for that. If the Select Committee had said, well, delete this portion of clause (e) and then propose a general scheme for sanction. Then the Select Committee would have been right and they would have been enacting a legal law. At present what do we find ? I was wondering why this mistake occurred. I do not know whether the Select Committee was conscious of it. I would consider this a very serious mistake. They may have asked for the deletion of these restricted powers and then ask for general powers. One can understand now, even from a common sense point of view, as a layman can understand, that if the Legislature had laid down certain restricted powers, how can they make an enactment for general powers unless this restricted section is done away with. Therefore, I was reading and re-reading the present Bill as it emerged from the Select Committee. I was wondering whether I was reading it aright and I felt that it might be that they might have asked that from section 51 of the Indian Railways Act delete clause (E) and adding a new clause 51A. But what is proposed is that, after section 51 of the Indian Railways Act, the following section shall be inserted :

“ Any railway company, not being a company for which the Statute 42 and 43 Viet., Chap. 41, provides, may frame a scheme for the provision and maintenance of a motor transport or air-craft service for passengers, animals or goods with a terminus at or near a station on the railway owned or managed by such company.”

It is obvious that they have not dispensed with that clause (e). Not having done that, they cannot make a general provision like this in the face of the former clause still existing.

3 P.M.

I will still make it clearer. Supposing a question arises when a company applies for sanction, and these two clauses are there, one authorizing the Governor General to give sanction when it is proved that it is necessary for such railways to have transport by motor and the other giving him general power, how can he exercise the general power ? I am, therefore, saying that if you give a general power without taking away this restrictive one, you will be making a law which could not be brought into force.

You will thus be lending your support to a law which is absolutely *ultra vires* and illegal. Supposing you pass this Bill, you will be at least making a serious mistake. The Honourable Members might be thinking that this being the last stage of the Bill, they should let it pass. But, as soon as they pass it, questions will arise in the High Court. A company may come forward and say that they want leave of the Governor General for the purpose of motor transport. The Governor General may call for a scheme, but I think even the Governor General, when he sees that there is another law in conflict with it, will think twice before he gives his sanction to the scheme. Supposing he gives leave, it does not lie in his hands finally. It will come before judicial Courts to decide whether a particular enactment, under which sanction is given, is *ultra vires* or not. If the Judges are of opinion that it is *ultra vires*, because there are two conflicting provisions, one of which has not been cancelled, and both exist, then the High Court will hold it *ultra vires* and the company will not be given any right of such a transport. Honourable Members know, several instances have happened both in civil and criminal cases where certain enactments of this House and of the Provincial Legislatures have been held *ultra vires*, and this House have had to sit and amend them so as to bring the law in consonance with it. The point which I raise is not a trifling one, it is a serious point. This Bill has been shouldered not only by the Honourable the Railway Member, but there is another very able Member, the Member in charge of Industries and Labour who is joining hands with him. I gave an inkling of this point at least sometime before, and I am raising it now. I thought the Honourable the Law Member would be in this Chamber to take interest in this point, and give us the benefit of his views. But I do not find him. There is in his place the Secretary of the Legislative Department, Sir Lancelot Graham, and I hope he will not treat this point as a trifling one, but will give us his opinion considerably. I say, it is illegal to have this provision and I have given sound reasons why I think so. The House cannot get out of it. I submit that this one legal point is sufficient to reject this Bill. Sir, I have to say one or two words about the question on its merits. The Select Committee claims that they have done a very good thing in improving the original Bill. I have pointed out one serious mistake of law. With regard to the question of fact which the Select Committee think that they have improved upon, I cannot see any improvement, because I see, the only thing they have done is with regard to asking the scheme to be prepared and placed before the Governor General for sanction, but section 51 itself requires the Governor General to give sanction, and do I understand that he will not ask for a scheme? He will certainly ask for one and will only then consider and give his leave. I think if the Select Committee think that they have done a good thing, I say they are under a delusion.

**Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil** : May I ask whether the Honourable Member is speaking on his point of order which he raised or on the Bill?

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : He is making his speech on the Bill.

**Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil** : But the Honourable Member is also raising the point of order.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : He has not raised any point of order.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : I am not raising any point of order at all. If my Honourable friend is anxious to have his amendment, then let him join hands with me to reject the Bill. I have made it clear that the first is the legal question upon which I stand strongly at least from my point of view. The second is that it is all a moonshine to think that the Select Committee has improved the Bill. I ask the Honourable Member in charge a direct question. Have they provided that the scheme will lay down uniform rates to be charged by the railways and the individual motor owner? I submit, not. I am glad that this question was raised by Mr. Maswood Ahmad before the Select Committee. He did put in his dissent, but I think he did not seriously think of it. I do not know why he did not move an amendment here. His note of dissent in the Select Committee's report reads thus :

“ In my opinion, the proposed rates should form a part of the scheme and those rates should not be changed without previous sanction of the Governor General in Council.”

Any way, I ask, will it be that a uniform rate of fares will be asked to be incorporated in the scheme? Otherwise it will be very unfair. If the parties are left to themselves on this point, it will be a keen fight and they will be cutting each other's throats. Therefore, I should like to know whether the rates are to be prescribed or not in the scheme.

The second question that I would like to ask is with regard to the number of buses or motors which will be allowed to a company to run and whether there will be any restriction on them? If the number is not going to be restricted, companies are always very rich and they can provide for a large number of motors to the detriment of the private owners. If the companies are even bankrupt, Government are always ready to help them. Therefore, I submit that there ought to be a restriction in regard to the number of buses to be used by that company which is given sanction to use them. In conclusion, I ask the Government to give serious consideration to this legal point and also to the general question on facts. It is not that we are trying to kill this Bill at this late stage, but we have to save ourselves from a reproach hereafter if the matter goes before the High Court and they hold that this Act is *ultra vires*.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** (Secretary : Legislative Department) : Sir, I must begin by thanking my Honourable and learned friend, Mr. Lalchand Navalrai, for giving me a warning this morning that he was going to raise this vital point. But I find myself in a position of some difficulty, because I am not sure whether you, Sir, are to decide this point or whether the House has to decide it.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : So far as the Chair has been able to understand the Honourable Member, he has not asked for a ruling from the Chair on the question whether the Bill is *ultra vires*. He only suggests to the House that, if it enacts this measure, it will be making a bad law and, therefore, incur a great odium. That is all.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi** : In that case, I have to raise a point of order. My point of order is this. While there is clause (e) of section 51 existing in the Act, where a restricted power is given to railway companies, has the Legislature got the right to give unlimited power to the railway company to run bus services wherever they like? Here, in section 51 (e), the Legislature has given restricted powers to the

railways to run any form of transport only for the reasonable conveyance of passengers, etc. Further on, it says that it may provide or maintain any means of transport, and here it gives unrestricted power to run any form of service, either waterways or airways or buses. Whereas the present Bill in one sense restricts the powers of railways to open waterways, at the same time it gives unlimited power to the railway company to run their bus services wherever they like to convey passengers from any one place to any other place. Then, Sir, the report of the Select Committee, to which the Honourable the Commerce Member has affixed his signature, clearly says that the intention of the Select Committee is to delete clause (e) of section 51 and to have a new section substituted altogether. They have entirely recasted the old Bill which the Government introduced and they have provided an entirely new clause 51A while, at the same time, retaining subsection (e) of section 51. The object of Government has been clearly stated in the report.....

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Will the Honourable Member just state his point of order ?

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi** : My point of order is this. So long as clause (e) of section 51 exists which gives limited powers to the railways, can they add a new clause now giving unrestricted powers to them ?

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The Bill now before the House seeks to amend the Indian Railways Act, IX of 1890. That Act is an Act of the Indian Legislature. This House is entitled to amend any Act of the Indian Legislature. If Act IX of 1890 were a Parliamentary Statute, any Bill of this House which is inconsistent with any of the provisions of that Parliamentary Statute will be *ultra vires*. But the House is entitled to pass any Bill amending any Act of the Indian Legislature. Even though,—on that point the Chair is not expressing any opinion,—the provisions of this new amending Bill may be inconsistent with any or all of the provisions of any Statute of the Indian Legislature, that will not make it *ultra vires*.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** : After what you have said, Sir, I have nothing more to add. I was a little surprised to see two gentlemen on the other side of the House arguing about *ultra vires* without making any reference to the Government of India Act. I can only say that they had not a copy of the Government of India Act with them.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : Does the Honourable Member agree that it will be bad law ?

**Sir Lancelot Graham** : That, Sir, was not the point. The point that my Honourable friend made was that the law, if passed, would be *ultra vires* of the Legislature. As you have said, Sir, the powers of the Indian Legislature are set forth in section 65 of the Government of India Act and this House has power to amend any Act of their predecessors in this House. It is possible that, in so amending, they might overlook the provisions of an existing Act and there may be conflict. But this Legislature has full power to legislate in conflict with existing legislation of the Indian Legislature. Possibly we should not get credit for doing so, and we might lay upon the Courts the task of applying the canons of interpretation which are suitable when there is conflicting

[Sir Lancelot Graham.]

legislation. These canons are very simple and the High Courts will have no difficulty. In this case, however, the High Courts will not even be put to that task, because here we have two pieces of legislation, the existing Indian Railways Act which we are going to supplement when this provision is passed incorporating a new section in the Indian Railways Act : that section will add something to the powers now contained in the Indian Railways Act ; but there will be no conflict. Therefore, neither is this Bill *ultra vires*, nor is it likely to give trouble to the High Courts or to reflect upon our reputation as legislators. We may pass this Bill with a perfectly good conscience.

**Mr. S. C. Sen :** Sir, I think the words "*ultra vires*", have been used in this House rather loosely without knowing their exact meaning. What is the meaning of the words "*ultra vires*" ? Beyond the power. Beyond whose power ? Beyond the power of the Legislature or beyond the power of the Governor General in Council ? Whose power is to be considered ? The Legislature has ample power, as Sir Lancelot Graham has said. Under section 65 of the Government of India Act, everything can be done, except those specially mentioned there. On the last occasion, a similar question arose under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, but there it was being done.....

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : I do not think there is any need to discuss the point, because the Chair has given a ruling.

**Mr. S. C. Sen :** Under the circumstances, I need not discuss that point. The only point which I wanted to ask the Honourable the Commerce Member to remember when sanctioning any scheme is that this Bill is being introduced for the purpose of safeguarding certain railways and smaller railways against competition by the buses. In framing the scheme, I ask him that he should not allow such schemes where the competition will be not by the buses, but against the buses by the railways : that is the only point which I want him to remember when sanctioning a scheme.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** I shall certainly do that, Sir:

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) The question is that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

The motion was adopted.

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#### THE INDIAN INCOME-TAX (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** (Finance Member) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for certain purposes (Second Amendment), as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

I hope that I am justified in expressing confidence that this measure, at least in the form in which it has reached after very careful scrutiny by the Select Committee, may be regarded as a non-contentious

measure. This anticipation of mine I think is reinforced by the fact that there are no amendments down for consideration, excepting certain formal amendments by my Honourable friend, Sir Lancelot Graham. I do not think it is necessary for me to take the time of the House to any great extent in moving the present motion. The House will recollect that when this Bill was originally introduced it was made clear in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that its provisions fell into two classes : the first class, measures expressly designed to put a stop to evasions, and the second class, miscellaneous provisions mostly designed for the prevention of hardships and for the removal of defects and obscurities. In its passage through the Select Committee the Bill has been fairly considerably altered, and not unnaturally the general effect of those alterations has been slightly to weaken the measures designed to prevent evasions and slightly to amplify the beneficial measures designed to remove hardships. Therefore, I hope that the Bill in its present form will be entirely acceptable to the House. Sir, I move.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai (Sind : Non-Muhammadan) :** Sir, I was a party to the Report of the Select Committee on this Bill, and I must say that very great consideration was given to this Bill in Select Committee and we took a very long time to consider each of the provisions. There are many clauses in this Bill and they were gone through very thoroughly and then only the Select Committee came to a conclusion. I may inform the House that I am responsible for several questions on this income-tax law and, in pointing out those flaws, I wanted the Act to be amended and, I do say, they were of that class which was described by the Honourable Member as prevention of hardships. There were several hardships ; as an instance I may say that section 66 of the Act had given very large and discretionary powers in the hands of the Commissioner of Income-tax ; these questions were put in the House to ventilate the grievance that in cases where applications were made to the Commissioner of the Income-tax to send a reference to the High Court under section 66, he often held it to be time-barred ; and then there was no relief to go to the High Court if he once held that the application was time-barred. This grievance has now been redressed. It has been no amended that even though he holds that it is time-barred, yet the party can go to the High Court on a question of law. Such sections and many others have been amended, and I think that it is in the interests of the public that several portions of this Bill have been enacted in order to give them facilities and to give them due justice. I submit this is a Bill which we should not wait long to consider and I support the motion which is before the House.

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) :** The question is :

“ That the Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for certain purposes (Second Amendment), as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2, 3 and 4 were added to the Bill.

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) :** The question is that clause 5 stand part of the Bill.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** (Secretary, Legislative Department) : Sir, I rise to move the first of the series of small drafting amendments to this Bill. I move, Sir :

“ That in clause 5, in sub-clause (ii) of the sub-section (2) to be substituted by that sub-clause, after the word ‘ profession ’ the words ‘ or vocation ’ be inserted.”

Honourable Members will remember that this clause deals with section 11 of the Act. Sub-section (1) of that section runs as follows :

“ The tax shall be payable by an assessee under the head ‘ professional earnings ’ in respect of the profits or gains of any profession or vocation followed by him.”

All we are doing now is to insert the words “ or vocation ” after the word “ profession ” so as to bring this clause into line with the rest of the existing section. Sir, I move.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That in clause 5, in sub-clause (ii) of the sub-section (2) to be substituted by that sub-clause, after the word ‘ profession ’ the words ‘ or vocation ’ be inserted.”

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is that clause 5, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** : Sir, I move :

“ That after clause 7, the following clause be inserted :

‘ 7A. In section 19 of the said Act, for the words and figures ‘ any other head than those mentioned in sub-section (1) of section 18 ’ the words ‘ any head other than ‘ salaries ’ or ‘ interest on securities ’ shall be substituted ’.”

Sir, this is a consequential amendment. We find that as a result of the operation of clause 7, it deletes sub-section (1) from section 18 ; we have now in section 19 a reference to sub-section (1) of section 18. We have to delete the reference to that sub-section in section 19 and make the proper reference to salaries and interest on securities. Sir, I move.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That after clause 7, the following clause be inserted :

‘ 7A. In section 19 of the said Act, for the words and figures ‘ any other head than those mentioned in sub-section (1) of section 18 ’ the words ‘ any head other than ‘ salaries ’ or ‘ interest on securities ’ shall be substituted ’.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7A was added to the Bill.

Clauses 8 and 9 were added to the Bill.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is that clause 10 stand part of the Bill.

**Sir Lancelot Graham :** Sir, I move :

“ That in clause 10 of the Bill, in the proviso to the proposed section 24A (1), for the words ‘ which he could not assess under the provisions of section 34 ’, the following be substituted :

‘ profits or gains which have escaped assessment or have been assessed at too low a rate in respect of which he is debarred from issuing a notice under section 34 ’.”

The proviso, as it now stands to new section 24A, Sir, has been found to be too restrictive in its operation. It might indeed be held by the Courts to have the effect of nullifying entirely the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 24A. The restriction which was desired to be put upon the activities of the Income-tax Officer was that while exercising his powers under this section, he should, in respect of any arrears of previous years, be restricted as if he were acting under section 34, but that restriction would not apply when he was assessing the income of the current year of the person who is likely to leave British India during that year. The modification, Sir, of the proviso is now proposed to ensure that he should have that power and not more than that power.

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) :** Amendment moved :

“ That in clause 10 of the Bill, in the proviso to the proposed section 24A (1), for the words ‘ which he could not assess under the provisions of section 34 ’, the following be substituted :

‘ profits or gains which have escaped assessment or have been assessed at too low a rate in respect of which he is debarred from issuing a notice under section 34 ’.”

**Mr. Laldhanshi Navalrai :** Sir, I am sorry I cannot see eye to eye with the Honourable Sir Lancelot Graham on this question. He wants to give wider powers than the powers which exist now to the Income-tax Officers. We all know, Sir, that in practice section 34 has been abused by these Income-tax Officers; they re-open and re-open the assessments that they have made and harass people from time to time. There are already complaints by the public that this section is not being properly and judiciously worked, and, therefore, to give still wider powers will lead to the detriment of the public. I submit that already these people have very wide powers to re-open, and since they have shown that they have not been able to use it with discretion, this additional power should not be given to them. This amendment proposes that in cases, where the assessment has been made at too low a rate, the Income-tax Officer can re-open it. If you give this power to Income-tax Officers, you will be giving them a blank cheque, because every now and then they would like to re-open the assessments. Therefore, to give such wide powers into the hands of these officers, who have in the past abused these powers, is the strong ground on which I oppose this amendment.

**Mr. S. C. Sen (Bengal National Chamber of Commerce : Indian Commerce) :** Sir, I think there is some misapprehension in the mind of my Honourable friend, Mr. Laldhanshi Navalrai. What my friend, Sir Lancelot Graham, wants to do is to specify the grounds which have been inserted, word by word, in clause 34, instead of only referring to clause 34. That is the only alteration that is suggested, and I do not know what objection there can possibly be to this small amendment. It does not enlarge the power of the Income-tax Officers; on the other

[Mr. S. C. Sen.]

hand, it restricts their powers in the same way as is contemplated by the original section. Instead of mentioning section 84, Sir Lancelot Graham has put in those words which occur in section 34. Sir, I support the amendment.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That in clause 10 of the Bill, in the proviso to the proposed section 24A (1), for the words ‘ which he could not assess under the provisions of section 34 ’, the following be substituted :

‘ profits or gains which have escaped assessment or have been assessed at too low a rate in respect of which he is debarred from issuing a notice under section 34 ’.”

The motion was adopted.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** : Sir, I move :

“ That in clause 10, in sub-section (3) of the new section 24B, to be inserted by that clause, for the words ‘ total income arising or accruing to such person before his death ’ the words ‘ total income of such person ’ be substituted.”

The actual text of the proposed new section, as it stands, is really not quite correct. The position is this. The sub-clause here is :

“ Where a person dies, without having furnished a return which he has been required to furnish under the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 22,.....”

When he is required to furnish that return, it is a return for his income of the previous year, and, if he dies without having supplied that return, the period with which we are concerned is not the period before his death, but the period of the previous year. By putting in the words “ before his death ” we should be going beyond that year. The proper method is to refer to the language of sub-section (2) of section 22 which is to assess the total income of a deceased person during the previous year. Sir, I move.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That in clause 10, in sub-section (3) of the new section 24B, to be inserted by that clause, for the words ‘ total income arising or accruing to such person before his death ’ the words ‘ total income of such person ’ be substituted.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 10, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 11 to 19 were added to the Bill.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is that clause 20 stand part of the Bill.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** : My amendments Nos. 5 and 6 run together. I take now No. 5. I move :

“ That in clause 20 of the Bill, the words and figures ‘ and after the word and figures ‘ section 33A ’ the words and figures ‘ or sub-section (3) of section 30A ’ shall be inserted ’ be omitted.”

By an oversight of the draftsman, the insertion has been made in the wrong section of the Act ; it should be made in the next section of the Act. Therefore, I am now proposing the deletion of that insertion in the present section, and, by the next amendment, I propose to put it in the next section.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That in clause 20 of the Bill, the words and figures ‘ and after the word and figures ‘ section 33A ’ the words and figures ‘ or sub-section (3) of section 50A ’ shall be inserted ’ be omitted.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 20, as amended, was added to the Bill.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is that clause 21 stand part of the Bill.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** : Sir, I move :

“ That in clause 21 of the Bill, after the words ‘ shall be inserted ’ the following be inserted :

‘ and after the word and figures ‘ section 33A ’ the words and figures ‘ or sub-section (3) of section 50A ’ shall be inserted ’.”

The purpose of this amendment I have already stated. I move.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That in clause 21 of the Bill, after the words ‘ shall be inserted ’ the following be inserted :

‘ and after the word and figures ‘ section 33A ’ the words and figures ‘ or sub-section (3) of section 50A ’ shall be inserted ’.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 21, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 22 and 23 were added to the Bill.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is that clause 24 stand part of the Bill.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** : Sir, I move :

“ That in clause 24, to sub-clause (a) (i), the following words be added :

‘ and for the words and figure ‘ the provisos to section 8 ’ the words and figure ‘ the second and third provisos to section 8 ’ shall be substituted ’.”

This is an amendment in favour of the payer of the tax. By an earlier provision in the Bill, clause 3, a new proviso was added to section 8 and was placed as the first proviso to that section. This new proviso is intended to apply alike to income-tax and super-tax, but, unless the amendment now proposed is made, section 58, the section concerned, will have the effect of confining the new privilege to income-tax only and not to super-tax. That was not the intention of the draftsman and the framers of the Bill. Therefore, I move.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That in clause 24, to sub-clause (a) (i), the following words be added :

‘ and for the words and figure ‘ the provisos to section 8 ’ the words and figure ‘ the second and third provisos to section 8 ’ shall be substituted ’.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 24, as amended, was added to the Bill.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is that clauses 25, 26 and 27 stand part of the Bill.

**Mr. v. F. E. James** (Madras : European) : Before you put that question to the vote, may I just make one observation? I am sorry I had not the opportunity of speaking to the Finance Member on this point earlier but I only had this representation placed in my hands at this moment. I raised the question in the Select Committee and I want to make the matter quite clear beyond any shadow of doubt.

Clause 26 of the Bill proposes to add certain words to section 60 (2) of the existing Act, and, if clause 26 of the Bill is carried, then section 60 (2) will read as follows :

“ Where, by reason of any portion of an assessee's salary being paid in arrears or in advance, or by reason of his having received in any one financial year salary for more than twelve months, his income is assessed at a higher rate than that at which it would otherwise have been assessed, the Governor General in Council may grant such relief as he may think fit.”

The question I wish to ask is, whether it is clearly understood that the term “ salary ” which is used in the amendment in this Bill really refers to salaries as defined in section 7 of the original Act. I understood, when I raised this matter at the time in the Select Committee, that the use of the word “ salary ” here refers to its use under section 7 of the original Act. I believe that is the case, but I should like to have an assurance on that point.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : I have no hesitation in giving my Honourable friend the assurance that he desires.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That clauses 25, 26 and 27 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 25, 26 and 27 were added to the Bill.

**Sir Lancelot Graham** : Sir, I move :

“ That the clauses of the Bill be re-numbered as necessitated by the amendments now made.”

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That the clauses of the Bill be re-numbered as necessitated by the amendments now made.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : Sir, I beg to move :

“ That the Bill, as amended, be passed.”

Sir, in making this motion I should like to express my appreciation of the assistance we have received from the Members of the Select Committee and from certain Members in supporting the measure today. I think that there can be no Member of the House who can doubt that a measure which receives the support of such expert critics as Mr. Lalchand Navalrai and Mr. Sen must be a very good measure. I can only express the hope that the number of my Honourable friend, Mr. Lalchand Navalrai's questions on income-tax administration may be materially reduced in the future. Sir, I move.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

The motion was adopted.

### THE INDIAN PETROLEUM BILL:

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce (Member for Industries and Labour) : Sir, I move :

“ That the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the import, transport, storage, production and refinement of petroleum and other inflammable substances, be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.”

I do not think that any lengthy speech from me is required in support of this motion. The Bill which I have brought forward is a comparatively straightforward, and, I hope, will prove an entirely non-controversial, measure. The position is that the present Indian Petroleum Act was passed as long ago as 1899 which I think we may regard as the commencement of the oil age. It was drafted at a time when the use of petroleum, especially of dangerous petroleum or petrol, was limited and it was cast in a simple and loose form, which was adequate for the degree of control which was then required. It is hardly surprising that, in these circumstances, some of its provisions should now be defective or obsolete and I think those Members of the House who have studied the question will wonder not why we are bringing forward this Bill now but why we did not do it some years ago. The use of petroleum, as I have indicated, has increased greatly and the development of specialised types has been very rapid. In these circumstances, we have had to change not only the substance of the Act of 1899 but also its form in order to differentiate various conceptions more clearly and one of our objects has been to devise a frame work which will make it easier to amend the Act in future, for we cannot regard it as the last word on the subject. There may be developments in store of which we know nothing now. We have therefore devised a frame work which will make it easier to meet future developments. There is one change to which I should like to draw the special attention of the House. We have centralised the rule making power in the Government of India.

[At this stage, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) vacated the Chair which was occupied by Mr. K. C. Neogy, one of the Panel of Chairmen.]

In doing so, what we have really done is to give a legal form to what is in practice the present procedure. The rules are now issued by Local Governments with the previous sanction of the Government of India. They are framed on a model which we have issued and when amendments are required they are usually drafted in my Department and promulgated in the same form in each province. I think the House will agree that this is a cumbersome and unsatisfactory procedure and that it is much better to secure uniformity by centralising the rule making power in the Government of India. Local Governments have unanimously agreed to that suggestion and we have embodied it in the Bill. The other changes in the Bill—they are numerous, I admit—relate to matters of detail and we have done our best to explain what is a very technical matter in the notes on the clauses. If the House approves of this motion for circulation in order to elicit opinion, those opinions will

[Sir Frank Noyce.]

be considered in due course by the Select Committee. That is all I need say now. Sir, I move.

**Mr. Chairman (Mr. K. C. Neogy) :** The question is :

"That the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the import, transport, storage, production and refinement of petroleum and other inflammable substances, be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon."

The motion was adopted.

## THE INDIAN INCOME-TAX (THIRD AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster (Finance Member) :** Sir, I move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for certain purposes (Third Amendment), be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Mr. Vidya Sagar Pandya, Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad, Mr. Satish Chandra Sen, Mr. B. R. Puri, Mr. Jagan Nath Aggarwal, Lala Rameshwar Prasad Bagla, Mr. F. E. James, Khan Bahadur Haji Wajihuddin, Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah, Dr. F. X. DeSouza and the Mover, and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five."

In moving for the appointment of a Select Committee to consider this Bill, despite the relative simplicity of the measure, I have taken into account the observations of the Honourable the President in the course of the discussion of the Budget on the 28th March last. I might quote his remarks. He said :

"The Chair finds that this part of the Schedule (*referring to an important part of the Schedule to the Finance Bill which has now been incorporated in this Bill*) occurs a second time in the Finance Bill. It is now, therefore, for Government to make up their minds whether this is going to be a permanent feature of the Statute-book or not, because, if it is to be a permanent feature of the Statute-book, the non-official members must have ample opportunities of examining such provisions in detail in Select Committee."

In view of those words I felt that it was the right course for us to take to move the reference of this Bill to a Select Committee. I do not wish the House to deduce from the fact that this Bill is going to be sent to a Select Committee that taxation on incomes below Rs. 2,000 is necessarily to be a permanent feature of our taxation system. On an occasion like this I wish to adopt a completely non-committal attitude on that particular point. But we do feel that it is desirable that the special procedure referring to such taxation should be a permanent feature of the income-tax law so that it can be utilised without re-enactment from time to time if and when these lower incomes are to be made taxable.

The remarks which I have made cover the greater part of the Bill which I am now asking the House to refer to the Select Committee.

But there is another part to the Bill and I would remind the House that the Finance Act contains two provisions or sets of provisions which may be said to refer to matters of procedure rather than to the fixation of rates. These are, first, Part III of Schedule II to the Act which deals with the question of summary assessment of lower incomes about which I have already spoken, and, secondly, Item No. A (1) of Part I of Schedule II, the effect of which briefly is that the reduction of rates is not to take effect so as to secure revision of the rates applicable to tax,

deducted at the source in the previous year. The present measure would make the procedure applicable on both those points part of the permanent income-tax law and therefore remove the necessity for inclusion of these provisions in the annual Finance Bill.

**Mr. Chairman (Mr. K. C. Neogy) :** Motion moved :

“ That the Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for certain purposes (Third Amendment), be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Mr. Vidya Sagar Pandya, Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad, Mr. Satish Chandra Sen, Mr. B. R. Puri, Mr. Jagan Nath Aggarwal, Lala Rameshwar Prasad Bagla, Mr. F. E. James, Khan Bahadur Haji Wajihuddin, Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah, Dr. F. X. DeSouza and the Mover, and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five.”

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai (Sind : Non-Muhammadan Rural) :** Sir, I have only one observation to make with regard to this Bill. I have no objection that it should go to the Select Committee, but I must point out to the House how much contest there was at the time of the last Finance Bill with regard to the summary procedure being given into the hands of the Income-tax Officers. It was pointed out that this summary procedure is detrimental to the interests of the tax-payers and that practice has shown that, since this small Income-tax Act has come into force, the Income-tax Officers are acting very arbitrarily in regard to this summary way of assessing the people and recovering the same. I would, therefore, submit that this point of giving summary powers in the small Income-tax Act is a point that should be very thoroughly considered by the Select Committee and also the observations that were made at the time of the former Finance Bill. They should also exercise their own discretion and consider what procedure in practice we find to be very objectionable in the case of summary assessment. We know that this procedure is detrimental from this point of view that the Income-tax Officer forthwith at his own discretion or rather at his own whim and fancy holds any one, even a hawker, for instance, assessed. He assesses him summarily without giving him notice and without learning from him how much he earns. Then he puts him to his defence, because the procedure is that, after the summary procedure has gone through, if the assessee comes up and presents his case, it will be reconsidered. But he is put on his defence and they prove that he is really in a position to pay the tax. The burden is thrown on him. The House can easily imagine how difficult it is on the part of the Income-tax Officer to admit that he had committed the mistake. Therefore, I submit that this is a very serious point and ought to have careful consideration by the Select Committee.

**Sir Leslie Hudson (Bombay : European) :** Sir, I should like to ask the permission of the House to substitute the name of Mr. Mackenzie for that of Mr. James on the Select Committee. The name of Mr. Mackenzie was submitted by Mr. James and that is probably how the mistake arose.

4 P.M.

**Mr. Chairman (Mr. K. C. Neogy) :** Does the Honourable Member wish to move it as an amendment, substituting the name of Mr. Mackenzie in place of Mr. James?

**Sir Leslie Hudson :** Yes.

**Mr. Chairman** (Mr. K. C. Neogy) : The question is :

“ That in place of the name of Mr. F. E. James the name of Mr. R. T. H. Mackenzie be substituted.”

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. Chairman** (Mr. K. C. Neogy) : The question is :

“ That the Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for certain purposes (Third Amendment), be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Mr. Vidya Sagar Pandya, Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad, Mr. Satish Chandra Sen, Mr. B. R. Puri, Mr. Jagan Nath Aggarwal, Lala Rameshwar Prasad Bagla, Mr. R. T. H. Mackenzie, Khan Bahadur Haji Wajihuddin, Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah, Dr. F. X. D'Souza and the Mover, and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five.”

The motion was adopted.

### THE INDIAN WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY BILL.

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce** (Member for Industries and Labour) : Sir, I move :

“ That the Bill to regulate the possession of wireless telegraphy apparatus, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.”

Here, again, I do not think that I need say much in support of this motion. The Select Committee which considered the Bill has produced a unanimous report and has met the criticisms which were made in the course of the discussion on the motion for reference to Select Committee during the last Session. It will be seen that it has been agreed that the penalties as laid down in the original Bill were distinctly severe. The amount of the fine which may be imposed has, therefore, been reduced and the penalty of imprisonment has been abolished. It has also been agreed that the confiscation of wireless apparatus, in respect of which a licence has not been obtained, should only be ordered in the case of conviction. Another modification made in deference to the views expressed on the floor of this House has been that the power of search has been restricted to the making of searches by day only. A distinct improvement embodied by the Select Committee has been the insertion of a new entry in sub-clause (2) of clause 9 to give power to make a rule requiring a dealer or manufacturer to insist on the production of a licence by an intending purchaser on proper occasions. This should be of great assistance in securing that licences are taken out in respect of wireless apparatus. I have here a few figures which may be of interest to the House in the present connection. They show the number of broadcast receiving licences taken out in recent years.

In 1929, the number was 7,775 ; in 1930, it has fallen to 7,719 ; in 1931, it increased to 8,056 ; in 1932, it went up to 8,557 ; for the first six months of this year, 5,276 licences were taken out as against 4,165 for the corresponding period of 1932. The House will see from the figures that I have just given that there has been a marked increase of late and I think this increase can be ascribed to two causes, I believe the first is that the public are realising that we have a Bill before this House which will shortly become law and that they have been not altogether unwilling, in fact they have been distinctly anxious to make their position a lawful one at the earliest possible opportunity. The second, and I think this is also an important factor, is the increase in broadcast reception

owing to the Empire broadcast programmes. Both these reasons show the desirability that this Bill should become law at the earliest opportunity. What we maintain, although we are not able to support our assertion with precise figures, is that undoubtedly piracy on a large scale is rampant and has been rampant ever since broadcasting in India began. The number of licences in force is very small having regard to the fact that considerable quantities of broadcast receiving apparatus have been imported and in spite of the increased customs duties, continue to be imported into this country. The figures of customs revenue are again very interesting. In 1930-31, they were only Rs. 56,000. In 1931-32, they went up to Rs. 1,04,000 and in 1932-33, they increased to Rs. 2,55,000. We estimate that for this year we shall get considerably over 3 lakhs. It is true that, as I have said, this increase is largely due to the increase in customs duties but it does show that wireless apparatus is being imported in rapidly increasing quantities and the desirability, therefore, of ensuring that it should be put to a lawful use, that is that licences should be taken out for utilising it. Sir, I move.

**Mr. Chairman** (Mr. K. C. Neogy) : Motion moved :

“ That the Bill to regulate the possession of wireless telegraphy apparatus, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.”

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** (Muzaffarpur *cum* Champaran : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I welcomed this Bill when it was first introduced into the House, but on that occasion I pointed out certain objectionable features as they appeared to me. I am glad to say that since the Bill has emerged from the Select Committee, those have been removed. The operative part of the Bill is the prohibition of the possession of wireless apparatus without a licence. In the original Bill, it was stated that the first offence should be met with fine, but for every subsequent offence imprisonment was prescribed. I am glad to say that in the Bill, as it has emerged from the Select Committee, the punishment of imprisonment has been eliminated.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi** (Nominated : Non-Official) : Why are you glad about it ?

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : I did not like imprisonment to be given as punishment. It is for this reason that I am glad. Those Honourable Members who disagree with me should have tabled an amendment on the lines in accordance with their views, and, in the absence of any such amendment, I take it that it is the general opinion of the House that it is an improvement on the Bill that the punishment of imprisonment has been eliminated.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** (Sind : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Why not there be only a warning instead of fine ?

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Why did you not put in such an amendment ?

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : It is not necessary, we can oppose it here.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Again, in the original Bill, as it was introduced, it was stated that whether the accused is convicted or acquitted, it was within the discretion of the Court to order confiscation of the wireless apparatus set. In the Bill, as it has now emerged from the Select Committee, confiscation follows only after conviction by a competent Court.

[Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh.]

There also I find it is an improvement. The third point on which the Bill is an improvement is that whereas the old Bill gave power to the police to make a search during day or night, in the present Bill the search is confined only to the day time. So, on all these three points, on which objections were raised in this House, when the Bill was originally introduced, they have been removed, and, therefore, the Bill, as it is now before the House, is an acceptable measure. It is well known that piracy is extensively practised in this country, and with the object of securing the elimination of piracy and to add to the income of the broadcasting stations, these provisions are required. I am glad that this Bill has been improved so as to be acceptable to this House. I, therefore, support the motion.

**Mr. Chairman** (Mr. K. C. Neogy) : The question is :

“ That the Bill to regulate the possession of wireless telegraphy apparatus, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 were added to the Bill.

**Mr. Chairman** (Mr. K. C. Neogy) : Clause 9.

**Mr. F. E. James** (Madras : European) : Sir, I beg to move :

“ That in clause 9 of the Bill, after the words ‘ Indian State Broadcasting Service ’ the words ‘ or a Broadcasting Service approved in this behalf by the Governor General in Council ’ be inserted.”

The object of this amendment is perfectly clear. There are other broadcasting services in the country quite apart from the Indian State Broadcasting Service, whose service has resulted in a certain number of licences being taken out locally and we felt that it should be made possible for the Court to pay over fines in certain areas to the local broadcasting services provided those were recognised by the prescribed authority, the Governor General in Council. In moving this amendment, I should just like to make two observations ; the first is that I do not think that any Member of the House should place extravagant hopes upon the income which is likely to be derived from this particular Bill. I expressed at the time of the introduction of the Bill the opinion which I believe found support in different parts of the House that the real future of broadcasting in this country lay not in broadcasting through individual sets but through loud speakers on a mass scale. We have felt certainly in that part of the world from which I come that the real value of broadcasting in this country will lie in its penetration on a large scale to the interior of the country, to the villages, where it is quite impossible to expect the service to be reproduced through individual sets, but where villages will have to be grouped together and where there will have to be programmes of relaying through loud speakers to congregations of villagers. Those Members who come from the Madras Presidency know that we have been running for some time now in the Corporation of Madras a most successful programme along these lines. The result of this work has not meant much increase in the number of individual listeners. That is not what we have been out for ; but it has meant that in the evenings on the beach and in almost all the public squares and parks there have been hundreds and thousands of citizens of Madras listening to a programme of music interspersed occasionally with comments on educational and health matters.

And we feel most strongly that that is the line of approach which is necessary if broadcasting is to be the tremendous channel of service in this country which it can be. I know that the Honourable Member will entirely agree with what I am saying now; it is not in any sense a criticism of his Bill. But it is merely another occasion on which one can use the opportunity of making this point; and I hope that the time will soon come when there will not only be an Indian State Broadcasting Service, which after all only operates to the benefit of a comparatively few in this country, but there will also be an Indian Broadcasting Board, or something of that kind. It will help to co-ordinate efforts which are now being made in different parts of the country, and will be able to give advice, and to formulate schemes whereby in the great linguistic regions of India there shall be set up adequate broadcasting stations which, in the language of the people of the country, can broadcast plays, music, educational talks and all kinds of information which will penetrate where no newspaper penetrates today and where no health visitors penetrate today,—the innermost recesses of the villages far away from the towns. If the Honourable Member in charge of this Bill, whose enthusiasm I know to be great for the spread of broadcasting, will take this also into consideration, and, possibly before very long,—I am throwing out merely a casual suggestion,—will call together a few people from the different provinces who are now doing excellent work in this direction, to confer as to the best means of using one of the greatest benefits which mankind has ever received, the transmission of programmes and messages across the air,—if he would do that, I am quite sure he would be rendering very great service indeed.

The second thing that I want to say is this, that even as regards the restricted scope of this Bill, I wonder whether one consideration has occurred to the Honourable Member in charge. I understand that at present the revenue from wireless sets under Customs has exceeded expectations. But obviously the time will soon come when that revenue will come down because of the manufacture of receiving sets in this country. One hopes that will come soon: it is bound to come soon; and when that is the case he will lose his Customs revenue. Would the Honourable Member consider the possibility of levying on locally made receiving sets, once that industry has got on its feet, something in the form of a small excise duty, the proceeds from which should be used, not for the current revenue of the Government of India but for the purpose of establishing broadcast systems in different parts of the country? This would make the collection of individual licence fees unnecessary. I make that merely as a suggestion. At present the Honourable Member has some indication of the number of receiving sets that are coming into the country, and therefore he has some indication as to the amount of piracy that is abroad. But as soon as these sets begin to be made locally he will have no indication whatsoever, and personally I do not think the State is going to benefit very much even by the passing of this Bill in regard to revenue received from licences. Therefore, Sir, I commend this amendment to the sympathy of the House and I also commend the two points I have made to the attention of the Honourable Member.

**Mr. Chairman (Mr. K. C. Neogy) :** Amendment moved :

“That in clause 9 of the Bill, after the words ‘Indian State Broadcasting Service’ the words ‘or a Broadcasting Service approved in this behalf by the Governor General in Council’ be inserted.”

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** Sir, I may say, at once that I have much pleasure in accepting Mr. James' amendment. We fully realise that the Indian State Broadcasting Service can, in the present conditions or in any conditions which are likely to prevail for many years to come, touch only a fraction of the total area of this vast country. In these circumstances, it is only equitable that, where an offence is the possession of wireless apparatus for reception from some other official or quasi-official service, the fine imposed for it should go to the benefit of that service.

I have been very much interested in what has fallen from my Honourable friend Mr. James. I think the first suggestion that he has put forward is a very valuable one. I may state for the information of the House that the attitude that Government should adopt towards broadcasting services other than the State broadcasting service is at present under consideration in consultation with the Local Governments. And I feel that, when we get their replies, it would be very useful to do as Mr. James suggests and to get together experts and those specially interested in order to discuss our further line of action.

[At this stage, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) resumed the Chair.]

I am not quite so sure about his second suggestion which, if I have understood him correctly, is that, later on, when, as we hope, the manufacture of wireless apparatus in this country attains substantial dimensions, we should levy an excise duty on sets of indigenous manufacture for the benefit of broadcasting generally. I need hardly say that I shall be very glad to examine it but in any case the question is hypothetical at the moment and I think we can probably safely leave it until the hoped for development takes place. I am bound to say that I think there would be some difficulties in adopting it. As I said at the outset, Sir, I have much pleasure in accepting the amendment.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That in clause 9 of the Bill, after the words ‘ Indian State Broadcasting Service ’ the words ‘ or a Broadcasting Service approved in this behalf by the Governor General in Council ’ be inserted.”

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is that clause 9, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 9, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 10 and 11 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** Sir, I move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

The motion was adopted.

## THE LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce** (Member for Industries and Labour) : Sir, I beg to move :

“ That the Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, for certain purposes, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.”

At this late hour of the day, I do not think I need make any lengthy remarks in support of this motion. Here again, as in the case of the last measure we have been considering, the Bill we placed before the House in the first instance has, I venture to think, been distinctly improved by the Select Committee. As I said when I was moving the motion for reference to a Select Committee, whilst the general principle of the Bill had received unanimous support, there were two material criticisms. The two points on which those criticisms were focussed were the proposal to include individuals as well as companies amongst those on whose behalf land might be acquired for the housing of labour and the adequacy of the safeguards against improper use of land that had been acquired. It will, I think, be seen from the report of the Select Committee that both these criticisms have been very fully met in the measure as it has emerged from that Committee. As regards the first, the uneasiness about the inclusion of individuals as well as companies, the Bill has been amended and a safeguard has been provided by the limitation of the application of the new section 38A to industrial concerns employing at least 100 workmen. This should prevent the Act being used in favour of mushroom concerns. The second criticism was the adequacy of safeguards against improper use of the land that had been acquired. We have met that by giving further powers to Local Governments to ensure that the houses which are erected shall be properly built and properly used. The Local Government will be able to prescribe the time within which the conditions on which and the manner in which the dwelling houses or amenities shall be erected or provided. The only other point to which I need refer is that raised in my friend, Mr. Lalchand Navalrai's Minute of Dissent, which I am very glad to see he has not followed up by an amendment. He is still somewhat anxious about the Bill being used for the acquisition of sites on which there are already dwelling houses. He does not like the idea that the owners of such dwelling houses should be disturbed by compulsory acquisition. I think there is a very considerable safeguard in that respect and that is, that such dwelling houses will obviously be rather costly to acquire, and that no one is going to ask that they should be acquired if they can possibly find suitable vacant sites. In any case, it does seem to me that it is far better even in cases where land is acquired on which there are buildings—such buildings will obviously not be buildings one would like to see labour housed in—it is far better that they should be replaced by proper accommodation for the work people on whose behalf we are about, I hope, to pass this Act. I commend this motion to the consideration of the House.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Motion moved :

“ That the Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, for certain purposes, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.”

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : Sir, a reference has been made to me by the Honourable Member in charge and I must say that I do not agree that I should have put in an amendment. My Minute of Dissent is that this Bill should be restricted only to vacant sites and other arable land that may

[Mr. Lalchand Navalrai.]

be available, and that very costly houses and other houses should not be disturbed in the interests of new concerns. If I may read my minute, it runs as follows :

“ My objection is that the Bill should apply only to vacant sites or arable land and not land on which there are already dwelling houses. In cases of compulsory acquisition, all safeguards should be taken to see that new concerns, as contemplated by this Bill, should not establish themselves on the site nearby land already occupied by dwelling houses and disturb the original owners of the houses by compulsory acquisition. In growing towns, it is more in the public interest that such concerns should be established at or removed to a more suitable distant site than to acquire the adjoining dwelling houses better used by owners for housing labourers.”

My main point is, that if there are houses already there, why should the new concern go and start in their neighbourhood ? It will be disturbing the people who have lived in those houses and have liked them for a long time. That is the reason for my Minute of Dissent. I submit that I am opposed to the consideration of this Bill unless they amend it and restrict it only to vacant sites and such like. That is all my submission.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That the Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, for certain purposes, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 3 and 4 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce** : Sir, I move that the Bill, as reported by the Select Committee, be passed.

The motion was adopted.

#### THE MURSHIDABAD ESTATE ADMINISTRATION BILL.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : How long will the Honourable Member take to move this motion ?

**Mr. B. J. Glancy** (Political Secretary) : Only four or five minutes, Sir.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Very well.

**Mr. B. J. Glancy** : Sir, I beg to move :

“ That the Bill to provide for the appointment of a Manager, on behalf of the Secretary of State, of the properties of the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad and to define the powers and duties of the Manager, be taken into consideration.”

Sir, the reasons why it is necessary to place this Bill on the Statute-book have been briefly indicated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons and in the preamble of the Bill. As the House will observe, the Bill is merely intended to supplement the Murshidabad Act of 1891. That Act gave power to the Secretary of State to enter upon the properties of the Nawab and to administer them in his behalf if any such necessity arose. Unfortunately, that necessity has arisen, because the Nawab has contracted very heavy debts and has allowed his properties to fall into a

most deplorable condition. It is imperative, therefore, that his powers of control should be restricted and that proper arrangements should be made for the management of the estate so that the creditors' claims may be satisfied and that the Nawab and his family may be preserved from ruin. The Secretary of State has already entered upon the properties, but the Act of 1891 does not provide any satisfactory machinery for preventing the Nawab from incurring further liabilities or for empowering the Manager to take proper control of the estate and to discharge the debts already incurred. The present Bill is merely intended to remedy this deficiency. It is based closely on the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act, an Act which has been in successful operation for the last 50 years. The Bill, in the opinion of Government, provides the most satisfactory and in fact the only satisfactory arrangements that are practicable alike in the interests of the creditors and the Nawab. Firstly, as regards the creditors, it is calculated that the total claims against the Nawab including the amounts decreed against him in the Courts come to about 19 lakhs of rupees. The Bengal Government estimate that, as soon as normal conditions are restored, it should be possible to set aside annually a sum of not less than Rs. 3 lakhs towards the payment of the debts. Thus, in a few years' time, the entire liabilities should be liquidated. The decree holders and the other creditors need be under no apprehension that fair treatment will not be accorded to them, because the Bill provides for an appeal from the Manager's award to the Bengal Board of Revenue. If, on the other hand, the Bill is not passed, practically all that the creditors will be able to attach and secure will be certain moveable properties personally acquired by the present Nawab, and it is very doubtful whether the value of these will amount to more than 1/20th part of his liabilities. Secondly, as regards the Nawab himself, he is the head and representative of an ancient and highly respected family. He is greatly esteemed not only by the Muslims of Bengal, but by other communities as well, and it would be most deplorable if he were to suffer the indignity of confinement in a debtor's prison. I would impress upon the House that the passing of this Bill is a matter of very considerable urgency, because every day that is lost in giving the Manager proper powers of control must render the position of the Nawab and the creditors more and more precarious and chaotic. I understand, Sir, that there is notice of an amendment for reference to Select Committee. If that amendment is moved and if it can be assumed that the delay involved will not be more than a few days and that there is good prospect of this Bill being passed during the present Session, I will not oppose that amendment, but I should like to emphasise once more that any avoidable delay is most strongly to be deprecated in the interests of all parties concerned.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shammukham Chetty) : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to provide for the appointment of a Manager, on behalf of the Secretary of State, of the properties of the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad and to define the powers and duties of the Manager, be taken into consideration."

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** (Dacca Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Honourable the Law Member, Mr. B. J. Glancy, Sir Lancelot Graham, Mr. S. C. Mitra, Mr. S. C. Sen, Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, Mr. R. S. Sarma, Captain Sher Muhammad Khan, Mr. G. Morgan, and the Mover, and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five."

[Mr. K. C. Neogy.]

In making this motion, Sir, I am inviting this House to accept the principle underlying this particular Bill which, as has been explained by the Honourable the Mover, is to remove certain deficiencies in the original Murshidabad Act. The Honourable Member has referred to the predicament in which the present Nawab Bahadur is, but I think it is only fair that I should mention that public opinion in Bengal holds that the Nawab Bahadur has been perhaps more sinned against than sinning in this particular matter, and I am sure that the principal object of this Bill will be welcomed all over the country. But, at the same time, the Honourable Member in charge will himself recognise that this is not a normal kind of legislative proposal and that the interests of the *bona fide* creditors have got to be safeguarded by this House. The reason why I want this measure to be referred to a Select Committee is to give an assurance to the *bona fide* creditor outside that his interests will be examined as carefully as possible by the representatives of this House before passing the Bill into law. I entirely agree with my friend that the importance of such a measure consists in the expedition with which it can be placed on the Statute-book, and, so far as I am concerned, I am anxious to have a meeting of the Select Committee at the earliest possible moment, if possible tomorrow, and I personally will place no obstacle in the way of a speedy passage of this measure. Sir, I move.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Honourable the Law Member, Mr. B. J. Glancy, Sir Lancelot Graham, Mr. S. C. Mitra, Mr. S. C. Sen, Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, Mr. R. S. Sarma, Captain Sher Muhammad Khan, Mr. G. Morgan, and the Mover, and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five.”

**Mr. S. C. Mitra** (Chittagong and Rajshahi Divisions : Non-Muhammadian Rural) : Sir, I support the motion of my friend, Mr. Neogy, for reference of this Bill to a Select Committee. I agree to accept his motion, because I accept his interpretation that the principle of the Bill is very much restricted. If Government is agreeable to that view, I certainly have no hesitation to accept the motion ; but there are apparently some very drastic provisions in this Bill, and it is not so harmless as it has been put by the Honourable the Mover. I would like to refer to some of the clauses to tell the House how in this Bill it is provided to vest the Manager with such wide powers as to oust the jurisdiction of all the Courts in India. I merely refer to clause 4 which reads thus :

“ On the publication of an order for the appointment of a Manager under section 3, the following consequences shall ensue :

*First*, all proceedings which may then be pending in any Civil Court in respect of any debts or liabilities to which the Nawab Bahadur may be subject shall be barred, and all processes, executions and attachments for or in respect of such debts and liabilities shall become null and void ;

*Secondly*, so long as such management continues, no suit or proceeding shall lie against the Nawab Bahadur, or the Secretary of State, or the Manager, in respect of any debt or liability to which the Nawab Bahadur is subject.....”

Then, further on, in sub-clause (b), there are other drastic powers which say that “ so long as such management continues, the Nawab shall

be incompetent to mortgage, etc." That is certainly a sound suggestion, but such property shall be exempt from attachment or sale under process of any Court. In short, I find in this Bill provision for ousting the jurisdiction of the Courts so long as this Bill will be in force. I do not want to stress that point now, because I agree with my Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy, that all these questions may be considered in the Select Committee. This Bill is only following the old Act which is more than 30 or 40 years old and there should not be much disagreement. I support the motion for reference to a Select Committee.

**Mr. B. Das** (Orissa Division : Non-Muhammadian) : I wish simply to say a few words. I wholeheartedly support the proposition that the Bill should go before a Select Committee, and the particular objections which my Honourable friend, Mr. Mitra, pointed out would be solved there. Personally I do not think that those objections are really worthy, because those of us who belong to Bengal and Bihar and Orissa know how the Nawab Bahadur, as my Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy, put it, has been sinned against, how money-lenders of Calcutta.....

**An Honourable Member** : Not of Calcutta, but of Murshidabad, Azimganj, and Jiaganj.

**Mr. B. Das** : I am glad to know that they are from Murshidabad, Azimganj and Jiaganj. We know how the money-lenders have swindled the Nawab Bahadur knowing that the Nawab could not part with the property that belonged to him. I wish to refer to another aspect of the matter. Money-lenders who have swindled the Nawab and have grown rich—some of them have been canvassing in Delhi and Simla during the last two Sessions, and if my Honourable friend, Mr. Glancy, will reveal the correspondence of some of the Members of this House who have addressed his Department on behalf of certain clients, it will prove interesting. I deprecate that money-lenders or, whoever they are, should try to influence Members of this House and try to canvass, and that Members should forget their legislative duties and write, though being members of the legal profession, to the Political Department. I hope that my Honourable friend, the Political Secretary, will not think that the correspondence is too secret, and that in his reply today or in the Select Committee he will place all the correspondence which has been addressed by some Members of this House.....

**An Honourable Member** : Is it fair to the House that Mr. Das should make a veiled attack and not mention the names of Members if he knows them ?

**Mr. B. S. Sarma** (Nominated Non-Official) : On a point of order, Sir. I desire to know whether it is fair to refer to Members without giving their names and without telling the House whether those gentlemen have written in their capacity as Members of this House or as barristers or members of the legal profession ?

**Mr. B. Das** : That is not the point. I am asking the Political Secretary to tell us whether he has received any letters from any Member of this House addressed to his Department as legal adviser to certain claimants on the property of the Nawab. The question is, whether an Honourable Member can do that. I think much canvassing is going on and I entirely agree with the Political Secretary that the sooner this

[Mr. B. Das.]

Bill is passed, Simla and Delhi will not see the faces of those who have swindled the Nawab Bahadur.

**Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer** (Rohilkund and Kumaon Divisions : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : I do not propose to say more than one sentence on behalf of some of us sitting on this side of the House. We wholeheartedly share the apprehensions and appreciate the views that the Political Secretary urged in regard to the preservation of the Nawab Sahib from ruin and protection of his creditors from disaster.

**Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali** (Lucknow and Fyzabad Divisions : Muhammadan Rural) : I too wholeheartedly support the motion of the Political Secretary on the floor of the House. My only submission is that this matter should be expedited as quickly as possible and it is not only the Nawab, who will be relieved of all the difficulties, but it will really save a great and ancient family from ruin. So far as I have read certain representations which have been sent round from Calcutta, and I have read one or two of them very carefully, I find that the Nawab had absolutely no right to part with the property. It was only a sinister motive of these creditors who advanced money to him, knowing that the Nawab could not possibly pay his debts. In those circumstances, I think it is now a very good case for sending the matter to the Select Committee, and I think that the Bill may be taken into consideration.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** (Sind : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : I have a word to add. I do not think that the Government, when they make a claim for the protection of the estate, will not take care of the creditors of the estate. I think their interests will be quite safe in the hands of the Government and I, therefore, support this motion.

**Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury** (Bengal : Landholders) : I propose that the House do now adjourn.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi** (Tirhut Division : Muhammadan) : I propose that the name of Sir Abdulla-al-Mámūn Suhrawardy be added to the Select Committee.

**Mr. B. J. Glancy** : I accept the amendment.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That the name of Sir Abdulla-al-Mámūn Suhrawardy be added to the Select Committee.”

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Honourable the Law Member, Mr. B. J. Glancy, Sir Lancelot Graham, Mr. S. C. Mitra, Mr. S. C. Sen, Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, Mr. B. S. Sarma, Captain Sher Muhammad Khan, Mr. G. Morgan, Sir Abdulla-al-Mámūn Suhrawardy, and the Mover, and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five.”

The motion was adopted.

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, the 4th September, 1933.