

*Friday,
1st February, 1907*

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Council of the Governor General of India,

LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Vol. XLV

April 1906 - March 1907



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OF

THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA

ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING

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Proceedings of the Council of the Governor General of India, assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861 and 1892 (24 & 25 Vict., cap. 67, and 55 & 56 Vict., cap. 14).

The Council met at Government House, Calcutta, on Friday, the 1st February, 1907.

PRESENT :

His Excellency the Earl of Minto, P.C., G.C.M.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., Viceroy and Governor General of India, *presiding*.
His Excellency General Viscount Kitchener of Khartoum, G.C.B., O.M., G.C.M.G., Commander-in-Chief in India.
The Hon'ble Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. Erle Richards, K.C.
The Hon'ble Mr. E. N. Baker, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Major-General C. H. Scott, C.B., R.A.
The Hon'ble Sir Harvey Adamson, K.T., C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. Finlay, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Mr. Gopal Krishna Gokhale, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. A. A. Apcar, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Mr. W. T. Hall, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Nawab Saiyid Muhammad Sahib Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Munshi Madho Lal.
The Hon'ble Mr. Gangadhar Rao Madhav Chitnavis, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. W. Edgerley, K.C.V.O., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. W. W. Reynolds.
The Hon'ble Mr. H. A. Sim, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Tikka Sahib Ripudaman Singh of Nabha.
The Hon'ble Dr. Rashbehari Ghose, C.I.E., D.L.

NEW MEMBER.

The Hon'ble MR. REYNOLDS took his seat as an Additional Member of Council.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

The Hon'ble TIKKA SAHIB RIPUDAMAN SINGH OF NABHA asked :—

“ Will Government be pleased to state what decision has been arrived at with regard to the Imperial Service Troops as referred to in Lord Curzon's speech at the Daly College, Indore, on the 4th November, 1905 ?

[*The Commander-in-Chief; Tikka Sahib of Nabha; [1ST FEBRUARY, 1907.]
Sir Harvey Adamson.*]

His Excellency THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF replied :—

“ The offers made by the Chiefs in response to Lord Curzon’s appeal were submitted for the consideration of His Majesty’s Secretary of State for India in pursuance of whose instructions each offer is now being considered separately in consultation with the Chief concerned.”

The Hon’ble TIKKA SAHIB RIPUDAMAN SINGH OF NABHA asked :—

“ With reference to the Typhoid Commission recently appointed, will the Government be good enough to state the nature of the enquiries ordered and the class of persons from whom information is sought ?”

His Excellency THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF replied :—

“ The terms of the orders appointing the Committee specified that it was ‘ for the purpose of investigating and advising on the incidence of Enteric fever in India and its prophylaxis.’

“ Up to the present the questions considered by the Committee have included diagnosis and statistical returns; infection by water, milk, foods, dust, flies, etc., infection from outside sources, sewage disposal, and from washing of clothes; sanitary inspection and supervision, anti-typhoid inoculation, and certain technical bacteriological questions.

“ Information has been and is being obtained from Medical officers of both services, from General and other officers commanding, from Engineer officers, the Inspecting officers of cantonments and the Anti-typhoid Inoculation Committee in London.”

The Hon’ble TIKKA SAHIB RIPUDAMAN SINGH OF NABHA asked :—

“ Will Government be pleased to state what stage the scheme of the Tata Research Institute has reached ?”

The Hon’ble SIR HARVEY ADAMSON replied :—

“ A scheme drawn up in accordance with the Charitable Endowments Act for the administration of the Tata Research Institute has recently been submitted to the Government of India by the Solicitors of the Tata family. It has been framed in consultation with Dr. Morris Travers, F.R.S., who has recently been appointed Director of the Institute; and the Government of India propose to take it into consideration as soon as they receive a further communication from the Mysore Darbar regarding the site of the buildings.”

[1ST FEBRUARY, 1907] [*Tikka Sahib of Nabha; Sir Harvey Adamson; Mr. Chitnavis; Mr. Richards; Mr. Finlay.*]

The Hon'ble TIKKA SAHIB RIPUDAMAN SINGH OF NABHA asked :—

“ Will Government be pleased to state the results of the enquiries of the ‘ Plague Research Commission ’ appointed some time since ? ”

The Hon'ble SIR HARVEY ADAMSON replied :—

“ A preliminary report on the investigations of the Plague Research Committee has been published recently under their authority in a special number of the *Journal of Hygiene*. A copy of this is laid upon the table.”

The Hon'ble MR. GANGADHAR RAO MADHAV CHITNAVIS asked :—

“ Has Government received a memorial from the people of Nagpur and several other districts of the Central Provinces, praying for the extension of the right of election to the Local Bodies in the matter of the appointment of a member for those Provinces to the Imperial Legislative Council of India? What action does Government propose to take in the matter ? ”

The Hon'ble MR. RICHARDS replied :—

“ The memorial referred to by the Hon'ble Member has been received, and will be taken into consideration in due course. Government is not at present in a position to make any statement in regard to it.”

The Hon'ble MR. GANGADHAR RAO MADHAV CHITNAVIS asked :—

“ Has the attention of Government been drawn to the Resolution of the Second Industrial Conference praying for the early publication of the Report of the Indian Stores Committee? Will Government be pleased to state when it proposes to publish the Report, whether before or after the passing of final orders by Government ? ”

“ Does Government not think it desirable that Reports of Committees of Inquiry should be published before final orders are passed by Government to enable the public to offer suggestions which may also be considered by Government along with the Reports ? ”

The Hon'ble MR. FINLAY replied :—

“ The attention of Government has been drawn to the Resolution of the Second Industrial Conference praying for the early publication of the Report of the Indian Stores Committee. Government are not in a position to state when the Report will be published.

“ Government are unable to lay down any definite rule in the matter, but will consider each case on its own merits.”

[*Mr. Chitnavis; Mr. Finlay; Mr. Gokhale; Sir Harvey* [1ST FEBRUARY, 1907.]
Adamson.]

The Hon'ble MR. GANGADHAR RAO MADHAV CHITNAVIS asked :—

"Is it a fact that the present scale of pay of the subordinate Postal establishment was fixed over thirty years ago? Have prices and wages increased since then? Is it a fact that salaries have been increased in other Departments on that ground? If so, will Government be pleased to revise the scale of pay of the subordinate Postal establishment, so as to make due allowance for the increased cost of living?"

The Hon'ble MR. FINLAY replied :—

"It is not the case that the present scales of pay of the subordinate Postal establishment were fixed over thirty years ago. As regards the salaries of postmen, village postmen, peons, and packers,—who form the bulk of the subordinate establishment,—the following information gives an abstract of the changes which have been made during recent years, and shows a continuous improvement in the conditions of the service of these officials. In 1897, 11 per cent. of the postmen and village postmen were in receipt of less than Rs. 7 a month, in 1906 practically none. In 1897, 34 per cent. drew less than Rs. 8 a month; in 1906, in spite of the transfer to Imperial from provincial and local funds of a large number of postmen and village postmen on low pay, the percentage has fallen to 19. In 1897, 66 per cent. drew less than Rs. 9 a month; in 1906, 45 per cent. In 1897 only 18 per cent. were drawing Rs. 10 or higher pay; in 1906 34 per cent. In the case of peons and packers, in 1897 12 per cent. were drawing less than Rs. 6 a month; in 1906 practically none. In 1897, 45 per cent. were drawing less than Rs. 7 a month; in 1906 only 23 per cent."

"Similar information in respect of the remainder of the subordinate establishment is not available, and could not be obtained without an expenditure of time and labour incommensurate with any advantages to be derived from its preparation. In the circumstances, replies to the other questions asked by the Hon'ble Member in connection with this subject do not appear to be necessary."

The Hon'ble MR. GOKHALE asked :—

"Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a Return, showing the annual expenditure on Primary Education for the last five years from (a) Provincial Revenue, (b) Local Funds, (c) Municipal Funds, (d) Fees, and (e) Other sources?"

The Hon'ble SIR HARVEY ADAMSON replied :—

"The statement asked for by the Hon'ble Member is laid upon the table.*"

* Vide Appendix A.

[1ST FEBRUARY, 1907.] [*Mr. Gokhale; The Commander-in-Chief; Mr. Baker.*]

The Hon'ble MR. GOKHALE asked :—

“ Will Government be pleased to state if commissions have been granted since last March to any more members of the Cadet Corps, and, if so, where these men have been posted and what are their prospects of being entrusted with regimental duties in the Indian Army?”

His Excellency THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF replied :—

“ Commissions have recently been granted to four more members of the Imperial Cadet Corps, namely :—

Khan Muhammad Akbar Khan of Hoti.
Malik Mumtaz Muhammad Khan of Shahpur.
Banwar Prithi Singh of Kota.
Bala Sahib Daphle of Jath.

“ It is proposed to post the three first-named officers to the Frontier Militia, the Division of the Chief of the Staff, and the Supply and Transport Corps, respectively, and Lieutenant Bala Sahib Daphle is being attached to a native infantry regiment for a further period of military instruction.

“ The question of these officers being given regimental employment in the Indian Army has not yet arisen.”

PRESIDENCY BANKS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Presidency Banks Act, 1876.

The Council adjourned to Friday, the 15th February 1907.

J. M. MACPHERSON,

*Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.*

CALCUTTA;
The 1st February, 1907.