

2nd September 1929

THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

(Official Report)

Volume IV

(2nd September to 17th September, 1929)

FIFTH SESSION

OF THE

THIRD LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1929



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# THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE  
THIRD LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.)

VOLUME IV—1929.

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

*Monday, 2nd September, 1929.*

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber in Simla at Eleven of the Clock, being the first day of the Fifth Session of the Third Legislative Assembly, pursuant to S. 63D (2) of the Government of India Act. The President (the Honourable Mr. Vithalbhai Javerbhai Patel) was in the Chair.

### MEMBERS SWORN :

Mr. Edwin Lessware Price, C.I.E., O.B.E., M.L.A. (Bombay : European) ; Lieutenant-Colonel Leonard Lachlan Porter, O.B.E., V.D., M.L.A. (Madras : European) ; Mr. Hormusji Peroshaw Mody, M.L.A. (Bombay Millowners' Association : Indian Commerce) ; Mr. Dudley Cautley Stewart-Smith, M.L.A. (Bengal : European) ; Mr. Dinshaw Fardunji Mulla, C.I.E., M.L.A. (Bombay : Nominated Non-Official) ; Sir Frank Noyce, Kt., C.S.I., C.B.E., M.L.A. (Secretary, Department of Education, Health and Lands) ; Mr. George Richard Frederick Tottenham, M.L.A. (Army Secretary) ; Mr. V. K. Aravamudha Ayangar, C.I.E., M.L.A. (Finance Department, Nominated Official) ; Mr. Satyendra Nath Roy, M.L.A. (Home Department : Nominated Official) ; Mr. Tin Tut, M.L.A. (Department of Industries and Labour : Nominated Official) ; Mr. Rama Shankar Bajpai, O.B.E., M.L.A. (Director of Public Information) ; Mr. A. Upendra Pai, M.L.A. (Madras : Nominated Official) ; Mr. Stephen Harris Covernton, M.L.A. (Bombay : Nominated Official) ; Mr. Vyvyan Macleod Ferrers, M.L.A. (Bombay : Nominated Official) ; Mr. Ramaswami Srinivasa Sarma, C.I.E., M.L.A. (Bengal : Nominated Non-Official) ; and Mr. Geoffrey Leonard Winterbotham, M.L.A. (Associated Chambers of Commerce : Nominated Non-Official).

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### INSUFFICIENT ACCOMMODATION FOR PILGRIMS ON THE BARSII LIGHT RAILWAY.

1. \*Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to a letter in the *Bombay Chronicle* regarding the Barsii Light Railway, describing the sufferings of passengers travelling on that Railway, which appeared in the issue of that paper, dated the 13th May 1929 (page 8) ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state if the complaint about overcrowding, insufficient carriage supply to carry the pilgrims, and pilgrims having to travel in coal wagons, is correct ?

(c) Have Government considered the question whether the Barsi Light Railway can do away with transport of pilgrim passengers in goods wagons ?

(d) Are Government aware that the dividend paid by this Railway works out to about 12 per cent. per annum, including bonus, and if so, will Government be pleased to state how they reconcile the inability of the Railway to provide passenger carriages for transport of pilgrims with the dividends earned by the Railway ?

(e) What steps do Government propose to take in view of the complaint of the correspondent referred to in part (a) above ?

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

(b) Government are informed that on certain occasions, more particularly in connection with the four annual festivals in Pandharpur, passengers are carried in goods wagons on the Barsi Light Railway.

(c) & (d). Government are not satisfied that the Barsi Light Railway have taken all the steps that they should to avoid unreasonable use of goods wagons for the carriage of passengers and are having an examination made into this question. I understand that the dividend and bonus paid by the Company works out to 12 per cent. as stated by the Honourable Member, who is no doubt aware that, besides their ordinary share capital, the Barsi Light Railway have a large amount of 6½ per cent. preference shares and 4 per cent. debenture stock.

(e) Government lately instructed the Government Inspector of Railways to make a special investigation as to overcrowding of passengers on the Barsi Light Railway during the recent Ashadi fair and submit his recommendations as to the steps that should be taken in order to avoid to all reasonable extent the use of goods wagons for the carriage of passengers. His report was received recently and is at present under the consideration of the Railway Board.

#### SYSTEM OF RECRUITMENT OF OFFICERS TO THE POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

2. \***Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state :

(i) if it is a fact that at present Political Officers are recruited into one Department for Foreign work and for Political work from the Indian Civil Service and the Army ?

(ii) if the said system of recruitment has not worked satisfactorily ?

(iii) if any change is contemplated in the said system of recruitment and training of Political Officers and if so, why ?

(iv) if the answer to part (iii) is in the affirmative, what is the nature of the contemplated change ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state if they propose to give an opportunity to the Assembly to discuss any contemplated change in recruitment to the Political Department ? If so, when ? If not, why not ?

**Sir Denys Bray :** (a) (i). Yes, and also in cases of exceptional merit from the Provincial Civil Service.

(ii) Yes, on the whole.

(iii) and (iv). No change has been suggested in that part of the Department with which British India is concerned.

(b) Does not arise.

AMENDMENT OF SECTION 53 OF THE PROVINCIAL INSOLVENCY ACT, AND SECTION 55 OF THE PRESIDENCY TOWNS INSOLVENCY ACT.

3. \***Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the diversity of judicial opinion on the interpretation of section 53 of the Provincial Insolvency Act and section 55 of the Presidency Towns Insolvency Act as to the commencement of the period of two years ?

(b) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the decision of Chief Justice Sir Shadilal, reported in the Indian Law Reports, 10 Lahore, page 106, where he has shown the urgency of immediate legislative interference in the matter ?

(c) In view of the above, do Government propose to amend section 53 of the Provincial Insolvency Act and section 55 of the Presidency Towns Insolvency Act to bring these sections into line with section 54 of the former Act and section 56 of the latter ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar** : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The question of amending these two sections is now under their consideration.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : Is the Honourable Member aware that dishonest debtors have been taking advantage of this diversity of opinion since 1920 ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar** : I understand that there is some doubt as to whether the existing law is in a satisfactory condition. As I have stated, Government have now under their consideration the question of amending these two sections.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : May I understand, then, Sir, that the amendment of these two sections will be taken up at this Session, or will they be taken up at the next Session ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar** : I am afraid I cannot give any undertaking as to when legislation will be introduced.

NUMBER AND NAMES OF PERSONS DEALT WITH UNDER THE PUBLIC SAFETY ORDINANCE.

4. \***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Will Government be pleased to state how many persons (with their names and nationalities) have been dealt with up to date under the provisions of the Public Safety Ordinance since its promulgation ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar** : No case has so far occurred in which it has been necessary to employ the powers conferred by the Ordinance.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Then what was the urgency in promulgating the Public Safety Ordinance ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I think, Sir, that the fact that no action has yet been taken under the Ordinance is no proof of any absence of necessity for it. The existence of precautionary legislation of this kind on the Statute Book very frequently goes a long way to fulfil its object.

**NAMES OF ORGANISATIONS IN AND OUTSIDE OF INDIA DECLARED TO BE UNLAWFUL.**

5. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will Government be pleased to give the names of organisations in India and outside India which have been declared to be unlawful, and the membership of which makes a person liable to criminal prosecution ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** Certain associations under the name of Wunthanu Athin and similar designations in six districts in Burma have been declared unlawful at various dates between 1923 and 1929. No other associations have been declared unlawful since January 1st, 1923, in regard to which the notification is still effective.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** May I know, Sir, if the Government of India have at their disposal a list of these organisations which have been declared unlawful ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I shall be glad to furnish the Honourable gentleman with a list of the organisations in Burma which have been declared unlawful.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** And in the rest of India ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** As I have explained, there are none regarding which the notifications are effectual.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to have a copy of the list placed on the table of the House instead of furnishing it to me ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** The Associations referred to are almost entirely very small village associations scattered throughout six districts in Burma. The list therefore is a somewhat long one, but I shall be glad to furnish the Honourable Member with it if he so desires.

**Mr. Siddheswar Prasad Sinha :** What objection is there to placing the list of these associations on the table of the House ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I shall be prepared to place a copy in the Library.

**NATURE OF HELP AND CO-OPERATION ACCORDED TO COLONEL ALEXANDER POWELL, AUTHOR OF A BOOK ENTITLED "INDIA THE LAST HOME OF MYSTERY."**

6. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Are Government aware that one Colonel E. Alexander Powell of the United States has published a book called "The Last Home of Mystery", in which he libels some of the religious practices of the Indians ?

(b) Are Government aware that the author admits in his book that he received " help and co-operation " from " the British Government of London, and British officials in India " ?

(c) What kind of " help and co-operation " was given to this writer by the authorities ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state if they issued a passport to this man to come to India ; and if so, on what credentials was the passport issued, and for what period ?

**The Honourable Sir James Orerar :** (a) & (b) The Government of India understand that such a book has been published, but they have not yet seen it and they have not succeeded so far in obtaining a copy.

(c) I am not aware of any official help having been given to the writer in India or in England.

(d) No. The second part does not, therefore, arise.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** Is the Honourable Member aware that this book contains statements which are not only defamatory and libellous to the Anglo-Indian community, but constitute a distinct calumny ?

**The Honourable Sir James Orerar :** As I have stated, I have not yet been able to obtain a copy of the book, and I cannot therefore verify whether the Honourable Member's suggestions are correct or not.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** Will the Honourable Member get a copy and if after reading the book he finds that what I have stated is correct, will he place a ban on its sale in this country ?

**The Honourable Sir James Orerar :** I think, Sir, that that is a hypothetical question.

**CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS re THE POLICY AND PROGRAMME OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.**

7. \***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that the Government of India have issued a circular marked " Confidential ", No. D-4181, dated 26th April 1929, to all Local Governments and Administrations, instructing them that, " in view of the declarations of policy recently made by the Congress, and the extreme political programme which it has adopted, the Government of India consider that it is undesirable that exhibitions or fairs organised by or under the auspices of the Indian National Congress, should receive the support or co-operation of Departments or officials of Government in any way " ?

(b) What is meant by the " declaration of policy " and " the extreme political programme " of the Congress ?

**The Honourable Sir James Orerar :** The Honourable Member will, I think, appreciate that an answer to his question would amount to a condonation of the unauthorized communication of confidential documents. This is prohibited and the Honourable Member will doubtless join with me in condemning it.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Are Government aware that these so-called confidential documents were published extensively in the newspapers ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** They have not been published by authority.

**Diwan Chaman Lall :** Is it a fact that a confidential circular has been sent round to various Departments ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I think, Sir, the Honourable Member will recognise that it would not be proper for me to answer questions which are based upon an unauthorised publication of confidential documents. I cannot, therefore, reply to his question either in the affirmative or in the negative, on the point of principle.

**Diwan Chaman Lall :** May I ask the Honourable Member to say what objection he can possibly have when the matter is public knowledge, and the newspapers have already published such a circular ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** My reason is that, as a matter of principle, it would be improper for me to reply to questions which arise from an unauthorised publication of confidential documents.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it open to Government to issue confidential circulars which are objectionable in themselves ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** That, I think, Sir, is a question of opinion depending upon hypothesis.

**Diwan Chaman Lall :** May I ask the Honourable Member whether any action has been taken by the Government of India in regard to placing of a ban on any exhibitions or organisations organised by the Indian National Congress ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** I must adhere to my original position, which is one of principle, and I cannot undertake to answer questions based upon confidential documents published without authority.

#### NOMINATION OF A LADY MEMBER TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

8. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Do Government propose to recommend the nomination of a lady member to this House in view of certain pending legislations affecting women ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter :** The recommendation of persons for nomination to this House does not lie with the Government of India.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Was it open, Sir, to the Government of India to make recommendations on this point ?

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter :** It is not the function of the Government of India to recommend anybody.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Do they propose to recommend anybody when important Bills affecting the rights of women are pending before this House ?

**Maulvi Muhammad Yakub :** Is it not a fact that certain gentlemen were selected temporarily to assist in carrying through this measure by the Government of India ?

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : I presume, Sir, the Honourable Member means nominated.

**Maulvi Muhammad Yakub** : Yes.

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : That is so.

**Maulvi Muhammad Yakub** : Do Government propose to nominate a lady member to this Assembly for certain Bills which are pending before the House ?

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : Nomination is made by the Governor General, and any person can recommend anybody to the Governor General for nomination. All I said was that it is not the function of the Government of India to make any recommendation.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : May I take it, then, that all those gentlemen who have been nominated have not been recommended by the Government of India ?

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : They were not recommended by the Government of India.

**Maulvi Muhammad Yakub** : Did the Honourable the Law Member recommend any lady to the Governor General for being nominated to the Assembly ?

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : No. Sir, I did not know her.

**Mr. Abdul Haya** : Is not a lady member available to sit on the Government Benches ?

#### WITHDRAWAL OF THE INDIAN HIGH COURTS BILL.

9. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Is it a fact that the Indian High Courts Bill, throwing open the office of Chief Justice of Indian High Courts to members of the Civil Service, has been dropped ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar** : Yes, at all events for the present.

#### FUNCTIONS OF THE ARMY DEPARTMENT SECRETARIAT.

10. **\*Mr. Amar Nath Dutt** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the functions of the Army Department Secretariat ?

(b) Is it a fact that all proposals involving fresh expenditure are submitted by Branches of Army Headquarters concerned to the Deputy Financial Adviser attached to it, and when agreed to by the latter, the draft orders are put up by the Branch and the Army Department simply issues such orders ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Army List Section, which was originally under the Military Secretary's Branch, was transferred to the Army Department a few years back ? If so, will Government please give reasons for this change ?

(d) Is it a fact that each Branch of Army Headquarters has an Establishment Section of its own, which deals with all questions relating to the pay, promotion, leave, pensions, etc., of its personnel ?

(e) Is it a fact that such sections have got sufficient staff and each one is allowed a duty allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem for the cashier ?

(f) Is it a fact that each Branch has a separate roster of its own for the ministerial and menial staff ?

(g) If the replies to the above are in affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the necessity for having a separate post of an Establishment Officer with a staff in the Army Department Secretariat to deal with Army Headquarters personnel ?

(h) Is it a fact that the post of Establishment Officer involves duplication of work and avoidable delay and inconvenience to Branches concerned ?

(i) Is it a fact that there is no such appointment as an Establishment Officer in the Civil Secretariat and the attached offices ?

(j) Will Government be pleased to state the objections in allowing each Branch of Army Headquarters to deal with their own establishment independently of the Establishment Officer and in direct communication with the Public Service Commission in their matter of recruitment, as is done by all other offices, Secretariat or otherwise ?

**Mr. G. E. F. Tottenham :** (a) The function of the Army Department Secretariat is to deal with the subjects allotted to the Army Department by the Governor General under the Rules of Business, that is to say business connected with the Army, Cantonments, the Indian Medical Service, the Royal Indian Marine and Marine Surveys, and the Royal Air Force. It would be impossible, within the limits of a verbal answer, to give a detailed account of the functions that are comprised under these headings ; but I will furnish the Honourable Member separately with a further statement if he wishes.

(b) No, Sir. It is the responsibility of the Army Department and not of the Military Finance Branch, to decide on the administrative necessity of all proposals emanating from Army Headquarters that require the sanction of the Government of India, whether those proposals entail fresh expenditure or not.

(c) The work connected with the Indian Army List was previously performed partly in the Military Secretary's Branch and partly in the Adjutant General's Branch. Its transfer to the Army Department was carried out some 9 years ago as a matter of administrative convenience.

(d) Yes, within certain limits. But all general questions connected with these matters are dealt with by a central co-ordinating authority, namely, the Army Secretary.

(e) Yes.

(f) Yes.

(g) The Establishment Officer, on behalf of the Army Secretary, supplies the co-ordinating element referred to above. He has many other duties to perform besides recruiting and posting clerks.

(h) No, Sir. On the contrary, the post of Establishment Officer saves a good deal of inconvenience and overlapping which would be unavoidable if the Branches of Army Headquarters were to deal with these matters separately.

(i) Yes ; but no Civil Secretariat with its attached offices is of the same size as Army Headquarters.

(j) The present arrangement works satisfactorily and the change proposed would not only throw a great deal of additional work on the Public Service Commission, but would result in delay and inconvenience.

**LOCATION OF A RAILWAY STATION TO SERVE HALANI AND BELANI VILLAGES ON THE NEW SIND FEEDER RAILWAY.**

11. \*Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : (a) Are Government aware that there is difference of opinion as to the location of a railway station to serve Halani and Belani villages on the New Sind Feeder Railway, which is being constructed from Mehrabpur to Tharushah ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state if it has been settled where to locate the same ?

(c) Are Government aware that the people of Belani wanted the station to be located between miles 6 and 7 and not at mile 7 ?

(d) Did the railway authorities receive a representation making out the aforesaid case from the people of Belani ? If so, what reply was made to them ?

(e) Is it a fact that the location of the railway station between miles 6 and 7 will serve more suitably both the villages of Halani and Belani ?

(f) Is it not a fact that it will be more suitable to catch traffic, besides affording convenience to both the villages, if the station is located between miles 6 and 7, it being centrally situated ?

(g) If the answer to part (f) be in the negative, will Government be pleased to place on the table all details, giving reasons in support of their view ?

(h) Is it a fact that Government will not have to incur any extra expenditure by locating the station centrally between the villages ? If the answer be that there will be more expense, will Government be pleased to state how much that will be ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** Differences of opinion as to the location of railway stations are, I am afraid, inevitable, as there are various and conflicting interests concerned. In this particular case it was after careful consideration of all alternative suggestions that the Agent of the North Western Railway decided to have the station at a point just over seven miles from Mehrabpur, which I understand is only a third of a mile nearer Halani than the point midway between the two villages. It is reported that of the two, Halani is a place of greater importance and the site selected is more suitable to catch traffic as the arterial road from Rohri to Hyderabad passes very near it and several village roads also converge on it. Government are not prepared to interfere with the action of the Agent in this matter.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the Honourable Member say whether any public opinion was consulted in this matter and also whether the head of the Province, the Commissioner, was consulted ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** No.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to say why neither the head of the Province nor public opinion was consulted ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** I said I am not aware whether they were consulted in this case. Usually it is the practice, I understand, for the Local Administration to consult local authorities in these matters.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** The Honourable Member should have gone through all the papers to consider for himself whether this is a right decision.

(Mr. President called on Mr. Kelkar to put question No. 12.)

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FLETCHER COMMITTEE ON THE ORGANISATION OF MEDICAL RESEARCH IN INDIA.

12. { \*Mr. N. C. Kelkar :  
\*Mr. K. C. Neogy :  
\*Dr. B. S. Moonje :  
\*Mr. Fazal Ibrahim Rahimtulla : } (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they have considered the Report and recommendations of the Fletcher Committee on the organisation of medical research under the Government of India ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any decision in relation to the said Report on the question of policy, or with regard to administrative and financial matters connected with it ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to lay all the papers in connection with the Medical Research Institute on the table of the House, and also state what decisions, if any, have been already taken ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) The recommendations of the Fletcher Committee are under the consideration of Government.

(b) and (c). The Honourable Member's attention is invited to paragraph 27 of the proceedings of the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee held on the 29th August, 1928, and to the appendix referred to in that note. Copies of these proceedings and of the Fletcher Committee's Report will be found in the Library of the House. If the Honourable Member will kindly specify what other papers he wishes to be placed on the table of the House, Government will be glad to consider his suggestion.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** Will the Honourable Member inform this House whether or not the opinion of the medical profession in India was taken into consideration before the matter was put before the Standing Finance Committee ; also whether the Report of the Fletcher Committee was placed in the Library before the Government of India took the opinion of the Standing Finance Committee ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** I am not certain, but I think the reply to the Honourable Member's question is that the medical opinion was not consulted before the papers were placed before the Standing Finance Committee or before the Report of the Fletcher Committee was placed in the

Library of the House. I would refer my Honourable friend to my answer to the next question, which gives further information on the point.

**Mr. E. L. Price :** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to say whether there are means of consulting the medical profession in this country ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** There are certain recognised medical associations.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** In view of the reply just given, will the Honourable Member inform the House why the medical opinion in India was ignored before action was taken by the Government in this matter ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply to question No. 1054, which was asked on the 14th March, 1929, on this subject.

**Mr. M. S. Aney :** May I ask the Honourable Member whether that reply gives any reasons against the points to which reference has been made by Colonel Gidney ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** I must refer the Honourable Member to the answer itself.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** Considering the all-India importance of this subject, I desire to press this question for an answer. Will the Honourable Member please inform this House whether he is prepared to give an assurance on behalf of the Government to consult medical opinion in India before he takes any further steps in the construction of the Central Research Institute at Dehra Dun ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** The question will be considered.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it not a fact that the papers available to the Standing Finance Committee did comprise some of the other papers which have become available since then ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** I should like to know which papers the Honourable Member is referring to.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** The volume of opinion which has grown in opposition to that scheme.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** Was the Report of the Fletcher Committee itself placed before the Standing Finance Committee ?

(Mr. President called on Mr. Kelkar to put the next question.)

OPINIONS RECEIVED ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FLETCHER COMMITTEE  
ON THE ORGANISATION OF MEDICAL RESEARCH.

13. { \*Mr. N. C. Kelkar :  
\*Mr. K. C. Neogy :  
\*Dr. B. S. Moonje :  
\*Mr. Fazal Ibrahim Rahimtulla : } (a) Will Government be pleased to state if the Report of the Fletcher Committee has been circulated for opinion among the several Provincial Governments, Universities and the medical profession in the country ?

(b) If so, have such opinions been received, and will Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a copy of any such opinions received ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) The Report has been published and copies have been supplied to all Local Governments, who will be consulted with reference to the recommendations that concern them. For the reasons given in answer to Mr. Aney's question No. 1054, asked in this House on the 14th March, 1929, it was not considered necessary to circulate the Report in order to elicit further professional or academic opinion.

(b) The question does not arise.

**Mr. K. O. Neogy :** Will the Honourable Member state whether the Report of the Fletcher Committee was made available to the members of the Standing Finance Committee when the question was placed before them for consideration ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** I cannot answer that question offhand, but I should be glad to find out and communicate with the Honourable Member.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** Has the Honourable Member received a communication from Bengal enclosing certain resolutions passed at an executive committee meeting of the All-India Medical Association held in Calcutta in July last, relating to this matter, and what action has the Honourable Member taken on that communication ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** The communication was received at the end of July and the matter is still under consideration.

**Mr. B. Das :** May I ask the Secretary for Education whether it is not brought to his knowledge by his Department what papers are placed before the Standing Finance Committee ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** I have little doubt that the Report of the Fletcher Committee was placed before the Standing Finance Committee, but, as I have said before, I would prefer not to answer the question definitely without making further inquiries.

**Mr. B. Das :** My question was whether the papers placed before the Standing Finance Committee by his Department are not perused by the Secretary of the Department ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** That is so, but unfortunately I was not then Secretary.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** May I ask the Honourable Member to give an assurance to this House that, before the Government of India take any further action, they will carefully consider the resolutions passed by the All-India Medical Congress on this subject ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** I have no doubt that the matter will be considered, but I am not in a position to give a definite undertaking on the subject.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** But, Sir, may I ask how can the matter be considered when the Government of India have already taken steps in regard to the construction of the Research Institute ?

(No answer was given.)

#### LOCATION OF THE CENTRAL MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

14. { \*Mr. N. C. Kelkar :  
\*Mr. K. O. Neogy :  
\*Dr. B. S. Moonje :  
\*Mr. Fazal Ibrahim Rahimtulla : } (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that work has actually been started for locating the Central Medical Research Institute at Dehra Dun ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state the full details of any such work already started or to be started ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the progress already made in the establishment of the Public Health Institute, out of the Rockefeller Endowment, at Calcutta ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether, in any case, they will not consider the advisability of watching the progress of the Public Health Institute to be established at Calcutta, for a sufficiently reasonable time, before undertaking the launching of any Central Medical Institute at Dehra Dun ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) No.

(b) The first part of the question does not arise. As regards the second part, the Honourable Member's attention is invited to paragraph 27 of the proceedings of the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee, held on the 29th August 1928, and to the appendix referred to in that note. Copies of these proceedings will be found in the Library of the House. No further details as to the actual work to be started have yet been settled.

(c) Intimation of credit for the first instalment of the proposed grant has been received from the Rockefeller Foundation. The question of purchasing a site and construction of buildings will now be taken up.

(d) Government do not see any advantage in adopting the Honourable Member's suggestion. The two Institutes, although a part of one organic plan, are designed to serve entirely different purposes. The Medical Research Institute will devote itself mainly to pure research, while the Public Health Institute will provide instruction in the methods of preventive medicine. The research that will be carried on at the latter institute will mainly take the form of investigating the best ways of applying the results of pure research to the requirements of large units of population, both rural and urban.

**Mr. N. C. Kelkar :** What about the monies that have so far been expended on the location of the Institute at Dehra Dun ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** Nothing has so far been expended on the location of the Institute.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** Will the Honourable Member state whether one of the reasons why Dehra Dun was selected was because it possessed an intellectual atmosphere ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** That is so. There are a number of scientific institutions already located there.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** Will the Honourable Member give the name of the distinguished scientist who discovered this wonderful property in the atmosphere of Dehra Dun ? Was he a member of the Fletcher Committee ?

(No answer was given.)

RESULT OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED FROM VARIOUS BODIES ON THE  
FLETCHER COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

15. { \*Mr. N. C. Kelkar :  
\*Mr. K. O. Neogy :  
\*Dr. B. S. Moonje :  
\*Mr. Fazal Ibrahim Rahimtulla : } (a) Have Government received detailed representations from the President of the Bombay Medical Union, the Secretary of the Central Provinces and Berar Medical Association, the Secretary of the Delhi Medical Association, the Andhra Medical Conference, and from other medical associations in the country, with regard to the recommendations of the Fletcher Report ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state what effect, if any, has been given to these representations ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Representations have been received from the Associations named in the question and from some other medical associations .

(b) The representations have been carefully considered, and Government hope to be able to announce their decision shortly.

**Mr. N. C. Kelkar :** May I ask whether these representations were sent to Government by these expert bodies of their own accord or whether reference was specifically made to them for their opinion ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** They have sent them of their own initiative.

**Mr. N. C. Kelkar :** Did not Government think it necessary to refer the matter to them for expert opinion ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** I have already pointed out the reasons why Government did not refer the Report of the Fletcher Committee for professional opinion.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** In view of the answer given by the Honourable Member, is it the intention of the Government of India to act contrary to the medical opinion of this country ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** I cannot accept that view.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** Then what is your view ?

PROGRESS OF WORK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MIDDLE SIND RAILWAY.

16. \***Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** (a) Is it a fact that the work on the Middle Sind Railway, which was commenced, has been stopped ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to state the reasons why the work has been stopped ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether the work will be resumed, and if so, when ?

(d) Is the work to be carried on in sections ? If so, will Government be pleased to state when the work of the Tando Adam-Sakrand section will be taken in hand and completed ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** I presume the Honourable Member is referring to the Sind Left Bank Feeder Railways. It is not a fact that work thereon has been stopped. The intention is to carry it on in sections. Work on the first section from Mehrabpur to Padidan is now in progress, and work on

the Tando Adam-Sakrand section will probably be taken up in 1930 and completed in 1932.

**EMPLOYMENT OF INDIAN ENGINEERS AND ARTISTS ON THE CONSTRUCTION AND DECORATION OF THE PROPOSED INDIA HOUSE TO BE BUILT IN LONDON.**

17. \***Dr. B. S. Moonje** : (1) Will Government please state if it is a fact that a building called the India House is to be built in London, and if so, what is its estimated cost and which treasury, the Indian or the British, will pay the cost ?

(2) Will Government please supply information on the following points :

(a) who were the architects, Indian or British, who drew out a plan and architectural form of the building and what remuneration has been paid to them ;

(b) who is the engineer, Indian or British, in charge of the construction of the building, and what remuneration is estimated to be paid to him ?

(3) Do Government propose to engage Indian engineers and artists for the construction and for the decoration and fittings of the building, and if so, will they be paid at the rates prevailing in the British market in this respect ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** : (1) " India House " is already under construction in London. The present estimated cost of the building is £324,220, which will be borne by Indian revenues.

(2) (a) The building has been designed by Sir Herbert Baker. The fee of the architect is fixed by the Royal Institute of British Architects as a percentage on the cost of construction. The percentage is six, and on this basis the architect's fee will be £17,653.

(b) Dr. Oscar Faber, Consulting Engineer to His Majesty's Office of Works, has been appointed Consulting Engineer for India House on a fee of 2 per cent. on the cost of the structure. On this basis his remuneration will amount to £5,884.

(3) State scholarships have recently been awarded by the Government of India to 4 Indian artists to undergo a course of 18 months' training in art in Europe. If these scholars make satisfactory progress in their studies and are otherwise found competent, they will be employed on the decoration of India House. The remuneration to be paid to them for their work on the decoration of India House has not yet been settled. No Indian engineers have been engaged.

**Dr. B. S. Moonje** : When the money is paid from the Indian Treasury, and there are engineering colleges in India, is it to be taken for granted that there are no competent Indian engineers to be put in charge of the construction of the building ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** : When an important building is being erected in London, it is clearly advisable to employ highly qualified men who have had experience of building in London. As far as I am aware the High Commissioner did not draw our attention to the existence in London of Indian engineers of the requisite standing and experience.

**Dr. B. S. Moonje :** Are there no engineers in India, if not in England ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** It is a question of local conditions. When a very important building is being erected in London, I think it is advisable, in view of all the interests concerned, that the engineer selected should have local experience.

**Dr. B. S. Moonje :** Then, the money should have been paid from the British Treasury and not from the Indian Treasury.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** I have said in my answer that the whole cost of the building will fall upon Indian revenues.

**Mr. Amar Nath Dutt :** Why was not the same principle adopted in the case of engineers selected for the buildings in Delhi ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** There are many Indian engineers employed on that work.

**Mr. Amar Nath Dutt :** I mean at the head.

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** They are not employed in subordinate capacities alone. All the officers were taken from the Indian services and the Indians employed are not employed in a subordinate capacity alone.

**Mr. Amar Nath Dutt :** May I know whether the engineers were Indians ? It is a misnomer to call it by the name of Indian service which applies to all Europeans who come here as members of the Indian service.

(No answer was given.)

**Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru :** May I ask whether, before beginning the construction of the new " India House ", the Secretary of State was asked to make over the India Office to the Government of India ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** Speaking from memory, I think not.

**Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru :** Why was not such a request made to the Secretary of State before spending £300,000 on a new building ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** One reason given by the High Commissioner was that the India Office, even if it were available, would be entirely unsuitable for the work of his office and that of the Trade Commissioner.

**Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru :** Was not the point gone into before the question of having a new building was decided ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** I cannot reply to that with sufficient accuracy without notice.

**Diwan Chaman Lall :** In what way would the India Office be unsuitable ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** In my opinion, one of the reasons is that it is very desirable that the Trade Commissioner should be a great deal nearer the City than the India Office is.

**Diwan Chaman Lall :** It only takes about 3½ minutes to the Strand from the India Office.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** I bow to my Honourable friend's superior experience.

**Mr. Abdul Haye :** May I know whether suitable Indians will be employed for the work of decoration and fittings ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** In my answer to the last clause of the question I said that four Indians had been sent to England to undergo a course of training, and if they made satisfactory progress in their studies and were otherwise found competent, they would be employed in the decoration of the India House.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** May I know whether any inquiries were made to find competent Indian engineers conversant with local conditions in England ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** We were guided in that matter entirely by the advice of the High Commissioner, and I am quite certain that if he had been aware of an Indian engineer in London, who would have been suitable for the appointment, he would have been the first to recommend him.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Has the Honourable Member any specific information on the point ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** I did not say that I had any specific information. I said that, so far as I was aware, there were no such Indian engineers in London.

**Kumar Ganganand Sinha :** What is the requisite qualification referred to ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** I do not recollect having referred to any special qualifications.

**Kumar Ganganand Sinha :** The Honourable Member referred to the high standard of qualification for the engineers which the Indians did not possess.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** I used the word 'standing', not 'standard'. Of the requisite standing and experience.

#### REASON FOR THE GRANT OF SPECIAL CONCESSIONS TO THE SWEDISH MATCH COMPANY.

18. **\*Dr. B. S. Moonje :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many registered match companies there are in India and how many of them are Indian and how many non-Indian ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Swedish Match Company is not registered in India, and yet special concessions have been given to the Company by the Railway Companies and the Forest Departments, and if so, will Government please state in detail the nature of the concessions given ?

(c) Is it also a fact that a further concession has been made to the Swedish Match Company in that the revenue duty of Re. 1-8-0 for matches has been converted into a protective duty ?

(d) If the replies to parts (b) and (c) are in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for making such concessions to a foreign non-Indian non-British Company ?

(e) Have similar concessions been given to the Indian Companies, and if not, do Government propose to give similar concessions to them in the interests of the promotion of Indian industries ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** (a) There are thirty match companies in India and all are registered Indian Companies.

(b) and (e). Since the Honourable Member gave notice of his question, the Swedish Match Company has been registered in India as the Western India Match Company, with rupee capital and Indian Directors. No distinction is drawn between the Western Indian Match Company and other Indian Companies in regard to the grant of special rates by the Railways or of forest concessions by Local Governments.

(c) The revenue duty previously levied on imported matches has been converted into a protective duty. The benefit of this duty is enjoyed by all match manufacturers in India without distinction.

(d) Does not arise.

**Dr. B. S. Moonje :** Were any special concessions given to the Swedish Company before it was registered in India ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** No, Sir.

#### RECRUITMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERS FROM ENGLAND FOR SERVICE IN INDIA.

19. **\*Dr. B. S. Moonje :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many architectural engineers have been recruited in England for service in India every year during the last five years ?

(b) What recruiting agency has been employed, and which is the authority that finally selects the candidates for appointment as architectural engineers for service in India ?

(c) What are the qualifications fixed for such candidates ?

(d) How many of these are Indians and how many Europeans ?

(e) Are Government aware that there is serious discontent amongst Indian students in connection with the selection of candidates in England for service in India as architectural engineers ?

(f) Do Government propose to entrust the selection of such candidates to the Public Service Commission in India ? If not, why not ?

(g) Do Government propose so to modify or add to the courses of studies in the Indian Civil Engineering Colleges as to ensure a sufficient number of fully qualified Indian students being turned out to fill these posts, so that there may be no need to import candidates from outside India ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** As Government architects serving in the provinces are employed in Departments under the control of Ministers, the decision on all questions relating to their recruitment and qualifications rests wholly with the Governor of the province concerned, acting with his Ministers. Consequently, the Government of India have no information such as would enable them to reply to the question in so far as it relates to officers serving under Provincial Governments, nor do they consider it desirable to make inquiries in the matter. A few architects have, however, been engaged for service under the

Central Government in the past, and the replies below relate to such officers :

- (a) Two in 1928 and none in any other year.
- (b) The recruiting agent is the High Commissioner for India, which authority also finally selects the candidates.
- (c) No special qualifications are laid down, but the candidates are required to possess sound practical experience of their profession.
- (d) Both officers are Europeans.
- (e) No.
- (f) If it is found necessary in future to recruit architects for employment under the Central Government, the suggestion will be considered.
- (g) The Government of India have no control over the courses in the Indian Civil Engineering Colleges, which are controlled by the Governors of the provinces concerned, acting with their Ministers.

**OUTFIT ALLOWANCES GRANTED TO OFFICERS OF THE INDIAN TERRITORIAL FORCE AND THE AUXILIARY FORCE.**

20. \*Dr. B. S. Moonje : (a) Will Government be pleased to state what outfit allowances are granted, and under what rules, to the different officers of the Indian Territorial Force and the Auxiliary Force ?

(b) Are there different sets of rules in the matter of outfit allowances for the Indian Territorial Force and the Auxiliary Force, and if so, what are the reasons for differentiation, and will Government be pleased to lay these rules on the table of the Assembly for the information of the House ?

(c) Is it a fact that the officers of the Indian Territorial Force are entitled to only Rs. 300 for outfit allowance, while officers of the Auxiliary Force receive Rs. 700 to Rs. 800 per head for the same ? If so, what are the reasons for such differentiation ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** (a) Under paragraph 166 of the Regulations for the Auxiliary Force, a King's Commissioned Officer of the Auxiliary Force (India) is eligible for an outfit allowance of Rs. 300. A Senior Grade Officer of the Indian Territorial Force also receives an outfit allowance of Rs. 300. A Junior Grade Officer, who requires a far less expensive outfit, receives an allowance of Rs. 160 plus a maintenance allowance of Rs. 5 per month.

(b) The rules applicable to the two forces are different, but their effect, as I have shown, is precisely the same. I will supply the Honourable Member separately with copies of the Government letters sanctioning outfit allowances to Indian Territorial Force Officers.

(c) No, Sir. The Honourable Member is possibly thinking of the additional outfit allowance of Rs. 400, which was formerly, but is no longer, admissible to an officer of the Auxiliary Force, who subsequently joined the Army in India Reserve of Officers. This additional allowance has now been reduced to Rs. 100 and is admissible to officers of both the Auxiliary

Force and the Territorial Force if they join the Army in India Reserve of Officers.

#### TRAINING OF INDIANS AT SANDHURST IN DEPARTMENTS OTHER THAN CAVALRY AND INFANTRY.

21. \*Dr. B. S. Moonje : (a) In what departments of military training other than that of cavalry and infantry are British students trained for commissions in the Royal Military College, Sandhurst ?

(b) Are Indian students eligible for training for commissions in those departments also ?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham : (a) and (b). The Honourable Member appears to be under the impression that different types of training are provided at Sandhurst according to the branch of the service that the cadet wishes to join. This is not the case. The training at Sandhurst is uniform for all branches of the service, and is precisely the same for all cadets, both British and Indian. Thus a British cadet may go into the cavalry, the infantry, the Royal Tank Corps, or, eventually, into other branches of the British Army, such as the Royal Army Service Corps. Similarly, an Indian cadet may go into the cavalry or infantry or, eventually, into other branches of the Indian Army, such as the Indian Army Service Corps. There is no Indian Tank Corps at present, but the formation of Indian Armoured Car companies, for which Indians will be eligible, is now under consideration with the Secretary of State.

Dr. B. S. Moonje : Is an Indian cadet allowed to go into the Tank Corps ?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham : An Indian cannot join the Royal Tank Corps, because the Royal Tank Corps is a British unit. An Indian cannot join a British Tank unit any more than an Indian can join the Royal Artillery.

Dr. B. S. Moonje : Are means of education provided for training in Tank Corps for admission into Indian Tank Corps, for which an Indian is supposed to be eligible ?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham : Yes, but an Indian is not eligible for the Royal Tank Corps.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru : Is the Honourable Member aware that the Skeen Committee recommended that Indians should be admitted into the Royal Tank Corps ?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham : No, Sir.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru : Is not the Honourable Member aware of it ?

Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham : No, Sir.

#### FORMATION OF AN INDIAN AIR SQUADRON AND TRAINING OF INDIANS THEREFOR.

22. \*Dr. B. S. Moonje : (a) How many commissioned and non-commissioned officers and other ranks are required for the formation of one Indian Air Squadron ?

(b) How many Indians are yearly recruited for commissioned and non-commissioned officers and other ranks for an Indian Air Squadron and what facilities have been provided for the proper and adequate training of non-commissioned officers and other ranks ?

(c) What is the estimate of the number of years required for complete Indianisation of an Indian Air Squadron at the present rate of recruitment ?

**Mr. G. B. F. Tottenham :** (a) The details of the organisation of an Indian Air Squadron have not been settled. Presuming, however, that it would have the same organisation and establishment as a squadron of the Royal Air Force, its strength would be as follows :

20 Officers,

30 Non-commissioned officers, and

171 Other ranks.

(b) As the Honourable Member is aware, six vacancies at the Royal Air Force Cadet College at Cranwell were allotted for competition among Indians at the examination held in November 1928 and again at the examination held in June last. The results of the last examination have not yet been received, but no Indian has yet passed into Cranwell ; and therefore no non-commissioned officers or other ranks have yet been recruited. As soon as the number of Indians required to form the nucleus of the officer ranks enter Cranwell, arrangements will be made at the Aircraft Depot at Karachi to train the requisite number of artisans to complete the personnel of the first Indian Flight, and as soon as the Indian cadets have completed their two years training at Cranwell the Flight will be formed.

(c) The Honourable Member will realise that I am in no better position than he is himself to answer this question. I may say, however, that, in the Royal Air Force, it has been found that it takes an officer at least 15 years from the date of his commission to acquire the training, efficiency and experience required to justify his promotion to command an Air Squadron.

#### PROVISION OF FANS FOR GUARDS IN THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

23. \***Mr. Anwar-ul-Azim** (on behalf of Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi) : (a) Are the guards on the East Indian Railway, who have to travel long distances at a stretch in the trains, provided with fans in their vans ?

(b) If not, do Government contemplate considering the question of providing such fans ?

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

(b) Government are not satisfied that there is any necessity for this.

#### HOURS OF DUTY OF, AND ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED FOR, CONDUCTOR GUARDS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

24. \***Mr. Anwar-ul-Azim** (on behalf of Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi) : (a) What are the hours of duty of conductor guards on the East Indian Railway, who generally travel in night trains ?

(b) If there is no provision for specific accommodation, do Government propose to consider the desirability of providing such accommodation ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** (a) From 6 to 8½ hours.

(b) Government consider it impracticable to provide special compartments for Conductor Guards in trains composed of non-corridor carriages.

#### DEFECTIVE LAVATORY ARRANGEMENTS PROVIDED FOR GUARDS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

25. \***Mr. Anwar-ul-Azim** (on behalf of Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi) : (a) Are the commodes provided for railway guards sufficiently protected from public gaze ? If not, do Government propose to take steps to rectify the defect ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** The answer to the first part of the question is, I understand, in the affirmative. The second does not arise.

#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF THE TRUNK TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

26. \***Mr. Anwar-ul-Azim** (on behalf of Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi) : (a) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the income and the expenditure on the trunk telephone system ?

(b) Is it a fact that in some cases it is cheaper to use the telephone than to send an inland telegraphic message ?

(c) What is the minimum charge for a call on the trunk telephone system ?

(d) Should the expenditure on the trunk telephone system be more than the income ? Are Government prepared to take steps to make the telephone system pay its own way by fixing the minimum charge for a telephone call at annas 12, the minimum charge for sending an ordinary telegram ?

**Mr. P. G. Rogers :** (a) The income derived from trunk call fees during 1927-28 was Rs. 10,50,771. The expenditure on the trunk telephone system cannot be furnished separately, as the lines are used for other purposes also.

(b) Yes.

(c) Three annas for a radial distance of 12½ miles.

(d) No. The existing system is similar to the systems in force in other countries.

#### PROVISION OF WIRE NETTING FOR WINDOWS OF THE WESTERN HOSTEL, NEW DELHI.

27. \***Mr. Anwar-ul-Azim** (on behalf of Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi) : (a) Are Government aware that the windows of the Western Hostel, New Delhi, are dangerously situated, being much too low and practically on the same level as the bedsteads in the different rooms ?

(b) Do Government propose to wirenet these windows to prevent accidents happening ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) and (b). Government are aware that there are some bed-rooms in the Western Hostel which have sills which are 24½ inches from the floor level, but they do not consider them dangerous. A bar will, however, be put across the windows at a height of 3 feet for the benefit of residents who may experience a feeling of vertigo when looking out of the windows. (Laughter.)

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** Is the Honourable Member aware of the fact that most of the rooms on the ground floor of Western Hostel have no windows and are in consequence very unhealthy ? In other words, it is a question of pure air in the rooms *versus* thefts of Members' property ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** I submit, Sir, that that question does not arise out of the main question. If the Honourable Member will kindly put down that question on paper, I shall give it the most serious consideration possible. (Hear, hear.)

NUMBER OF THEFTS COMMITTED IN NEW DELHI DURING THE LAST ASSEMBLY SESSION.

28. **Mr. Anwar-ul-Azim** (on behalf of Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi) : (a) Are Government aware that thefts and burglaries are very common in New Delhi, especially in the latter part of the Assembly Session ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing the number of thefts committed in New Delhi during the last Session, making it clear at the same time as to how many of such thefts have been detected ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** (a) There has been a regrettable number of thefts and burglaries in New Delhi, and this year, certainly, they were specially numerous during the latter part of the Assembly Session.

(b) During the last Session there were 41 true cases of theft within the New Delhi Police Station. Of these, 15 cases have been sent for trial ; in 7 cases convictions were obtained ; in one the accused was acquitted ; and 7 cases were still pending on the 9th of August.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Are these burglaries in any way connected with the presence of Honourable Members of this House there ? (Laughter.)

(No answer was given.)

APPOINTMENT OF WHOLE-TIME LAWYERS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

29. **\*Mr. Anwar-ul-Azim** (on behalf of Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi) : (a) Will Government be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing the number of counsels, solicitors and vakils retained by the East Indian Railway, specifying at the same time the stations at which these gentlemen work ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state if any of these lawyers are whole-time men ?

(c) If the lawyers are not whole-time men, are Government prepared to consider the desirability of maintaining whole-time men ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** (a) and (b). The East Indian Railway retain three Counsel at Calcutta.

As solicitors the Railway Administration employ a firm established in Calcutta, but no retainer is paid.

No vakils are retained either in the Calcutta or in the mofussil courts. Where legal proceedings are not conducted by Government advocates or Government pleaders, the Railway Administration selects other pleaders or vakils. These are not specially retained by the Administration. The staff of the Agent's office includes one vakil, who is a whole-time servant of the railway.

(c) The Agent, East Indian Railway, reports that the existing arrangements are satisfactory. Government see no reason to alter them.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** What is the average annual amount of money paid by the East Indian Railway to its legal advisers ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** I am afraid I did not catch the question, Sir.

**Mr. President :** Mr. Anwar-ul-Azim.

#### PROVISION OF SAFER DOORS TO CARRIAGES ON THE BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA AND EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAYS.

30. **\*Mr. Anwar-ul-Azim** (on behalf of Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi) : (a) Are Government aware that the doors of railway carriages on the Bombay, Baroda and Central India and Eastern Bengal Railways open outwards and are most dangerous from the point of view of public safety ?

(b) Do Government propose to take steps to rectify this ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** Government are aware that the doors of many of the carriages on the Bombay, Baroda and Central India and Eastern Bengal Railways open outwards ; but they are informed that, on most of the railways on the Continent of Europe and Great Britain, the arrangement is the same ; and they cannot therefore agree that such doors are dangerous from the point of view of public safety.

#### PROVISION OF FANS IN INTERMEDIATE AND THIRD CLASS COMPARTMENTS OF STATE RAILWAYS.

31. **\*Mr. Anwar-ul-Azim** (on behalf of Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi) : (a) Are Government aware that passengers travelling in intermediate and third class carriages are subjected to great hardships owing to the want of fans ?

(b) Do Government propose to take steps to provide fans in the intermediate and third class compartments in all the State Railways ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** I would refer the Honourable Member to the replies given by Mr. Parsons to Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan's questions Nos. 1160 and 1161 on the 25th March 1927.

**ACTION OF CERTAIN RAILWAY SERVANTS, CAUSING DISCOMFORT TO THE WIFE AND FAMILY OF KHWAJA HASAN NIZAMI SAHIB AT THE DELHI RAILWAY STATION.**

32. \*Maulvi Muhammad Yakub : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to an editorial note published in the *Himmat* of Lucknow, dated the 23rd June 1929 (page 3), relating to the misbehaviour of one Hindu and two Anglo-Indian railway servants towards the famous religious leader and distinguished author of the day, namely, Khwaja Hasan Nizami Sahib, at the Delhi Railway Station ?

(b) Is it a fact that the wife and children of the Khwaja Sahib were removed from a second class compartment in order to make room for some Anglo-Indian ladies ?

(c) Is it also a fact that one of the children, who was removed from the compartment, was ill and that it caused him great trouble to be removed from one compartment to another ?

(d) Is it also a fact that the Khwaja Sahib had a five-seated second class compartment reserved three days before he started on his journey ?

(e) What steps were taken by the railway authorities against the servants concerned and if none, why not ?

(f) Are Government prepared to inquire into the matter and furnish a satisfactory answer ?

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

(b) to (d). The information furnished by the Agent of the North Western Railway shows that Khwaja Hasan Nizami Sahib wrote to the Station Superintendent, Delhi, on the 5th June for six second class berths to be reserved for him on 7th June from Delhi to Hyderabad (Deccan), and that a reply was sent to him the same day saying that the accommodation would be reserved if available, but could not be guaranteed.

On arrival of the train at Delhi 12 second class berths were available, eight in one compartment and four in another. Reservations had been booked at Delhi for 16 berths in all. The compartment with 8 berths was labelled as reserved for a party of 9 who had applied for reservation prior to Khwaja Hasan Nizami Sahib, but it was occupied by the Khwaja Sahib's party before the arrival of the passengers for whom it had been reserved, the Khwaja Sahib apparently not having noticed that the reservation label bore another person's name.

The Station Master was sent for and explained that the compartment had been reserved for another party, and that those for whom second class accommodation was not available could be accommodated in the first class on payment of the difference of fares.

The station staff state that it was not brought to their notice that one of the children was ill.

(e) The Divisional Superintendent, North Western Railway, Delhi, investigated the matter and found that the Khwaja Sahib's party were accommodated to the best advantage in the circumstances, and that there was no irregularity committed by the station staff, and an explanatory reply was sent on 18th July to a letter of complaint which had been received by the Divisional Superintendent.

(f) It does not appear that any further inquiry by Government is necessary.

**CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY STATE RAILWAYS TOWARDS THE EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN OF EUROPEAN AND INDIAN EMPLOYEES OF STATE RAILWAYS.**

33. \***Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if the State Railways contribute towards the expenses for educating the children of European railway employees in hill stations such as Simla, Mussorie and Murree ? If so, how much contribution is being made ?

(b) Do the State Railways make any contribution for educating the children of Indian railway employees ? If so, how much is the contribution made ? If not, why not ?

(c) Do Government propose to direct that suitable contribution be paid to the children of the Indian railway employees for educating them in schools on the aforesaid hill stations ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : (a) and (b). Government have no list of particular hill schools in which children of employees of State Railways are receiving assistance. Whatever information is available is contained in the Report on the expenditure of the Railways on the education of the children of employees in 1925-26, a copy of which is in the Library.

(c) The Honourable Member is referred to the statement which was laid on the table on 19th February, 1929, in which the future policy for assistance to railway employees for the education of their children is described.

**PUBLICATION, FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE PUBLIC, OF INSTRUCTIONS TO INCOME-TAX OFFICERS NOT CONTAINED IN THE INCOME-TAX MANUAL.**

34. \***Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that several instructions, regarding the working of the Income-tax Act given to the Income-tax Officers, have not been incorporated in the Income-tax Manual for the information of the public ?

(b) If so, do Government propose to issue such instructions ?

(c) Are Government prepared to direct that fresh instructions issued by the Central Board and which do not appear in the Income-tax Manual, be published in some journal for the information of the public ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : I will answer parts (a), (b) and (c) together.

There are certain kinds of instructions which have been issued from time to time to Income-tax Officers, and which have not been published in the Manual. These fall into two classes :

1st, instructions which are not considered of sufficient importance for inclusion.

2nd, instructions which for special reasons it is not desirable to publish.

As regards the 1st class—it is merely a matter of public convenience. The Income-tax Manual is already very bulky and it leads to confusion if correction lists are too long. As regards the 2nd class—it sometimes happens that instructions of a provisional nature have to be issued, for example when it is found that a particular provision in the Act is open to different interpretations ; it may be necessary to give Income-tax Officers some guidance as to how they are to act until the ambiguity is cleared up by a

decision in a High Court or by special amending legislation. Or again complicated cases may arise where evasion has been attempted, and in such cases the information would be passed on to the Income-tax Officers with perhaps instructions as to how such attempts should be dealt with. Instructions of this kind would obviously not be suitable for publication.

In both the above classes of cases it is desirable that a reasonable discretion should be exercised in the public interest as to publication. I do not think that any further steps are required at present for this discretion is most carefully exercised.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the Honourable Member please say how the public are to know of these fresh instructions when they are being given effect to, if they are not published in any journal or paper ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** If the public have any complaint to make, they have their proper methods of doing so. It is a question of the instructions by which the Income-tax Officers act.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** That would be remedying the evil, but the prevention of the evil would be by publishing the information. Will the Honourable Member please see that, when fresh instructions are issued, they should be published for the information of the public ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** I think, if the Honourable Member will, at his leisure, read the very full answer which I have just given him, he will realise that there are definite reasons why, in certain cases, instructions cannot be published. If the Honourable Member will take the trouble to read my answer and then ask me any further questions again at a later date in the Session, I shall do my best to answer them.

**NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR A CHANGE IN THE ACCOUNTING PERIOD RECEIVED BY THE INCOME-TAX OFFICERS OF KARACHI.**

35. **\*Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will Government be pleased to state how many applications were received by each of the two Income-tax Officers in Karachi during the assessment years 1927-28 and 1928-29 for a change in the accounting period, in accordance with paragraph 5 of the Income-tax Manual, and how many of these were rejected, and for what reasons ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement showing the number of applications filed by assesses for a change in their accounting period and sanctioned by the two Income-tax Officers in Karachi city during 1927-28 and 1928-29.*

Year.	A. Division, Karachi. No. of applications.		B. Division, Karachi. No. of applications.	
	Filed.	Granted.	Filed.	Granted.
1927-28 . . . . .	3	3	0	0
1928-29 . . . . .	4	4	2	2
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	7	7	2	2

**NUMBER OF NOTICES ISSUED TO REGISTERED FIRMS FOR RENEWALS IN SIND  
IN THE YEARS 1927-28 AND 1928-29.**

36. \***Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : Will Government be pleased to state the number of cases in the years 1927-28 and 1928-29, in all Income-tax offices in Sind in which, in pursuance of the instructions given to them by the Central Board of Revenue (as stated in answer to paragraph 1 of my question No. 139 put on 5th September 1928), they issued notices to the registered firms for renewals ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : In order that I may be able to answer this question clearly it is necessary for me to explain the present position which is as follows :

With the object of saving firms from losing the privilege of registration through oversight, the Central Board of Revenue issued orders in 1926 incorporating, in the form of notice calling for the return of income, an additional paragraph which runs :

“ If you wish your firm registered or re-registered under section 2 (14) of the Act and rules 2 to 6, an application signed by one or more of the partners, in the form and with the accompaniments prescribed in the rules, may be submitted at any time before the assessment is made. It is desirable, however, that it should accompany your return of income. ”

This notice is, therefore, issued in all cases.

The Board also issued instructions to the effect that, where a firm which had been registered in the previous year did not submit an application with its return of income for renewal of registration, the Income-tax Officer should ascertain whether the omission was intentional. No special procedure was prescribed for doing this, it being left to the discretion of the Income-tax Officer how he should satisfy himself that the omission to apply for registration was intentional.

It will be observed that this additional instruction to the Department was not to the effect that a second notice should be issued asking whether the firm desired to be registered, but to the effect that the Income-tax Officer should ascertain and satisfy himself that firms which had not applied for renewal of registration did in fact not wish to be re-registered. The Government have, as a result of inquiries made since this question was put, ascertained that the orders of the Board were misconstrued in Sind and that the amendment of the notice calling for a return of income was interpreted as cancelling the orders (issued a few days earlier) that the Income-tax Officer should personally ascertain from the assessee whether the omission to apply for registration was intentional. The Government regret that this error was not previously brought to light and suitable instructions for its correction have now been issued.

**Mr. E. L. Price** : I want to ask a supplementary question, Sir. I understood Sir George Schuster to say that the firms have to supply the Income-tax Officer merely with a statement. May I inform Sir George Schuster that the Income-tax Department in Karachi always insist on the actual stamped partnership deed, which is a sort of document that people are unwilling to part with for long periods. I have known.....

**Mr. President** : Order, order. The Honourable Member must put a supplementary question and not make a statement.

**NUMBER OF FIRMS IN SIND NOT GIVEN THE BENEFIT OF REGISTRATION FOR WANT OF APPLICATIONS IN THE YEARS 1927-28 AND 1928-29.**

37. \*Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing separately, for the years 1927-28 and 1928-29, for the "A" and "B" Divisions of Karachi City and the other charges of the respective Income-tax offices in Sind, the number of "registered firms" which were not given the benefit of registration in these years for want of applications for "renewals" ?

The Honourable Sir George Schuster : A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement showing number of registered firms which were not given the benefit of registration for want of applications for renewals in Sind during 1927-28 and 1928-29.*

Name of Circle.	1927-28.	1928-29.
Karachi . . . . .	14	15
Hyderabad . . . . .	Nil.	Nil.
Sukkur . . . . .	"	"
Shikarpur . . . . .	"	"
Thar Parkar . . . . .	"	"
Larkana . . . . .	"	"
Total . . . . .	14	15

**RETENTION FOR LONG PERIODS BY INCOME-TAX OFFICERS OF PARTNERSHIP DEEDS SENT TO THEM FOR REGISTRATION.**

38. \*Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : (a) Will Government be pleased to state what instructions have been issued to the Income-tax Officers regarding the custody of deeds of partnership forwarded by firms for registration under section 2 (14) of the Act and rules framed under section 59 ?

(b) Are Government aware that the partnership deeds are retained by Income-tax Officers for long periods even after the assessment matters of "registered firms" have been decided ?

(c) Do Government propose to issue instructions that they should be returned early ?

The Honourable Sir George Schuster : (a) It is not clear what the Honourable Member means by the word "custody", that is, whether "safe-keeping" or "retention", a matter referred to in parts (b) and (c) of the question. If the word is used in the former sense, no rules have been issued nor, so far as the Government are aware, are any necessary. If in the latter sense, the Honourable Member is referred to rules 3 and 4 of the Indian Income-tax Rules which lay down that when an application for registration is made the assessee must present either the original deed of partnership, together with a copy, or a certified copy of the deed, together with a copy. After entering on the original deed or the certified copy a certificate in a prescribed form, and after signing and dating such certificate, the original deed or the certified copy must be returned to the assessee, the copy or duplicate copy, as the case may be, being retained by the Income-tax Officer.

(b) and (c). The Government of India are not aware that the rules on the subject are not being followed, and they have therefore no reason for issuing any instructions in the matter. But, if the Honourable Member knows of any definite case in which an Income-tax Officer has not observed the rules, they would be glad if he would bring it to the notice of the Commissioner of Income-tax concerned.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** What I meant by the word "custody" was keeping back in their possession. The partnership deeds are kept for a long time in possession of the Income-tax Officers and that causes.....

**Mr. President :** Order, Order. What is the question ?

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** The question is why they should be allowed to be kept. In any case, is the Honourable Member prepared to give instructions to the Income-tax Officers to return them as soon as they possibly can ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** I think I may say that, in my answer, I dealt with every conceivable alternative interpretation of the Honourable Member's question, and I have already told him that if he knows of any definite case in which deeds have been kept longer than they should have been kept, I should be very glad if he would bring it to my notice so that suitable instructions could be issued.

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS UNDER SECTION 27 OF THE INCOME-TAX ACT RECEIVED IN EACH OF THE INCOME-TAX OFFICES IN SIND IN 1927-28 AND 1928-29.

39. \***Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will Government be pleased to state for each of the Income-tax offices in Sind how many applications under section 27 of the Act were received during the years 1927-28 and 1928-29 and how many of these were rejected ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement showing the number of applications made under section 27 of the Income-tax Act in Sind for the years 1927-28 and 1928-29 and the number of applications rejected.*

Name of the Income-tax Office.	1927-28.		1928-29.	
	Applications received.	Applications rejected.	Applications received.	Applications rejected.
Karachi City . . . . .	49	37	96	72
Karachi District . . . . .	34	26	51	48
Hyderabad . . . . .	86	59	45	35
Sukkur . . . . .	18	13	24	11
Shikarpur . . . . .	3	2	26	20
Larkana . . . . .	24	15	18	16
Nawabshah . . . . .	8	7	8	..
Thar Parkar District . . . . .	40	19	64	50
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>252</b>

**NUMBER OF NOTICES, ASSESSMENTS AND APPEALS IN CERTAIN CASES IN EACH OF THE INCOME-TAX OFFICES IN SIND IN 1927-28 AND 1928-29.**

40. \***Mr. Lalchand Nayalrai** : Will Government be pleased to obtain and lay on the table a statement for each of the Income-tax offices in Sind the following information for each of the two years, 1927-28 and 1928-29 :

- (a) Number of assesseees to whom notices under section 22 (2) were issued—Hindus, Mahomedans, Christians and others ;
- (b) Number of cases in which assessments were made by Income-tax Officers under section 23 (4)—Hindus, Mahomedans, Christians and others ; and
- (c) Number of cases in which appeals were filed—Hindus, Mahomedans and Christians—and how many were decided in favour of the appellants ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : I regret that I cannot comply with the Honourable Member's request. The compilation of the statistics asked for would involve a very considerable waste of time for the officials concerned and would not be justified in the public interest. I am unable, therefore, to direct that it be undertaken.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

**ALLEGED UNDERTAKING GIVEN BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, REGARDING THE PUBLIC SAFETY BILL.**

**Diwan Chaman Lall** : (1) Will Government state whether any undertaking was given to the Secretary of State for India on behalf of the Government of India in regard to the Public Safety Bill as stated in the Press ?

(2) Will Government state whether it is a fact that the Secretary of State for India sanctioned the change in the rules governing the conduct of business of the Legislative Assembly relating to the power of the President to prevent or delay the making or discussion of a motion relating to a Bill, on the express understanding that the Public Safety Bill would not be proceeded with ?

(3) Will Government state whether it is their intention to proceed with the Public Safety Bill ? If the reply to this question is in the negative, will Government state whether the situation in India has so altered as to make it unnecessary for the Government to proceed with the Public Safety Bill, and whether, and if so what, circumstances have arisen under which the Government have been compelled to alter their decision to proceed with the Public Safety Bill ?

**The Honourable Sir James Orerar** : (1) and (2). I am not aware of the statement in the Press to which the Honourable Member refers ; but if the alleged undertaking is that mentioned in part 2 of the question, the reply is that no such condition was suggested or imposed.

(3) Government are advised that the ruling of the Honourable the President, given on 11th of April 1929, is still operative and precludes the resumption of the discussion of the motion that the present Bill,

which was introduced last Session, be taken into consideration. Meanwhile, the Public Safety Ordinance is in force and the future course to be taken by Government in regard to activities, which the provisions of the Public Safety Bill and Ordinance are intended to control, will depend upon contingencies which cannot at this juncture be determined.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE REGARDING THE AMENDMENT OF THE INDIAN LEGISLATIVE RULES : CONSULTATION OF A CONSTITUTIONAL LAWYER AND OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND COUNCIL OF STATE THEREON.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** : I gave notice of two short notice questions. The first has been covered by the answer which has just been given by the Honourable the Home Member. I should therefore like to put the second short notice question. (a) With reference to the recent amendment of the Indian Legislative Rules, will Government be pleased to lay on the table the correspondence between the Government of India and the Secretary of State on the subject, stating at the same time whether opinion of any constitutional lawyer in England was obtained prior to its approval by the Secretary of State ?

(b) Were the Honourable the Presidents of the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State consulted in the matter ; and if so, will Government be pleased to lay on the table their recorded opinions ?

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : (a) Government are not prepared to lay the correspondence on the table. They are not aware whether the opinion of any constitutional lawyer in England was obtained by the Secretary of State before granting sanction to the new rule.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

**Kumar Ganganand Sinha** : Why ?

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : Because it will not be in the public interest.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** : Is it that the Honourable the Presidents of both Chambers were not at all consulted, or is it that the Government are not prepared to give those answers to us ? The question relates to two different points.

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : They were not consulted.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** : What was the reason for not consulting them ?

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : If I am compelled to answer that question, I would say, not necessary.

#### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

##### PROVISION OF A LAVATORY FOR FIRST AND SECOND CLASS PASSENGERS AT DINDIGUL RAILWAY STATION.

1. **Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer** : (a) Are Government aware that at the Dindigul Railway Station there is no lavatory for first and second class passengers ?

(b) Are Government aware that there is a lavatory for " European gentlemen " as it is so marked in the signboard ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state how long this practice has continued ?

(d) Do Government propose to remove the said signboard for " European gentlemen " and substitute in its place, " For first and second class passengers only " ?

(e) Are Government aware that there is only a combined waiting room for first and second class passengers with no lavatory attached thereto ?

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

(c) Information is not available but the arrangement has probably existed since the lavatory was built.

(d) Orders to effect the proposed alteration have been given by the Agent of the South Indian Railway.

(e) Yes. In the remodelling of this station, which is being undertaken, this waiting room will be provided with a bath room.

#### PROVISION OF SECOND CLASS COMPARTMENTS AND LAVATORIES ON THE NILGIRI MOUNTAIN RAILWAY.

**2. Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer :** (a) Are Government aware that there is no second class on the Nilgiri Mountain Railway as on the Kalka-Simla line ?

(b) Are Government prepared to consider the advisability of introducing second class compartments on the said Railway ? If not, why not ?

(c) Are Government aware that through second class passengers' booking is not possible from Madras to Ootacamund in the absence of second class accommodation ?

(d) Are Government aware that the first class compartments on the said Railway have no lavatories attached to them ?

(e) If the answer to part (d) is in the affirmative, do Government propose to arrange the reconstruction of first class compartments on the said Railway on the model of the Simla-Kalka line ? If so, when ? If not, why not ?

(f) Is it a fact that the third class compartments on the Simla-Kalka line have lavatories whereas on the Mettupalayam-Ootacamund line the third class passengers do not have the same convenience ?

(g) Do Government propose to take steps to remove the said difficulty to passengers on the Nilgiri Mountain Railway ? If not, why not ?

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

(b) Second class accommodation was abolished in 1910 to effect economy in working and to enable the Railway to carry additional third class traffic. At the same time the first class fare was reduced to the level of second class fare and arrangements were made for all second class through passengers to travel first class on the Mountain Railway.

(c) I am afraid my Honourable friend has been misinformed. The Agent, South Indian Railway, reports that second class passengers can

at present book through to Ootacamund and travel first class on the Mountain Railway without extra charge.

(d) to (g). Lavatory accommodation is not provided on any of the rolling stock on the Nilgiri Railway owing to the limited number of coaches and passenger accommodation rendered necessary by the steep grades on this line, but lavatories are provided at Mettupalaiyam, Hillgrove, Coonoor and Ootacamund stations, the run between these stations being 1½ hours, 1 hour and 1¼ hours, respectively. I am informed that the question of providing lavatory accommodation both in first and third class carriages was again considered recently ; but owing to the resulting reduction in seating accommodation, which in the busy season is barely sufficient, and to the fact that lavatories are provided at the above mentioned stations, such provision in the coaches was not considered necessary.

**PROVISION OF SUITABLE WAITING ROOMS FOR PILGRIMS AND FOR FIRST AND SECOND CLASS PASSENGERS AT PALNI STATION ON THE SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY.**

3. **Mr. O. S. Ranga Iyer :** (1) Are Government aware :

(a) that during the festivals at Palni station on the South Indian Railway low thatched sheds are erected to accommodate passengers ?

(b) that the said sheds are not cleaned or swept ?

(c) that the ordinary waiting room for third class passengers does not accommodate the pilgrims even on ordinary days ?

(2) Are Government prepared to take steps to construct a large waiting room for the pilgrims who go to Palni by train ? If not, why not ?

(3) Are Government aware that there is no waiting room for 1st and 2nd class passengers in Palni station ? Do Government propose to construct one ? If not, why not ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** 1. (a) From information furnished by the Agent of the South Indian Railway, it has been ascertained that during festival times thatched sheds are erected for the accommodation of the pilgrims and that these sheds are sufficiently high for the convenience of the occupants.

(b) Special sweepers are appointed to keep these sheds clean and they are swept out each time the pilgrims vacate them.

(c) A new station building is to be built at Palni and will include a 3rd class waiting hall large enough for ordinary requirements.

2. In addition a large permanent waiting hall for use during festival times is being provided.

3. The arrangements in the new station which is to be constructed, include a waiting room for 1st and 2nd class passengers.

NUMBER OF STOCK RAISED, AND COST OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE ARMY REMOUNT DEPÔT AT SARGODHA.

4. **Sardar Gulab Singh** : Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing year by year, since 1906, in the Sargodha Colony of the Circle Army Remount :

- (1) what number of young stock had been produced by the Ghoripal zamindars yearly ;
- (2) what number of young stock had been purchased by the Government and what number refused and for what reasons ;
- (3) what was the amount of fines imposed yearly on Ghoripals on account of negligence in their duties ;
- (4) what amount of land was resumed temporarily on remount complaints yearly ;
- (5) what amount of land was resumed due to the remount complaint and given on lease and what amount of this lease money is credited to the Government and what amount paid to the tenants ;
- (6) what amount of land was given yearly on lease to minors and were all such minors paid their lease money at the time of their attaining their majority ;
- (7) what amount of money has the Circle Army Remount, Sargodha, been spending yearly since 1906 ;
- (8) what amount of canal land has been given to the Army Remount, Sargodha, to support and what is the annual income therefrom ;
- (9) is there one, Malik Alam Sher, an Indian Officer, who has been working for the last four or five years in the Circle Army Remount Depôt, Sargodha, and are Government aware of the fact that the zamindars are discontented with his behaviour ? If so, why has he not been transferred as yet under the three years' rule of transfer ;
- (10) is there one, Ilam Din, an Inspector, who has been working in the Sargodha Colony for the last 20 years ? If so, why has he not been transferred as yet ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham** : (1) to (7). The collection of the information required would involve a minute search into voluminous records extending over a period of 23 years and would entail an amount of time and labour which, in the opinion of Government, would not be commensurate with the result.

(8) Unless the Honourable Member can specify the land he refers to with more precision, I am afraid I cannot give him the information he requires.

(9) The answer to the first portion is in the affirmative. Government have received no complaints from the zamindars regarding this officer's behaviour. The concluding portion of the question does not arise, but I may inform the Honourable Member that there is no rule under which Indian officers of the Army Remount Department must be transferred after they have completed 3 years in one appointment.

(10) Yes. He has been retained in his present appointment for administrative reasons.

**AMOUNT OF MONEY EXACTED FOR LAND BY THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.**

5. **Mr. E. L. Price :** Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) whether before the Government of India Act (1919) the Military Department ever received money for lands from the Civil Department ;
- (b) what moneys the Military Department has exacted for lands from the Government of Bombay since the Government of India Act (1919) came into operation ; and
- (c) how such moneys have been accounted for in the Budget, *i.e.*, whether they have been shown as actual receipts or only utilised to reduce the gross military expenditure published ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** (a) When transfers of land took place before 1919, the rules provided for payments to be made from Imperial to Provincial revenues, and *vice versa*, with due regard to the circumstances in which the occupation of the property originated and to the expense which the transferring Government had to incur as a direct consequence of the transfer. Under these rules I have no doubt that instances occurred in which the Military Department received payment for lands transferred to local Governments.

(b) Since 1919, and the separation of Central and Provincial revenues that then took place, the rules regulating the transfer of land between the Central and Provincial Governments have necessarily taken a more commercial complexion. There have been many transactions since 1919 both in lands, and also in lands and buildings, between the Government of India and the Government of Bombay. I have attempted to ascertain the amount received by each party as a result of these transactions, but I find that it would be impossible to give figures without a very great deal of labour. I may, however, assure the Honourable Member that there has never been any question of exacting money from the Government of Bombay. No Local Government can be compelled to assume possession of land against its will, and if the Government of India have received considerable sums from the Government of Bombay for surrendered land, it is equally true that the Government of Bombay have received large amounts from the Government of India for land acquired by them.

(c) When money is received by the Government of India in return for the surrender of military land and buildings, it is either credited to a special account, which is drawn upon as required to provide funds for expenditure on new buildings elsewhere, or in some cases, with the concurrence of the Local Government, a Special Land Exchange Scheme is agreed upon, under which the proceeds of a particular surrender are devoted to the provision of a particular new site and the erection of the necessary buildings thereon. The special account referred to is maintained outside the Army Estimates, but any withdrawals from it are displayed on the receipt side of the Budget. In the same way, expenditure under any special Land Exchange Scheme is shewn on the

expenditure side of the Budget and is counterbalanced by equivalent payments shewn either on the receipt side, or by deduction from expenditure. In other words, the gross military expenditure and receipts are increased, while the net grant remains unaffected.

#### UTILISATION OF PROFITS EARNED BY CANTONMENTS.

6. **Mr. E. L. Price** : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) whether cantonments are administered as profit-earning concerns generally or only in Karachi ; and
- (b) how such profits are accounted for in the Budget, *i.e.*, whether they are shown as actual receipts or only utilised to reduce the gross military expenditure published ?

**Mr. G. B. F. Tottenham** : (a) No cantonment is administered as a profit-earning concern, but every cantonment like every other municipal administration, is expected to be self-supporting so far as possible.

(b) Cantonment Funds are local funds administered by local self-governing bodies known as Cantonment Authorities. They are not Government funds and do not therefore appear in any shape or form in the Military Budget. Any surplus in the Cantonment Fund is available for expenditure on the needs of the cantonment ; while Government are under an obligation, in certain circumstances, to make good any deficit by giving the cantonment a grant-in-aid.

#### LEVY OF TERMINAL TAXES.

7. **Mr. E. L. Price** : Will Government be pleased to state whether any final conclusions have been reached by Government on the recommendations of the Taxation Inquiry Committee in regard to the levy of terminal taxes ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : The position with regard to the levy of terminal tax by a Municipal Committee has recently been dealt with in letter No. 133-L.S.G., dated 2nd August 1929, from the Government of India, Department of Education, Health and Lands, to the Government of the Punjab, which has presumably been seen by the Honourable Member by now. As explained therein, previous sanction of the Governor General in Council to the imposition of terminal tax by a municipality is only necessary when the tax is first imposed in a local area in which octroi was not levied on or before the 6th July 1917. In other cases, the Local Governments are themselves competent to sanction or refuse to sanction the proposed tax. The Government of India cannot interfere in the matter under Devolution Rule 49, as, under this rule, they can exercise their powers of superintendence, direction and control only for certain limited purposes. The question whether any, and if so, what, changes are required in the present constitutional position in regard to the levy of octroi and terminal taxation by local bodies has been referred by the Government of India to the Indian Statutory Commission (*vide* paragraphs 10 to 24 of Part B of the Memorandum presented by the Government of India to the Statutory Commission, on the subject of the financial relations between the Government of India and

the Provincial Governments). The Government of India do not propose to take any further action in the matter at present. They must wait until the Statutory Commission have made their recommendations as to the future financial relations between the Central Government and the Provincial Governments and until the outlines of the future constitution have been settled.

#### APPOINTMENT OF SIKHS TO THE INDIAN FOREST SERVICE.

8. **Sardar Gulab Singh** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many Sikhs were qualified in the Indian Forest Service examinations held by the Public Service Commission during the last two years ?

(b) If it is true that one or more Sikhs were qualified, is it a fact that none was selected as a probationer by nomination for the purpose of adjusting communal inequality ?

(c) If no Sikh was in fact selected as such, will Government be pleased to state to which community the selected candidates belonged ?

(d) Is it a fact that the qualified Sikh was equally entitled to be selected by nomination last year ?

(e) Do Government propose to see that the rights of the Sikhs are not in future overlooked by the Government in the Indian Forest Service, and will Government be pleased to state if any qualified Sikh is likely to be selected by nomination in the said service this year ?

(f) Is it a fact that no Sikh is a member of the Public Service Commission, and if so, will Government be pleased to state how the interests of the Sikhs are being safeguarded in that body ?

**Sir Frank Noyce** : (a) None in 1927 and one in 1928.

(b) Yes.

(c) The candidate selected in 1927 was a Muslim and the one selected in 1928 an Anglo-Indian.

(d) The mere fact that a candidate has attained the qualifying standard does not confer on him a right to be selected. In this connection the Honourable Member's attention is invited to part IV of the Indian Forest Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1928, published with Government of India notification No. 592, dated the 2nd May 1928.

(e) The rights of all minor communities are carefully considered before nomination is made. As regards the second part of the question, Government are unable to make a statement, as the result of the competitive examination held in July last is an important factor and is not yet known.

(f) Yes. The Commission is an impartial body which may be relied upon to pay the fullest regard to all interests entrusted to it.

#### NUMBER OF MUHAMMADANS APPOINTED AS ASSISTANT SURGEONS ON THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

9. **Maulvi Abdul Matin Chaudhury** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many appointments of Assistant Surgeons have been made by the Eastern Bengal Railway this year ?

(b) How many of them are Muhammadans ?

**Mr. P. E. Rau :** (a) Six.

(b) One.

**PAY OF CLERKS IN DEPARTMENTS UNDER THE CENTRAL BOARD OF REVENUE,  
BOMBAY.**

10. **Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta :** Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware :

- (a) that the clerical time-scales of pay in all the Imperial Government Departments in Bombay, except those under the Central Board of Revenue, have been revised since 1923 ;
- (b) that the representation from the clerical staff of the Departments in Bombay under the Central Board of Revenue for a revision of their time-scale of pay has recently been refused by the Central Board of Revenue ; and
- (c) that the conditions of service and locality are the same for all the clerical staffs whether under the Central Board of Revenue or in other Departments of the Government of India ?

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

(c) If by conditions of service and locality the Honourable Member means the places in which the staff reside and the method of travel to and from their work, the answer is in the affirmative. On the other hand the Government are not prepared to accept the further implication that the nature of the duties to be performed or the qualifications required are the same as in other Central Departments.

**PAY OF CLERKS IN DEPARTMENTS UNDER THE CENTRAL BOARD OF REVENUE,  
BOMBAY.**

11. **Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta :** Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware :

- (a) that the only reason for refusing to revise the time-scale of pay of the clerical staff in Bombay under the Central Board of Revenue was the ground of comparison with the offices of the Bombay Government ;
- (b) that the Local Government have sanctioned a revised scale to the members of the clerical staff in their Secretariat ; and
- (c) that similar conditions exist for their clerical staff in their Secretariat as well as in the other Departments in Bombay under the Local Government ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) The reason for refusing to revise the time-scale was that the Government held the existing scale to be adequate. In reaching this conclusion, they were largely influenced by the comparison to which the question refers.

(b) Even if the fact is as stated, as to which the Government of India have no precise information, it is not relevant to the case of clerks in

departments under the Central Board of Revenue. In determining the pay of these clerks comparison was made with other offices under the Bombay Government and not with the Secretariat. According to the latest information of the Government of India, there has been no revision of pay in the non-Secretariat offices under the Local Government.

(c) As the establishments mentioned in this part of the question belong to the Local Government, that Government has been asked what reply can be given to it. The Honourable Member will be informed of the result as soon as the Local Government has answered the reference.

#### PAY OF CLERKS IN DEPARTMENTS UNDER THE CENTRAL BOARD OF REVENUE, BOMBAY.

12. **Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta** : (1) Are Government aware :

- (a) that the Rules governing the services of the clerical employees of the Local Government in Bombay are somewhat different from those of members under the Government of India ; and
- (b) that the scales of pay of clerks in other Imperial Government Departments (except under the Central Board of Revenue) in Bombay, have been revised since 1923, while the request for the revision of pay of the clerical staff in Bombay under the Central Board of Revenue has been negatived for a number of years ?

(2) If the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, are Government now prepared to take steps to revise the pay of the clerical establishments in Bombay under the control of the Central Board of Revenue ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : (1) (a) The meaning of the question is not understood, and the Government of India regret to be unable to reply.

(b) Yes.

(2) The Departments under the Central Board of Revenue were administered through the Agency of the Local Government until taken over directly in recent years (from 1922 with the Income-tax Department to 1926 with the Salt Department) ; and the pay of establishments was naturally fixed with reference to that of other similar establishments under the Local Government. The change in control did not appear to the Government of India to be in itself a justification for a revision of pay. In these circumstances the Government do not consider it desirable to undertake a revision of the rates of pay for the clerical establishments referred to, unless this could be done as a result of a general survey of the rates of pay of clerks in all Departments subordinate to the Central Government to be undertaken in co-operation, with similar surveys by the Provincial Governments.

#### PAY OF THE MINISTERIAL STAFF OF THE INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENT, BOMBAY.

13. **Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta** : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether it is a fact that they have undertaken to keep the income-tax records *strictly confidential* ;

- (b) whether it is a fact that such records mostly pass or are being dealt with and are even in charge of the low paid members of the clerical staff ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that, while sanctioning a higher scale of pay to (i) Income-tax Officers, (ii) Examiners of Accounts and (iii) Inspectors in the Bombay City, Government thought that an incumbent adequately paid will not ordinarily be tempted to illicit practices ;
- (d) if the answers to parts (a), (b) and (c) above be in the affirmative, whether Government considered the question that the members of the ministerial staff too should be adequately paid to avoid any prevailing discontent or any consequent malpractice or corruption ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) Section 54 (1) of the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, provides that income-tax records shall be treated as confidential.

(b) All members of the clerical staff have to deal with assessment records in the ordinary course of their duties.

(c) Special qualifications are required for the assessing staff and their salary is arranged accordingly.

(d) It is the view of the Government of India that the ministerial staff are adequately paid. It is therefore unnecessary to deal with the implication contained in this question, except to state that it casts an unmerited slur on the clerical staff employed in the Income-tax Department.

**NUMBER OF ASSESSMENT CASES DEALT WITH IN DIFFERENT PROVINCES, AND PAY OF THE MINISTERIAL STAFF OF THE INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENT.**

**14. Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta :** Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of assessment cases dealt with by an Income-tax Officer in a year in the several provinces in British India ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the number of cases decided by an Income-tax Officer in Bombay is far greater than that in other provinces ;
- (c) if the answer to (b) above be in the affirmative, if it is not a fact that this annual turnover is due to the help the Income-tax Officer gets at the hands of his subordinate ministerial staff ; and
- (d) whether Government propose to take steps to remove the injustice by granting the revision of pay applied for by them from time to time ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) The number of assessment cases dealt with by each assessing officer in the year 1928-29 in the several provinces was as follows :

Madras	..	1,165
Bombay	..	1,563

Bengal	..	..	..	956
United Provinces	..	..	..	741
Punjab	..	..	..	1,050
Burma (1927-28)	..	..	..	779
Bihar and Orissa	..	..	..	735
Central Provinces	..	..	..	839

(b) The figures given above supply the answer to this question.

(c) Income-tax Officers in Bombay are able to deal with a large number of cases because they receive help from Examiners and Inspectors to a greater degree than in other provinces. The clerical staff is not employed to scrutinise the cases or put up notes, other than routine notes relating to such matters as the amount of the tax paid in previous year, the question whether the return of income was punctually received, etc. etc. In some cases they also do the arithmetical calculations in connection with refunds. These duties are of a clerical nature.

(d) The Government are not satisfied that there is any injustice to remove.

#### INCREASE OF LEAVE RESERVES FOR THE CLERICAL STAFF OF THE CUSTOMS AND INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENTS, BOMBAY.

15. **Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta** : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) whether they are aware that the sanctioned strength of leave reserve for the clerical staff in the Customs and Income-tax Departments in Bombay is only about 10 per cent. and 8 per cent. respectively, while that in the Office of the Accountant General, Bombay, and the Bombay Posts and Telegraphs is 18 per cent. of the total staff ;
- (b) whether they are aware that the refusal of leave has been a grievance of the clerical staff of the Bombay Customs Department due to inadequacy of leave reserve ; and
- (c) whether Government intend to take steps to increase the leave reserves at an early date ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : (a) The leave reserve for the clerical staff in the Customs Department in Bombay is over 12 per cent. and in the Income-tax Department about 8 per cent. The leave reserve in the Office of the Accountant General, Bombay, is 12 per cent. ; there is also a training reserve of 5 per cent. The leave reserve in the Posts and Telegraphs Department, Bombay, is 10 per cent. in administrative offices, 17 per cent. in post and telegraph offices and 20 per cent. in the Railway Mail Service sections and offices.

(b) The average number of absentees among the clerical staff of the Bombay Customs Department is about equal to the leave reserve. No case has been reported in which leave has been entirely refused, but owing to a tendency for a number of clerks to apply for leave at the same season of the year, a season in which work is particularly heavy, cases occur in which applicants are, at times, required to postpone their leave pending the return of others to duty. The maximum period of such postponement

has been three months, but a more normal figure when leave is not granted immediately is about one month. The fact that such postponements have to occur does not mean that the leave reserve is inadequate, and it must be borne in mind that it is a condition of service as laid down in Fundamental Rule 67 that leave of absence cannot be claimed as of right but must depend upon the exigencies of the public service.

(c) The Government have no present intention of increasing the leave reserves in the Departments named.

**GRANT OF EXTRA PAY TO THE CLERICAL STAFF OF THE INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENTS, BOMBAY, DEALING WITH SPECIAL CASES.**

16. **Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta** : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the post of the Senior Income-tax Officer, Bombay City, was created with a special grade of pay to deal with, among other duties, all the companies' assessments and some assessments in which the income exceeded a lakh of rupees ;
- (b) Whether the remaining cases of incomes over a lakh were being dealt with by an Income-tax Officer for the last so many years without any special allowances ;
- (c) Whether the post of the Senior Income-tax Officer (though formally abolished) still continues to exist and will so continue till its vacation by the present incumbent (who has so far completed only 15 years pensionable service) ;
- (d) If the answers to parts (a), (b) and (c) above be in the affirmative, the circumstances in which special pay of Rs. 150 per mensem each came to be sanctioned for these two posts of the Income-tax Officers dealing with the companies' assessments and assessments of incomes over a lakh of rupees, thus causing extra expense to the public revenue ;
- (e) Whether when Government have been pleased to sanction special remuneration for the two posts of Income-tax Officers, they have granted or intend to grant any extra remuneration to the staff who deal with these important cases ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : (a) At the time of the organisation of the present Income-tax Department in Bombay in 1922 the post of Senior Income-tax Officer, with a special rate of pay, was created with the intention that that officer should deal with all the important assessments in Bombay City.

(b) The work involved in the assessments mentioned in the foregoing paragraph was beyond the capacity of a single officer and a second officer with special qualifications was appointed in 1922 on the maximum pay of the post of Income-tax Officer, namely, Rs. 900 per mensem.

(c) Yes.

(d) Experience has shown that there is no justification for the retention of a special appointment like that of Senior Income-tax Officer on a high rate of pay. But there is ample justification for the grant to two

Income-tax Officers in charge of the important assessment work in Bombay City of special pay of Rs. 150 per mensem each on account of the responsible nature of their work. The circumstances were fully explained to the Standing Finance Committee at the time when the special pay was sanctioned. The re-arrangement was proposed as a measure of economy, although its full effect will not be realised until the present Senior Income-tax Officer has vacated his post.

(e) The burden of assessment work falls entirely on the Income-tax Officer and, because it has been thought proper to give higher pay to two Income-tax Officers, there is no reason to give extra remuneration to the staff which is employed under them.

#### RECRUITMENT OF INCOME-TAX OFFICERS IN BOMBAY.

17. **Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta** : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether it is a fact that some of the Inspectors of Income-tax and Examiners of Accounts in the Bombay Income-tax Office are being taken up to officiate as Income-tax Officers on probation before passing the prescribed examination, and if so the number of those so taken up from (1) Inspectors and (2) Examiners, since 1922 ; and
- (b) If the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, will Government state the reasons for not selecting an equal number of candidates from the Superintendents' cadre ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : (a) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The number of Inspectors and Examiners promoted to be Income-tax Officers since 1922 is 11 and 19, respectively, of whom eight men were originally clerks.

(b) Appointments to the post of Income-tax Officer are made at the present time either from a number of officers of the Income-tax Department, whose selection was approved by the Local Government up to the year 1927 but who have not in all cases yet passed the Departmental examination, or from Examiners and Inspectors who have passed that Examination. The qualifications of Superintendents of offices are generally inferior to those of Examiners and Inspectors and they are not now appointed direct to be Income-tax Officers. But they are eligible for promotion as Examiners or Inspectors.

#### FAILURE OF CERTAIN INCOME-TAX OFFICERS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY TO PASS THE DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATION.

18. **Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta** : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether it is a fact that some of the probationary Income-tax Officers in the Income-tax Department, Bombay Presidency, have failed to pass their departmental examination, and if so, whether Government will be pleased to place on the table the names of those who have so failed to pass the test with the number of chances so far given to each ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that these candidates who have failed to pass the test are allowed to officiate as Income-tax Officers, and if so, whether they will be pleased to state why they have not been reverted, as laid down in the Office Manual ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) Yes. A statement is laid on the table.

(b) The officers in question are officiating as Income-tax Officers. Such officers are expected to pass the departmental examination within a reasonable time and failure to do so involves their reversion. The time for passing the examination by the higher standard has been extended until the next examination in October or November in the case of the first and second officers on the list, and till April in the case of the third officer. The Office Manual referred to has been prepared for departmental use only. In fact it contains no provision which is necessarily inconsistent with the course being followed in these cases.

*Statement showing the Income-tax Officers in the Bombay Presidency who have failed to pass the Departmental Examination completely together with the number of occasions on which they have appeared in the Examination.*

Name.	No. of occasions on which the Departmental Examination has been taken.		Remarks.
	Lower Standard.	Higher Standard.	
1. C. K. Butala, Offg., Income-tax Officer, Surat .. .. .	3	4	
2. J. P. Billimoria, Offg. Income-tax Officer, Bombay .. .. .	2	4	
3. R. V. Raut, Offg. Income-tax Officer, Bombay.	3	1	

#### REPRESENTATION FOR AN INCREASE OF PAY BY THE SUPERINTENDENTS IN THE INCOME-TAX DEPARTMENT, BOMBAY.

19. **Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the scales of pay of the Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents in the various Government Departments (both of the Local and Imperial Governments) stationed in Bombay ?

(b) Are Government aware that the maximum of the grade of a Superintendent in the Income-tax Department is much less than in other Departments ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the grounds for granting higher maximum of the grade of pay to an Income-tax Inspector or the Examiner of Accounts than to a Superintendent ?

(d) Are Government aware that the representation from the Superintendents has been recently turned down by the Board ?

(e) If the answer to part (d) above be affirmative, do Government propose to take steps to remove the long-standing grievance of the Superintendents ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table.

(c) The Superintendent's duties in the Income-tax Department are confined to the supervision of the clerical staff in regard to the observance of the routine work of arranging and maintaining records and registers properly. On the other hand Inspectors and Examiners assist the Income-tax Officer in making assessments. The responsibilities of Examiners and Inspectors are thus greater than those of a Superintendent, and their pay has accordingly been fixed higher than that of a Superintendent.

(d) Yes.

(e) Government believe that the standard of the pay of Income-tax Superintendents represents a fair and just remuneration for their services and do not propose to take any action in the matter.

*Statement showing the scales of pay of Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, etc., in various Departments.*

Department or office.	Designation.	Scale.
		Rs.
Income-tax Department .. ..	Superintendents .. ..	230—10—260—12 —320.
Ditto .. ..	Assistant Superintendents .. ..	170—10—220.
Customs Department .. ..	Superintendents .. ..	275—15—425.
Ditto .. ..	Deputy Superintendents .. ..	110—5—230 <i>plus</i> special pay Rs. 30.
Bombay Secretariat .. ..	Senior Superintendents .. ..	475—25—600.
Ditto .. ..	Junior Superintendents .. ..	320—20—440.
Accountant General's Office, Bombay .. ..	Superintendents .. ..	220—20—500.
Office of the Collector of Bombay	Head Clerk and Head Account- ant.	250—10—300.
Office of the Director of Indus- tries, Bombay .. ..	Head Clerk .. ..	150—10—220.
Factory and Steam Boilers' De- partment under the Collector of Bombay .. ..	Ditto .. ..	200—10—250.
Office of the Land Acquisition Officer, Bombay .. ..	Ditto .. ..	275—15—350.
Office of the Educational Inspec- tor, Bombay .. ..	Ditto .. ..	150—5—200 (with compen- satory allowance of Rs. 25).
Office of the Commissioner of Police, Bombay .. ..	Superintendents .. ..	300—20—400.

**INCREASE OF PAY OF GOVERNMENT CLERKS IN BOMBAY, OR GRANT OF AN ALLOWANCE TO MEET ENHANCED RENTS.**

20. **Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta :** Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) Whether they are aware of the termination of the Rent Act in Bombay since December 1928 ?

- (b) Whether they are aware that the revisions of clerical pay in Bombay City in the years 1920-22 were based on the rents prevailing in Bombay at that time ?
- (c) Whether they are aware that the rents in Bombay have since increased by 50 per cent. under the amendments of the Rent Act itself ?
- (d) Whether they are aware that the middle class servants in Bombay are already contributing about 30 per cent. of their monthly income towards rent when the sanctioned Government percentage is only 10 ?
- (e) Whether they are aware that the tendency to further increase in rents owing to the law of supply and demand in the City of Bombay is manifest ?
- (f) Whether they are aware that they have sanctioned no increase to enable their middle class servants to meet the enhancements described in parts (c) and (e) above ?
- (g) Whether Government had received from the clerical staffs of the Bombay Customs and Income-tax and Salt Departments a resolution urging an increase in pay or grant of an allowance due to abnormal increase in rents ?
- (h) Whether Government refused to consider the above request on the ground that the Local Government of Bombay had taken no steps in the matter ?
- (i) Whether Government have ascertained the rent particulars from the local heads of offices in Bombay as well as the Local Government ?
- (j) If the reply to part (i) be affirmative, then whether Government will be pleased to place the correspondence on the table of the House ?
- (k) Whether Government propose to take steps to sanction the necessary increase ?

**The Honourable Sir James Orerar :** The information asked for is being collected and will be supplied to the Honourable Member in due course.

**PAY OF TEACHERS OF THE GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, DELHI, AND NAME AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE HEAD MASTER.**

**21. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the reason why only 5 out of 21 men have reached the maximum of their scale of pay ? [*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 3 (c) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, regarding "the Pay of the Teachers of the Government High School, Delhi".]

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the name and qualifications of the Head Master of the Government High School, Delhi, and what his pay in September 1922 was when he was appointed, and what his pay now is ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) The 16 teachers, other than the five who have reached the maximum, have not reached the maximum of their scale

of pay, as none of them has put in the five years' service in their grades which is necessary to reach the maximum.

(b) It is presumed that the Honourable Member asks for information about Rai Sahib L. Ratan Lal who was Headmaster of the Government High School, Delhi, from the 1st September 1922 to the 26th April 1929, on which date he was transferred to the Punjab as Officiating Inspector of Schools, Rawalpindi Division. A statement giving the information is laid on the table.

*Statement showing the qualifications and pay of Rai Sahib L. Ratan Lal, formerly Headmaster, Government High School, Delhi.*

Qualifications.	Pay.	
	In September 1922.	On 26th April 1929 on which date he was transferred to the Punjab.
	Rs.	Rs.
M. A. in Physics and Chemistry .. ..	710	800

#### REPORT ON THE RIKHIKESH-KARANPRAYAG RAILWAY EXTENSION.

22. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if the report on the Rikhikesh-Karanprayag extension has been received from the Agent of the East Indian Railway ? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 14 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, regarding "Provision of a Railway for Convenience of Pilgrims to Badri Narayan".)

(b) If so, will Government please lay a copy of the report on the table ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : The report has not yet been received.

#### SALE OF FRAUDULENT QUININE IN INDIA.

23. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 33 (b) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, regarding "Sale of Fraudulent Quinine in India", will Government be pleased to state if replies from Local Governments have since been received ?

(b) If so, will they please state, for the information of the House, what action has been taken thereon ?

**Sir Frank Noyce** : (a) Yes.

(b) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the reply given on the 2nd April 1929 to Lieutenant-Colonel Gidney's starred question No. 1350. Replies are still awaited from some local Governments to the letter of the 8th March 1929 from the Government of India in

the Department of Education, Health and Lands, in which they were asked if they would agree to the appointment of a small expert committee to inquire into the general problem of the preparation and sale of medicines and drugs. It is intended that the committee, if appointed, should also inquire into the allegations regarding the sale of adulterated quinine.

CHRISTIAN ORPHANAGES MAINTAINED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

24. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they have collected the information regarding "Christian Orphanages maintained by the Government of India" ? (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 58 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please lay the information on the table ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Yes.

(b) The information is laid on the table.

(a) The following Christian Orphanages or Orphan Schools are aided by Government of India :—

Place.	Name.	Amount of aid given in the last year for which information is available.	Remarks.
		Rs.	
Madras .. ..	St. Mary's School and Orphanage, George Town	14,940	} Many of these orphanages admit non-Christians also.
Madras .. ..	Civil Orphan Asylum, Kilpauk .. ..	12,060	
Madras .. ..	St. Thome Orphanage, San Thome .. ..	21,360	
Surada .. ..	R. C. M. Boys' Orphanage ..	263	
Bimilipatam ..	C. B. M. Boarding School	240	
Palakonda ..	R. C. M. School, Church Compound .. ..	75	
Yolleswaram ..	U. L. C. M. Boarding Home	225	
Bezwada .. ..	St. Antony's R. C. M. Orphanage .. ..	390	
Gundala .. ..	St. Joseph's Orphanage ..	668	
Avanigadda ..	C. B. M. Boarding Home ..	180	
Kondapalle ..	C. M. S. Higher Elementary School and Orphanage, Vidyanaagar .. ..	525	
Narasaraopet ..	U. L. C. M. Orphanage ..	442	
Sattanapalle ..	U. L. C. M. Boarding Home	712	
Tenali .. ..	Ditto .. ..	578	
Chirala .. ..	U. L. C. M. Boarding Home and Orphanage ..	600	
Repalle .. ..	Ditto .. ..	322	
Kurnool .. ..	A. B. M. Boarding School and Orphanage ..	435	

Place.	Name.	Amount of aid given in the last year for which information is available.	Remarks.
		Rs.	
Gooty .. ..	London Mission Boarding Home .. ..	590	Many of these orphanages admit non-Christians also.
Hindupur .. ..	Martha Wats Boys' Home .. ..	188	
Bellary .. ..	Telegu Village Mission Boys' Boarding School .. ..	188	
Cuddapah .. ..	London Mission Boarding Home .. ..	374	
Kanigiri .. ..	The Christian Educational Boarding Home .. ..	90	
Kavali .. ..	A. B. M. Middle School .. ..	368	
Tarlapadu .. ..	U. L. C. M. Orphanage .. ..	360	
Udayagiri .. ..	A. B. M. Boarding Home .. ..	202	
Madras .. ..	Society for the protection of Children's Home, Tondiarpet .. ..	540	
Madras .. ..	Francis Xavier's Boarding Home, Alwarpet .. ..	240	
Madras .. ..	M. E. M. School and Orphanage, Kilpauk .. ..	338	
Poonamalle .. ..	Wesleyan Mission Orphanage.	180	
Madurantakam .. ..	Wesleyan Mission Boarding Home .. ..	218	
Ikkadu .. ..	Ditto .. ..	307	
Pandur .. ..	E. L. M. Orphanage .. ..	225	
Chingleput .. ..	St. Joseph's Orphanage attached to R. C. M. School .. ..	188	
Madanapalle .. ..	Hope Higher Elementary School and Orphanage .. ..	255	
Kothamalapalle and Barkalaya-kotta.	A. A. M. Rural Boarding Home .. ..	90	
Pullipet .. ..	A. P. M. Boys' Home .. ..	225	
Puttur .. ..	O. E. L. M. Boys' Orphanage .. ..	435	
Arkonam .. ..	St. Andrews' Orphanage .. ..	180	
Adoni .. ..	A. A. M. Boys' Boarding Home .. ..	518	
Chidambaram .. ..	C. S. M. Orphanage .. ..	210	
Fort St. David .. ..	Danial Mission Orphanage .. ..	248	
Tindivanam .. ..	St. Joseph's Orphanage .. ..	750	
Tanjore .. ..	Don Bos Cos. El. Boarding School .. ..	142	
Kumbakonam .. ..	S. P. G. Boys' Boarding School and Orphanage .. ..	172	

Place.	Name.	Amount of aid given in the last year for which information is available.	Remarks.
		Rs.	
Trichinopoly ..	St. Joseph's Industrial School and Orphanage ..	495	} Many of these orphanages admit non-Christians also.
Dindigul ..	C. S. M. Orphanage ..	112	
Ponnagaram ..	C. S. M. Boys' Boarding Home ..	255	
Madura ..	St. Mary's Orphanage ..	360	
Madura ..	Bird's Nest Orphanage ..	248	
Paramakudi ..	C. S. M. Boys' Boarding Home ..	255	
Mount Zion ..	S. M. Orphanage ..	105	
Kamuti ..	C. S. M. Boys' Boarding Home ..	142	
Nazareth ..	St. John's Orphanage ..	490	
Adaikalapuram ..	St. Joseph's Orphanage for Boys ..	638	
Irudayakulam ..	Sacred Heart Orphanage ..	128	
Namakkal ..	Strict Baptist Mission Boarding Home and Orphanage ..	150	
Coimbatore ..	St. Michael's Orphanage ..	846	
Coimbatore ..	London Mission Boys' Orphanage ..	195	
Coimbatore ..	C. S. M. Orphanage ..	240	
Erode ..	London Mission Boarding Home ..	570	
Dharapuram ..	Wesleyan Mission Orphanage ..	742	
Kaity ..	Wesleyan Mission Boys' Orphanage ..	225	
Paraperi ..	Basel Evangelical Mission Orphanage ..	360	
Mangalore ..	St. Joseph's Asylum Male Orphanage ..	600	
Udipi ..	K. E. M. Boys' Orphanage ..	510	
Surada ..	R. C. M. Orphanage for Girls ..	142	
Waltair ..	St. Joseph's Convent Orphanage ..	472	
Vizianagaram ..	C. H. M. Orphanage ..	442	
Masulipatam ..	C. E. Z. M. Orphanage ..	225	
Guntur ..	St. Joseph's Orphanage ..	840	
Phirangipuram ..	St. Ann's Boarding Home ..	158	
Kurnool ..	R. C. M. Boarding School ..	285	
Best warpet ..	A. B. M. Boarding Home ..	158	
Penukonda ..	S. I. G. Mission Boarding Home ..	105	
Kanigiri ..	A. B. M. Boarding Home ..	68	
Nellore ..	St. Joseph's Higher Elementary School and Boarding Home ..	488	

Place.	Name.	Amount of aid given in the last year for which information is available.	Remarks.
		Rs.	
MADRAS.	San Thome ..	The Holy Family Orphanage	592
	Vepery ..	St. Joseph's Indian Girls' Orphanage ..	98
	Royapuram ..	St. Anne's Convent Orphanage ..	390
	Mylapore ..	St. Lazarus Girls' Boarding School ..	292
	Vepery ..	Harriot Bond Skidmore Girls' Boarding School ..	982
Kovelong ..	Mount Carnel Orphanage	38	
Ikkadu ..	Wesleyan Mission Boarding Home ..	330	
Kilacherri ..	St. Ann's Orphanage ..	202	
Madanapalle ..	A. A. M. Boarding Home for Girls ..	442	
Chetput ..	St. Antony's Orphanage for Girls ..	45	
Vellore ..	St. Mary's R. C. Panchana Orphanage ..	68	
Vellore ..	St. Aloysius Convent Orphanage, Vettavalam	45	
Sholingar ..	A. P. M. Girls' Boarding Home ..	120	
Vellore ..	A. A. M. Children's Home	225	
Tindivanam ..	St. Joseph's Orphanage for Girls ..	370	
Nagur ..	S. P. G. Girls' Boarding Home ..	150	
Mayavaram ..	St. Paul's R. C. Girls' Orphanage ..	172	
Tranquebar ..	St. Therasas Girls' Orphanage ..	240	
Porayar ..	E. L. M. Boarding Home ..	276	
Vallam ..	St. Mary's Girls' Orphanage ..	120	
Trichinopoly ..	R. C. Girls' Orphanage, Cantonment ..	128	
Puttur ..	All Saints S. P. G. Girls' Orphanage ..	488	
Trichinopoly ..	St. Ann's Orphanage, Cantonment ..	502	
Kempton ..	C. S. M. Girls' Orphanage ..	300	
Worayur ..	Wesleyan Mission Girls' Orphanage ..	83	

Many of these orphanages admit non-Christians also.

Place.	Name.	Amount of aid given in the last year for which information is available.	Remarks.
		Rs.	
Trichinopoly ..	Holy Cross Orphanage ..	240	} Many of these orphanages admit non-Christians also.
Dindigul ..	A. M. C. C. Girls' Boarding School ..	600	
Rachanyapuram ..	Lucy Perry Noble Institute Orphanage ..	495	
Madura ..	St. Joseph's Indian Convent Orphanage ..	352	
Sachyapuram ..	C. M. S. Boarding Home ..	173	
Megnanapuram ..	Elliot Tuxford Girls' Orphanage ..	262	
Adaikalapuram ..	St. Joseph's Orphanage ..	630	
Srivilliputhur ..	Sacred Heart Girls' Orphanage ..	1,470	
Dharapuram ..	Wesleyan Mission Orphanage and Boarding Home ..	352	
Erode ..	London Mission Boarding Home ..	435	
Coimbatore ..	London Mission Girls' Orphanage ..	180	
Coimbatore ..	Immaculate Conception Convent Orphanage ..	742	
Coimbatore ..	Presentation Convent Orphanage ..	240	
Kaity ..	St. Michael's Orphanage ..	105	
Kotagiri ..	Wesleyan Mission Orphanage ..	142	
Ootacamund ..	Mazareth Convent Indian Orphanage ..	592	
Hasthanpet ..	London Mission Boarding Home ..	352	
Settipatti ..	R. C. Girls' Orphanage ..	202	
Calicut ..	St. John's Convent Orphanage ..	225	
Chombala ..	Banel Evangelical Mission Orphanage ..	435	
Mangalore ..	St. Joseph's Asylum Orphanage Girls ..	600	
Moolky ..	K.E. M. Orphanage (Girls) ..	540	
Bombay ..	St. Joseph's Foundling Home ..	4,000	Non-sectarian.

Place.	Name.	Amount of aid given in the last year for which information is available.	Remarks.
		Rs.	
Calcutta ..	Catholic Male Orphanage, 15, Portuguese Church Street .. ..	23,728	The Local Government also make a capitation grant at a prescribed rate to orphanages to which orphans are sent by Government officials. The amount spent in 1927-28 was Rs. 8,675, which included grants to non-Christian orphanages also.
Do. ..	Loreto Orphanage Entally	69,840	
Mussoorie ..	St. Fidelis School ..	Not specified.	
Do. ..	Wynberg School ..	Do.	
Do. ..	Church of England Orphanage School (Dumbarine) .. ..	Do.	
Do. ..	Henry Allen Memorial School .. ..	Do.	
Roorkee ..	Boys Christian Orphanage of the R. P. Mission ..	Do.	
Do. ..	Girls Christian Orphanage of the M. E. Mission .. ..	Do.	
Meerut ..	Baraut Orphanage ..	Do.	
Sardhana ..	R. C. Orphanage for Boys .. ..	Do.	
Do. ..	R. C. Orphanage for Girls .. ..	Do.	
Bijnor ..	Methodist Mission Orphanage .. ..	Do.	
Aligarh ..	C. M. S. Orphanage ..	Do.	
Do. ..	M. E. Mission Orphanage	Do.	
Agra ..	St. Patrick's School ..	Do.	
Do. ..	St. Peter's College Orphanage .. ..	Do.	
Do. ..	C. M. S. Mission School, Sikandra .. ..	Do.	
Do. ..	St. Joseph's Orphanage School .. ..	Do.	
Bareilly ..	M. E. Mission Girls' School	Do.	

Place.	Name.	Amount of aid given in the last year for which information is available.	Remarks.
		Rs.	
Barhpur ..	N. I. A. P. Mission ..	Not specified.	
Rakha ..	N. I. A. P. Mission ..	Do.	
Allahabad ..	Colvin Free School ..	Do.	
Cawnpore ..	S. P. G. Epiphany Orphanage ..	Do.	
Jhansi ..	Two, names not ascertained	Do.	
Jalaun ..	One, name not ascertained;	Do.	
Benares ..	London Mission Orphanage	Do.	
Mirzapur ..	One, name not ascertained	Do.	
Naini Tal ..	R.C. Orphanage, Jeolikote.	Do.	
Pauri ..	M. E. Mission Girls' School	Do.	
Lucknow ..	St. Francis School ..	Do.	
Sitapur ..	M. E. Mission School ..	Do.	
Sultanpur ..	Z. B. M. Girls' Middle School ..	Do.	
Bara Banki ..	Assemblies of God Mission Orphanage ..	Do.	
Simla ..	Mayo Orphanage and Boarding School for Girls ..	1,536	
Do. ..	St. Francis Military Orphanage ..	4,320	
Murree ..	St. Michael's Orphanage ..	2,784	
Mandalay ..	St. Joseph's R. C. M. Chinese Middle School ..	Same grants as those payable to other schools of the same grading.	Average cost to Government per pupil is Rs. 25 on account of maintenance grant.
Hazaribagh ..	Orphanage under the Dublin University Mission ..	186-2-9	
Angul ..	Orphanage under the Salvation Army officers ..	24 for each orphan.	
Balasore ..	Orphanage managed by the American Baptist Mission	..	The orphans of this orphanage attend Christian educational institutions which receive aid from Government, but the orphanage itself is not in receipt of aid.

Place.	Name.	Amount of aid given in the last year for which information is available.	Remarks.
		Rs.	
Nagpur ..	All Saints Children's Home	2,592	
Do. ..	Bishop Cotton High School	1,584	
Do. ..	St. Francis de Sales High School ..	3,888	
Do. ..	Convent High School ..	576	
Jubbulpore ..	Christ Church Boys' High School ..	576	
Do. ..	Christ Church Girls' High School ..	864	
Do. ..	Convent High School ..	2,736	
Do. ..	St. Aloysius High School ..	2,016	
Saugor ..	Convent School ..	1,728	
Kamptee ..	Do. ..	4,032	
Amraoti ..	Do. ..	5,184	
Gauhati ..	Catholic Orphanage Girls' School ..	360	
Shillong ..	St. Mary's Convent ..	780	} These are not exclusively orphanages, but they have a number of orphans in their enrolment.
Do. ..	St. Anthony's School ..	600	
Secunderabad ..	The Protestant Orphanage attached to the Brigade School ..	1,256	
Do. ] ..	The St. Joseph's Orphanage	859	
Sanawar ..	*The Lawrence Royal Military School ..	2,92,100	*Contributed from Army estimates.
Murree . . .	*The Lawrence Military Asylum.	14,590	
Mount Abu . .	*Do.	32,670	Do.
Nilgris . . .	*The Lawrence Memorial Royal Military School, Lovedale . . .	2,30,000	Do.
Mussoorie . . .	*The Roman Catholic Convent . . .	3,000	Do.
Simla . . . .	*Do.	3,000	Do.

## NOTES—

- (1) No institutions are maintained wholly by Government.
- (2) The schools marked \* are not orphanages, but orphans of British soldiers are admitted to them.

(b) The following non-Christian Orphanages and Orphan schools in India are aided by Government of India :—

Place.	Name.	Amount of aid given in the last year for which information is available.	Remarks.
		Rs.	
Pithapuram .	Adi Andhra Free Boarding Home	263	The local Government also make a capitation grant at a prescribed rate to orphanages to which orphans are sent by Government officials. The amount spent in 1927-28 was Rs. 8,675, which included grants to Christian orphanages also.
Madras .	Ramakrishna Mission Students' Home.	336	
Melvisharam .	Anjuman Industrial Orphanage	458	
Erukattancherry	Sen Tamil Vidyasala Orphanage	170	
Trichinopoly .	Madrassa Mujli Zul Ulama Orphanage	285	
Vengadampatti .	Khastrya Committee Orphanage	15	
Calicut .	J. D. T. Islam Mappilla Orphanage	690	
Palamcottah .	Indian Orphan Cottage	75	
Bijapur .	Bijapur Orphanage	1,000	
Pandharpur .	Pandharpur Orphanage	300	
Calcutta .	Calcutta Orphanage	600	
	Calcutta Muhammadan Orphanage	3,300	
	The Refuge, Bowbazar	3,360	
	Vidyasagar Bani Bhaban (Widows' Home)	3,600	
Dacca .	The Sir Salimullah Muhammadan Orphanage	1,476	
	The Dacca Orphanage	420	
	Hindu Widows' Home	2,400	
Mymensingh .	Mission Orphanage	1,032	
Dehra Dun .	Seth Lachmichand Orphanage	Not specified.	
	Arya Samaj	Do.	
Rikhikesh .	Marwari Chetra Orphanage	Do.	
Hardwar .	Hindu Anathalaya	Do.	
Meerut .	Vaish Orphanage	Do.	
Do.	Muslim Orphanage	Do.	

Place.	Name.	Amount of aid given in the last year for which information is available.	Remarks.
		Ra.	
Bulandshahr	Hindu Orphanage used as Khurja Intermediate College boarding house, Bulandshahr	Not specified.	
Hathras	Chhote Lal Ram Narayan Anathalaya	Do.	
Aligarh	Muhammadian Orphanage	Do.	
Muttra	Singhi Kriahna Singh Orphanage	Do.	
Do.	Kishori Orphanage	Do.	
Agra	Three orphanages; names not ascertained	Do.	
Kasganj	Upkarni Sabha	Do.	
Bijnor	Muslim Orphanage	Do.	
Bareilly	Arya Samaj Orphanage	Do.	
	Islamia Orphanage	Do.	
Moradabad district	Three Muhammadian Orphanages in the district; names not ascertained	Do.	
Shahjehanpur	Shrimad Dayanand Orphanage	Do.	
Farrukhabad	Anjuman Shafiq-ul-Islam	Do.	
Cawnpore	Hindu Orphanage	Do.	
Do.	Muhammadian Orphanage	Do.	
Allahabad	One Hindu and one Muslim Orphanage; names not ascertained	Do.	
Jhansi	One Orphanage; name not ascertained	Do.	
Jalaun	One Orphanage; name not ascertained	Do.	
Banda	One Orphanage; name not ascertained	Do.	
Benares	Seva Samiti Orphanage	Do.	
Jaunpur	One Hindu and one Muslim Orphanage; names not ascertained.	Do.	
Gorakhpur	One Hindu and one Muslim Orphanage; names not ascertained	Do.	
Basti	One Orphanage; name not ascertained	Do.	
Almora	Arya Samaj Orphanage	Do.	
Lucknow	Dayanand Orphanage	Do.	
	Sri Ram Industrial Orphanage	Do.	
	Mumtas Darul Yatiman	Do.	
	Shia Yatim Khana	Do.	

Place.	Name.	Amount of aid given in the last year for which information is available.	Remarks.
		Ra.	
Lakhimpur	Jai Indra Anathalaya	Not specified.	
Balrampur	MacDonnell Orphanage	Do.	
Nawabganj	Arya Samaj Mandir	Do.	
Ferozepur Cantonment,	Arya Samaj Orphanage Industrial School	2,143	
Bhiwani	Aided Orphanage School	667	
Rangoon	Muslim Anglo-Vernacular Free Middle School	Same grants as those payable to other schools of the same grading.	Average cost to Government per pupil is Rs. 27.
Do.	Indian Orphans' Middle School	Do.	Average cost to Government per pupil is Rs. 35.
Nowshera	Muslim Orphanage		Government have paid it nothing so far, but aids the school to which it is attached.
Jhelum	*King George's Royal Indian Military School	70,160	
Jullundur	*Do.	65,780	

NOTE (1).—In the Central Provinces a scheme has been introduced from the 1st April 1929, subject to the vote of the Legislative Council, for capitation grants of Rs. 18 a year for every orphan above 5, but below 12 years of age who attends a recognised school and is admitted into an Indian orphanage which has been registered for 3 years and which has not got proselytizing as one of its objects.

NOTE (2).—The schools marked \* are not orphanages, but orphans of Indian soldiers belonging to the Punjab and the North-West Frontier Province are admitted to them.

#### REPORT OF THE INDIAN CINEMATOGRAPH COMMITTEE.

25. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they have considered the Report of the Indian Cinematograph Committee and come to a decision ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar** : With your permission, Sir, I propose to reply to this question and also the Honourable Member's question No. 59 together :

(a) The views of Local Governments have been received on some of the recommendations and the Report is under the con-

sideration of Government, who have not yet come to a decision.

(b) Does not arise.

**EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND THE EFFECT OF THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS.**

**26. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total expenditure incurred on the 34 committees appointed by the Government of India, as referred to in the statement laid on the table in reply to question No. 68 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929 ?

- (b) Will Government please lay a statement on the table showing :
- (i) the names of those of the 34 committees referred to in part (a) whose recommendations have been fully given effect to ;
  - (ii) the names of those committees whose recommendations have been given effect to only partially ; and
  - (iii) the names of those committees, if any, whose recommendations have not been given effect to ?

**The Honourable Sir James Orerar :** (a) The total cost of the committees referred to was Rs. 38,64,056 approximately.

(b) The information asked for is being collected and will be supplied to the Honourable Member in due course.

**CONSTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY BETWEEN NASIRABAD AND DEOLI.**

**27. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the results of the survey referred to in their reply to starred question No. 75 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, have been received by the Railway Board ?

(b) If so, will they please state what progress in the matter has been made since then ?

(c) If not, do Government propose to ask the authorities concerned to expedite the matter ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** In view of the heavy construction programme which the Board have in hand at present, it has been decided to postpone for a time the carrying out of the survey for the Nasirabad-Deoli line. This survey is unlikely to be made till the cold weather of 1930-31.

**PREVENTION OF SOLIDIFIED VEGETABLE OIL FROM BEING SOLD AS GHEE.**

**28. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have received replies from the Local Governments, whom they had consulted on the question of " Prevention of Solidified Vegetable Oil from being sold as Ghee " ? [Vide Government reply to starred question No. 113 (c) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please state what steps they propose to take in the matter ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** Replies have now been received from all Local Governments. The last reply was received as recently as the 22nd August 1929, but this promises a further communication forwarding the views of an important municipality, which are still awaited by the Local Government.

#### HIGH RAILWAY FARES ON THE BENGAL NAGPUR RAILWAY.

29. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 114 (b) and (c) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, regarding "High Railway Fares on the Bengal Nagpur Railway", will Government be pleased to state if the Agent, Bengal Nagpur Railway, has arrived at a decision in the matter ?

(b) If so, will Government please communicate the decision to the House ?

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

(b) Although no general reduction in the basis of passenger fares has been made over the Bengal Nagpur Railway, intermediate and third class week-end return tickets are now issued over the whole line instead of only between selected stations. Third class bazaar-day reduced fares as well as third class special two-day return tickets on certain sections of the line have also been introduced.

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE CAUSES OF FLOODS.

30. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the report of the expert committee formed for investigating the causes of and remedies for recurring floods has also been submitted to the Government of India ? [Vide Government reply to unstarred question No. 3 (b) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.]

(b) If so, will copies of the report be made available to the members of the Assembly ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) Yes.

(b) Copies of the report have been placed in the Library.

#### SUPPRESSION OF OPIUM-SMOKING IN THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BENGAL.

31. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** Will Government please state if the Bill aiming at the ultimate prohibition of opium-smoking has been passed in the Legislative Council, Central Provinces and if the Bengal Government have come to any decision with regard to the suppression of opium-smoking ? [Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 6 (b) and (d) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.]

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** The Central Provinces Opium-Smoking Bill has since been passed into law. The Act came into force in the Central Provinces with effect from the 1st June and in Berar from the 1st July 1929. The legislation proposed by the Bengal Government is still under their consideration.

## EXTRA PAY TO POSTAL OFFICIALS FOR WORKING ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.

32. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if they have now come to any decision on the question of "Extra Pay to Postal Officials for working on Sundays and Holidays" ? (Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 12 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate to the House the decision arrived at ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra** : No decision has yet been arrived at.

## CONSTRUCTION OF THE ISHURDI-PABNA-SHADHUGANJ RAILWAY;

33. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if the report regarding "Construction of the Ishurdi-Pabna-Shadhuganj Railway" which was received from the Railway Board in December 1928 has since been examined ? (Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 13 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result to the House ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : Some references have had to be made to the Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway. The project is still under consideration.

## DACCA-ARICHA RAILWAY.

34. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : With reference to their reply to my unstarred question No. 18 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, will Government be pleased to state when the construction of the line is likely to be taken up ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : I would refer the Honourable Member to the answer given to Mr. K. C. Neogy's starred question No. 61 on the same subject.

## VISIT OF THE MALARIA COMMISSION OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS TO INDIA.

35. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if they have heard anything about the visit of the Malaria Commission of the League of Nations to India since I put my unstarred question No. 14 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929 ?

(b) If so, will they please enlighten the House on the subject ?

**Sir Frank Noyce** : (a) and (b). The Malaria Commission of the League of Nations has already arrived in India. A copy of its tour programme and a list of members of the Commission have been placed in the Library.

## CLOSING OF THE PORT OF CALCUTTA TO HAJ PILGRIMS.

36. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if the Port of Calcutta was closed to Haj Pilgrims for some period ?

(b) If so, from which to which year and on what grounds ?

(c) Is it a fact that Haj Pilgrims do not like to sail to Calcutta from Jeddah ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) and (b). The port of Calcutta was closed to pilgrim traffic in 1897, when Haj pilgrimage was suspended in order to avert the danger of plague being communicated to Europe. The question of re-opening it was considered by Government from time to time, but had to be dropped in view of the uncertainty as to whether a sufficient number of pilgrims would actually avail themselves of this facility. The port was re-opened to pilgrim traffic in 1926.

(c) Since the port was re-opened in 1926, no ship has returned to Calcutta with pilgrims from the Hedjaz. Government are not aware whether this is due to the disinclination of pilgrims to sail to Calcutta, to a sufficient number of pilgrims not being available at Jeddah at any one time to make it feasible to despatch a direct steamer to Calcutta, or to any other cause. The point is one which will doubtless be investigated by the Haj Enquiry Committee.

#### UNBOOKED LUGGAGE OF THIRD CLASS PASSENGERS.

**37. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the question of unbooked luggage of third class passengers has been discussed with the Central Advisory Council for Railways ? (Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 22 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

(c) If not, when is the matter expected to come up for discussion ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) This question is on the agenda for the next meeting of the Central Advisory Council, which will be held probably during this month.

#### CONSTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER GANDAK.

**38. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the Railway Board has completed the examination of the project report of the "Construction of the Railway Bridge over the River Gandak" ? (Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 24 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result to the House ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** The project has been under reference with the Agent of the Bengal and North Western Railway, and a revised report has now been received and is under examination.

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO THE AFFAIRS OF THE DELHI UNIVERSITY.

**39. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they have since reached a final decision in the

matter of the " Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the Affairs of the Delhi University " ? (*Vide* Government reply to my unstarred question No. 27 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) and (b). The Report has been brought under careful consideration, but as the provisional decisions so far reached involve financial assistance, the inquiries suggested in paragraph 34 of the Report are being instituted. Further action is contingent upon the result of the inquiries and the financial considerations involved.

#### PARTICULARS OF HAJ COMMITTEES IN INDIA.

40. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) how many Haj Committees there are in British India ;
- (b) whether the Haj Committees are officially recognised bodies ;
- (c) whether they have any powers of control and supervision over the Protectors of pilgrims in the Ports of Calcutta, Karachi and Bombay ;
- (d) the names of the Protectors with their salaries and qualifications, and the number of the subordinate staff of each Protector with their designations ; and
- (e) whether any of the office-bearers of the Haj Committees are paid ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** Information is being collected and will be supplied to the Honourable Member in due course.

#### GRANT OF HELP TO THE WIDOW AND FAMILY OF GANPATI AYER, LATE HEAD SORTER IN THE RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE.

41. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have considered and come to a decision in the matter of " Grant of Help to the Widow and Family of Mr. Ganpati Ayer, late Head Sorter, No. 8 Section, Railway Mail Service, Bangalore City " ? (*Vide* Government reply to my unstarred question No. 33 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

(c) If not, how much more time are they likely to take in the decision of the matter ?

**Mr. P. G. Rogers :** (a) to (c). Yes, the case was placed before the Post and Telegraph Compassionate Fund Committee, who decided that no gratuity could be granted. It transpired in the course of inquiry that the person who claimed to be the widow of the deceased official had never been his lawful wife.

#### ACTION TAKEN IN REGARD TO THE COLLISION ON THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

42. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** Will Government please state the result of the prosecution of the Station Jamadar in the

case of the collision on the Bengal and North Western Railway ? (Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 34 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** An inquiry has been made and the result will be communicated to the Honourable Member in due course.

**APPOINTMENT OF CERTAIN PROBATIONARY SUPERINTENDENTS OF POST OFFICES  
IN THE BIHAR AND ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLES.**

**43. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the probationary Superintendents of Post Offices in the Bihar and Orissa Postal Circles, whose names are shown in the statement reproduced in reply to my unstarred question No. 42 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, have been given permanent posts ?

(b) If so, will Government please state where they are posted now and what are their respective salaries ?

**Mr. P. G. Rogers :** (a) Of the ten probationary Superintendents referred to in the statement, Nos. 1, 3, 8 and 9 are no longer in the Department. The others have been given permanent posts.

(b) The information asked for is given in the statement below :

Name and designation.	Salary.	Station where posted.
	Rs.	
(1) Syed Md. Mansoor, Superintendent of Post Offices, Upper Rajputana Division .. .. .	540	Jaipur.
(2) Mr. K. P. Misra, Assistant Postmaster-General, Bihar and Orissa Circle .. .. .	460	Patna.
(3) Syed Abdul Majeed, Superintendent of Post Offices, Monghyr Division .. .. .	s.p. 100	
(4) Mr. N. N. Banerjee, Superintendent of R. M. S., S. Division .. .. .	480	Monghyr.
(5) Mr. T. P. Scott O'Connor, Superintendent of Post Offices, Mysore Division .. .. .	440	Silchar.
(6) Mr. N. C. Das, Superintendent of Post Offices, Godavari Division .. .. .	380	Mysore.
	320	Rajshmundry.

**OPENING OF A CITY BOOKING OFFICE AT PATNA.**

**44. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the Agent of the East Indian Railway has taken any action in the matter of "Opening of a City Booking Office at Patna" ? (Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 44 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result to the House ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** It has been ascertained from the Agent, East Indian Railway, that the matter has been investigated and it is considered that the existing facilities for booking are adequate.

#### ELECTRIFICATION OF THE KALKA-SIMLA RAILWAY.

**45. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the Railway Board have received the report regarding "The Electrification of the Kalka-Simla Railway" from their Consulting Electrical Engineers? (*Vide* Government reply to my unstarred question No. 48 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result to the House?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** Government have decided to postpone the investigation of this scheme for the present. The present programme of construction, either sanctioned or awaiting sanction, is so heavy that it is not possible to find room for this electrification scheme, which is probably unlikely to be remunerative.

#### INCREASE IN THE PAY AND PENSIONS OF GOVERNMENT PEONS AND MENIAL STAFF.

**46. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have since considered the question of "Increase in the Pay and Pensions of Government Peons and Menial Staff"? (*Vide* Government reply to my unstarred question No. 56 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) and (b). The matter is still under consideration.

#### HOUSING CONDITIONS OF WORKMEN IN LILLOOAH.

**47. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to my unstarred question No. 67 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, regarding "Housing Conditions of Workmen in Lillooah", will Government please state if the inquiry has since been completed and if the Agent of the East Indian Railway and the Railway Board have arrived at a decision in the matter?

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** (a) and (b). The question is still under consideration.

#### INCREASE IN THE SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE OF PEONS IN THE TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

**48. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have since reached a final decision in the matter of "Increase in the subsistence allowance of peons in the Telegraph Department"? (*Vide* Government reply to my unstarred question No. 71 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) and (b). No final decision has yet been reached.

**DISCONTENT AMONG SUBORDINATES OF THE ELECTRICAL BRANCH OF THE  
POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.**

**49. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have since reached a final decision in the matter of "Discontent among Subordinates of the Electrical Branch of the Postal and Telegraph Department" ? (Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 73 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** In the original starred question No. 470, asked in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th September 1928, Mr. Joshi referred to the pay and prospects of the subordinate ranks of the Electrical Branch and the conditions of their service under the dual control of the Traffic and Engineering Branches.

It is understood that the Director General has considered the representations and has come to the conclusion that it is not possible for him to make any special recommendations to Government in regard to the men.

Government are satisfied that in the organisation of a large telegraph office a certain amount of dual control is inevitable and they do not consider that such dual control constitutes a disability affecting the efficiency of the Branch.

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE.**

**50. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have come to any decision on all or some of the recommendations of the "Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture" ? (Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 84 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) and (b). Local Governments have been asked to report the action taken by them on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture with which they are concerned. When their reports are complete, a consolidated statement showing the action taken both by them and by the Government of India will be laid upon the table of the House. Meanwhile, as regards the important recommendations made by the Royal Commission on Agriculture regarding the establishment of an Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, the Honourable Member is referred to the Resolution issued by the Government of India, Department of Education, Health and Lands, No. 826-Agri., dated May 23rd, 1929, and to the Resolution issued by that Department No. 1316-Agri., dated August 6th, 1929.

**AMELIORATION OF LEAVE AND PENSION TERMS OF THE INFERIOR SERVANTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.**

51. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to my unstarred question No. 86 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, will Government please state if they have since considered the question of "Amelioration of Leave and Pension Terms of Inferior Servants of the Government of India" and come to a decision in the matter ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** In my reply to the question to which the Honourable Member refers I stated that the cost of certain proposals regarding the leave terms of inferior servants was being investigated with a view to ascertaining whether financial considerations would permit of any new expenditure on this account being admitted. I should like now to explain briefly what those proposals were. They were proposals that inferior servants should be given one or other of the following terms :

- (a) One month's leave on full pay per annum, and six months' leave on half-pay during the whole service.
- (b) Fifteen days' leave on full pay per annum, and six months' leave on half-pay during the whole service.
- (c) One month's leave on full pay per annum, and nine months' leave on half-pay during the whole service.
- (d) Fifteen days' leave on full pay per annum, and nine months' leave on half-pay during the whole service.

The Honourable Member is no doubt aware that, even now, inferior servants can get leave, but that it is often difficult to grant them leave because it is not permissible to employ a substitute at extra expense.

In regard to the new proposals which I have mentioned, the extra cost that had to be estimated in each case was the cost of the leave reserve that would have to be created in order to enable that amount of leave to be taken. On a very conservative estimate, it is calculated that the extra cost per annum would be as follows :

- (1) in case (a), Rs. 16 lakhs.
- (2) in case (b), Rs. 9½ lakhs.
- (3) in case (c), Rs. 17 lakhs, and
- (4) in case (d), Rs. 10 lakhs.

I fear that these figures are so large as to make it very difficult to finance any of the alternative schemes in the present state of finances of the Government of India. The matter will, in any case, have to be postponed until an additional financial margin can be created.

2. As regards pensions, I stated in that reply that the Government of India were inquiring of Local Governments what action they have taken, or propose to take, since it was important that in a matter of this kind the practice should be uniform. The replies of the Local Governments were only recently received, and show that most Local Governments

are still considering the matter. The question is therefore still pending so far as the Government of India are concerned. Meantime, however, it is proposed that the temporary increases of small pensions, the term of sanction of which expires on the 31st October 1929, should be continued for a further two years. The Secretary of State has accorded his sanction, and the proposal is now awaiting the approval of the Standing Finance Committee.

#### FURTHERANCE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH AND PUBLIC HEALTH IN INDIA.

52. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if they have come to any decision in the matter of "Furtherance of Medical Research and Public Health in India" ? [Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 88 (c) and (d) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please communicate to the House the decision arrived at ?

**Sir Frank Noyce** : (a) and (b). The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given to parts (b) and (c) of the starred question No. 14 asked to-day by Messrs. Kelkar and Neogy, Dr. Moonje and Mr. Fazal Ibrahim Rahimtulla.

#### RAISING THE RESERVE OF NURSES IN INDIA.

53. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if they have since reached any decision in the matter of "Raising the Reserve of Nurses in India" ? (Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 91 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham** : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### RECRUITMENT TO THE CENTRAL SERVICES.

54. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if the Secretary of State and the Government of India have since considered the rules regarding "Recruitment to the Central Services" ? (Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 94 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please state when the same may be expected to be issued ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar** : Rules making a formal delegation of powers are still under the consideration of the Government of India and the Secretary of State and it is not possible yet to say when they will be issued.

#### WORKING HOURS OF OFFICIALS OF THE SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT OF THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, CALCUTTA.

55. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) With reference to Government reply to my unstarred question No. 96 in the Legislative

Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, on the subject of " Working Hours of the Officials of the Savings Bank Department of the General Post Office, Calcutta ", will the Government be pleased to state if their inquiry in the matter has since been completed ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) Yes.

(b) The result of the inquiry was communicated to Rai Bahadur Tarit Bhusan Roy in March 1929 and a copy of the communication has been placed in the Library of the House.

#### INDIAN TRADE COMMISSIONERS ABROAD.

56. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the question of appointing " Indian Trade Commissioners abroad " has since been decided ? (*Vide* Government reply to my unstarred question No. 100 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** The question of appointing Indian Trade Commissioners abroad is still under consideration.

#### OPENING OF A BROAD GAUGE RAILWAY BETWEEN JAKHAL AND SIRSA.

57. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to the Government reply to my unstarred question No. 106 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, regarding " Opening of a Broad Gauge Railway between Jakhal and Sirsa, *via* Fatehabad ", will Government please state if the results of the survey are ready now ?

(b) If so, will they please state when the construction of the line is likely to be taken up ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** The survey report has not yet been received.

#### GRIEVANCES OF PILGRIMS TO HEDJAZ.

58. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to my unstarred question No. 113 (2), (3) and (5) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, on the subject of " Grievances of Pilgrims to Hedjaz ", will Government be pleased to state if they have completed their inquiries into the matter ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Yes.

(b) *Part 2 of unstarred question No. 113 :* Complaints have been received that the firewood supplied by shipping companies is either cut into pieces of unsuitable size or not cut at all. The matter is being investigated by the Haj Inquiry Committee.

*Part 3 :* Complaints were received in the past by the authorities at Bombay regarding the bad latrine arrangements on the S.S. " Shuja "

and the S.S. "Inataba". These boats are, however, no longer employed in pilgrim traffic.

The allegation that latrines are exposed to the view of those outside is not correct.

As regards the scavenging arrangements, a complaint was received in 1927 that latrines on the S.S. "Zayani" and the S.S. "Akbar" were not clean. On inquiry, however, it was found that the use by pilgrims of mud and stones for toilet purposes was largely responsible for choking the outlets.

*Part 5* : No complaints have been received that the doctor on any pilgrim ship has refused to give medicines. The question whether it is necessary to prescribe a rule requiring the doctor to attend to urgent cases at all hours will be considered by the Haj Inquiry Committee.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CINEMATOGRAPH COMMITTEE.

59. †**Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) With reference to Government reply to my unstarred question No. 120 (b) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, on the subject of "Recommendations of the Cinematograph Committee", will Government be pleased to state if they have since secured the views of the Local Governments and arrived at a final decision in the matter ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

#### SUICIDE OF MR. LALKHAN, AN AGENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IN THE NORTH WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE.

60. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if they have completed their inquiry in the matter of "Suicide of Mr. Lalkhan, an Agent of the Government of India in the North West Frontier Province" ? (*Vide* Government reply to unstarred question No. 128 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

**Sir Denys Bray** : The inquiry which has been completed, has failed to trace Mr. Lal Khan, and nothing is known of his reported suicide.

#### COMFORT OF THIRD CLASS PASSENGERS ON INDIAN RAILWAYS.

61. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if the Central Advisory Council has since discussed the question of "Comfort of Third Class Passengers on Indian Railways" ? [*Vide* Government reply to my unstarred question No. 129 (b) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please communicate to the House the decision arrived at ?

**Mr. P. E. Rau** : The following matters more particularly appertaining to the comfort of third class passengers were discussed at the last

†For answer to this question, see answer to unstarred question No. 25.

meeting of the Central Advisory Council on the 16th February 1929. As a result of the discussion, the following action has been taken by the Railway Board :

- (a) *Supply of drinking water for passengers* : Agents of railways have been advised that, if possible, arrangements should be made to carry water on trains in special compartments, and that it is desirable to locate water taps at stations under shelter, preferably in 3rd class waiting halls.
- (b) *Lack of waiting sheds and high level platforms at certain roadside stations* : Railways have been asked to work to a definite programme for the construction of more waiting sheds and high level platforms and to report progress annually.
- (c) *Lack of benches for passengers* : Railway Administrations have been advised not to relax their attention in the matter and to continue to increase the number of benches wherever it is necessary.
- (d) *Confusion and overcrowding at booking office windows and difficulty in purchasing tickets* : Railway Administrations have been advised that the best means to improve the arrangements at booking offices lies in the provision of additional booking clerks, in opening more booking offices in cities and extra booking offices at stations, and in the provision of extra windows at existing booking offices ; also that it is very desirable to improve the efficiency of booking clerks. The Agents of railways have again been requested to see that the orders regarding the timely opening of booking offices are strictly enforced, and that surprise checks are frequently made by inspecting officers.

#### INTRODUCTION OF A BILL FOR THE INSTITUTION OF AN ALL-INDIA ACCOUNTANCY BOARD.

**62. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to my unstarred question No. 131 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, will Government please state if replies have been received from Local Governments on the subject of " Introduction of a Bill for the Institution of an All-India Accountancy Board " ?

(b) If so, will they please state if they propose to introduce legislation in the present Simla Session ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** (a) All replies have now been received and are under consideration. A printed copy of the replies has been placed in the Library.

(b) It will not be possible to introduce legislation during the present Simla Session.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AN EXAMINATION FOR THE TRAFFIC BRANCH OF THE POST OFFICE.

**63. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have since considered the question of " Introduction

of an examination for the Traffic Branch of the Post Office" ? [Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 134 (a) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) The matter is still under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

**MEMORIAL OF THE MINISTERIAL STAFF OF THE FOUR OFFICES IN CALCUTTA UNDER THE CONTROLLER OF PRINTING.**

**64. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to unstarred question No. 161 (a) in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th January, 1929, will Government please state if they have since considered the "Memorial of the Ministerial Staff of the four Offices in Calcutta under the Controller of Printing" and come to a decision in the matter ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) and (b). The memorial is still under the consideration of Government.

**SUPPLY OF WATER FOR SWIMMING BATHS FOR EUROPEANS AND ANGLO-INDIANS AT PAKSEY AND SAIDPUR ON THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.**

**65. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have made inquiries from the Agent of the Eastern Bengal Railway regarding "Supply of water for Swimming Baths for Europeans and Anglo-Indians at Paksey and Saidpur on the Eastern Bengal Railway" ? (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 514 in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**PROVISION OF QUARTERS FOR THE MENIAL STAFF ON THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.**

**66. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 519 in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th February, 1929, regarding "Provision of quarters for the menial staff on the Eastern Bengal Railway", will Government please state if the Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway, has come to any decision in the matter ?

(b) If so, will Government please state what the decision is ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**PROVISION OF QUARTERS FOR INDIAN GUARDS AT OR NEAR SEALDAH.**

67. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have since completed their inquiries with the Agent of the Eastern Bengal Railway regarding "Provision of Quarters for Indian Guards at or near Sealdah"? (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 521 in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**PAY AND PROSPECTS OF MINISTERIAL OFFICERS OF THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.**

68. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 522 in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th February, 1929, on the subject of "Pay and Prospects of Ministerial Officers of the Eastern Bengal Railway", will Government please state if the position was ascertained from the Agent of the Eastern Bengal Railway?

(b) If so, will they please state what the position is?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**GRIEVANCES OF POSTAL EMPLOYEES OF THE PATNA DIVISION, BIHAR AND ORISSA.**

69. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to my unstarred question No. 220 (a) and (b) in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th February, 1929, on the subject of "Grievances of Postal Employees of the Patna Division, Bihar and Orissa", will Government please state if the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, and the Postmaster General, Bihar and Orissa, have since considered the Resolutions and come to any decision in the matter?

(b) If so, will Government please communicate to the House the decision arrived at?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) and (b) Yes. A decision has been taken in both the matters. The Director General has come to the conclusion that there is no case for introducing the scale of pay sanctioned for Allahabad in Patna.

As regards house rent, Government have decided to restore the previous concession and to recover from the clerks of the Posts and Telegraphs Department stationed in Patna, who are provided with departmental quarters, house rent at 5 per cent. of their pay instead of 10 per cent.

## NON-MILITARY RIFLE PRACTICE CLUBS IN INDIA.

70. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the information regarding "Non-military Rifle Practice Clubs in India" has since been collected from the Provincial Governments (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 556 in the Legislative Assembly on the 18th February, 1929) ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the information obtained to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar :** (a) Yes.

(b) The information is available in the Library of the House.

## PROVISION OF QUARTERS FOR CLERKS OF THE KISHENGUNJ AND ISLAMPUR POST OFFICES.

71. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have since considered the question of providing quarters for clerks of the Kishengunj and Islampur Post Offices in the district of Purnea and come to a decision in the matter ? [Vide Government reply to unstarred question No. 243 (3) in the Legislative Assembly on the 18th February, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**Mr. P. G. Rogers :** (a) and (b) Yes. It has been decided to sanction the construction of quarters for the Sub-Postmaster and two clerks at Islampur and for six clerks at Kishenganj. The quarters will be constructed by instalments according to a yearly programme, and it is hoped to make a beginning this year.

## ACTION OF THE CANTONMENT AUTHORITIES IN A CASE OF CHOLERA IN THE CANTONMENT.

72. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have collected the information regarding "Action of the Cantonment Authorities in a case of Cholera in the Cantonment" ? (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 638 in the Legislative Assembly on the 19th February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

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

(b) A copy of Mr. Young's letter, dated the 9th March 1929, to Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, is laid on the table.

DEMI-OFFICIAL LETTER FROM ARMY SECRETARY, No. 28-Y., DATED THE 9TH MARCH 1929, TO PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA, M.L.A.

With reference to my answer to your starred question No. 638 in the Legislative Assembly on the 19th February 1929, I give below the information asked for :

(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) Government understand that the Assistant Health Officer first of all requested Lala Raja Ram to bring his mother to the Cantonment hospital where arrangements

had been made for the isolation of cholera cases, and it was only when he refused, that he was served with a notice under section 175 of the Cantonments Act, 1924, directing him to bring his mother to the hospital.

(d) and (e). The Assistant Health Officer did not approach the Brigade Commander, but reported the matter to the Health Officer who took the necessary steps to stop the spread of cholera in the Cantonment.

A notice under Section 176 was issued to Lala Raja Ram and a copy of it was sent to the police for service, stating that he should either take his mother to the Cantonment Hospital or else remove her outside the cantonment within 24 hours. Strictly speaking the notice should have been served on the patient herself.

(f) No.

(g) Government are informed that there was no popular consternation.

(h) The notice was cancelled as the woman had died.

(i) Lala Raja Ram being a contact was directed to attend the hospital daily for a week, but this did not interfere with the performance of the funeral ceremonies of his mother.

#### PAY IN THE ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYEES HOLDING CERTAIN DEGREES.

73. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 681 in the Legislative Assembly on 20th February, 1929, will Government please state if inquiries have been made regarding "Pay in the Accounts Department of Employees holding certain Degrees" ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : With your permission, Sir, I will deal with questions Nos. 73, 75, 101, 102 and 136 together.

The replies to the questions referred to by the Honourable Member were sent to the Honourable Members concerned and copies will be found in the Library of the House.

#### EXCESSIVE WORKING HOURS OF TICKET-COLLECTORS, AND GRANT OF UNIFORM TO MENIALS AT MUTTRA STATION ON THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

74. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if inquiries have been made from the Agent of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway regarding "Excessive Working Hours of Ticket-Collectors and Grant of Uniform to Menials at Muttra Station on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway" ? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 684 in the Legislative Assembly on the 20th February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

#### SALARIES OF SHROFFS IN CURRENCY OFFICES.

75. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if the information regarding "Salaries of Shroffs in Currency

†For answer to this question, see answer to unstarred question No. 73.

Officers" has since been obtained? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 700 in the Legislative Assembly on the 23rd February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the information obtained to the House?

#### PROVISION OF A RAISED PLATFORM AT CHINIOT RAILWAY STATION.

76. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan**: (a) Will Government please state if the Agent of the North Western Railway has since considered the question of "Provision of a Raised Platform at Chiniot Railway Station" and come to a decision in the matter? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 703 in the Legislative Assembly on the 23rd February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate to the House the decision arrived at?

**Mr. P. R. Rau**: A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

#### PROVISION OF A WAITING ROOM FOR THIRD CLASS PASSENGERS AT AJODHYA STATION.

77. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan**: (a) With reference to Government reply to unstarred question No. 250 in the Legislative Assembly on the 23rd February, 1929, will Government please state if the Agent of the Bengal and North Western Railway has since considered the matter and come to a decision regarding "Provision of a Waiting Room for 3rd Class Passengers at Ajodhya Station"?

(b) If so, will they please state what the decision is?

**Mr. P. R. Rau**: It has been ascertained from the Agent, Bengal and North Western Railway, that an estimate for the provision of a waiting shed for third class passengers at Ajodhya (Lakarmandi Ghat) station has been sanctioned.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF NURSES IN ALL IMPORTANT HOSPITALS ON THE OUDH AND ROHILKHAND SECTION OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

78. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan**: (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 732 in the Legislative Assembly on the 25th February, 1929, will Government please state if the Agent, East Indian Railway, has come to a decision regarding "Employment of Nurses in all Important Hospitals on the Oudh and Rohilkhand Section of the East Indian Railway"?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the decision to the House?

**Mr. P. R. Rau**: There are no regular railway hospitals at present on the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway Section of the East Indian Railway, though there are some dispensaries with a bed or two for emergent cases. Should any regular hospital be built, the engagement of nurses for them will be considered.

**RULES FOR LEAVE OF EMPLOYEES IN THE LILLOOAH WORKSHOP, EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.**

**79. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have inquired from the Agent of the East Indian Railway regarding " Rules for Leave of Employees in the Lillooah Workshop, East Indian Railway " ? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 734 in the Legislative Assembly on the 25th February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please state if the instructions suggested therein have been considered and approved by the Agent ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**CANCELLATION OF THE INCREMENT OF PAY OF EMPLOYEES IN THE LILLOOAH WORKSHOPS.**

**80. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 735 in the Legislative Assembly on the 25th February, 1929. will Government please state if the Railway Board have inquired from the Agent of the East Indian Railway regarding " Cancellation of the Increment of Pay of Employees in the Lillooah Workshops " ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**NUMBER AND COST OF LOCOMOTIVES SOLD BY ONE RAILWAY TO ANOTHER IN CERTAIN YEARS.**

**81. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have obtained the information regarding " Number and Cost of Locomotives sold by one Railway to another in certain Years " ? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 155 in the Legislative Assembly on the 29th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their information to the House ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**QUALIFICATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENTS OF CIRCLES IN THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.**

**82. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have collected the information regarding " Qualifications of Superintendents of Circles in the Archæological Department " ? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 226 in the Legislative Assembly on the 30th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their information to the House ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** A copy of the information eventually supplied in reply to question No. 226 asked on the 30th January 1929 is laid on the table of the House.

REPLY TO QUESTION NO. 226 ASKED IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ON THE 30TH JANUARY 1929.

(a) Nine important excavations were undertaken last year at Nalanda, Mahastan, Rangamati, Mohenjodaro, Harappa, Taxila, Nagarjoni-konda, in Kalat State and at Promé, in addition to nearly 150 new works of special repair or conservation of ancient monuments.

(b) Superintendents are ordinarily selected by promotion from among Assistant Superintendents who have already served for several years in the Department, and they are required to be qualified in one or more of the following subjects :

Architecture, conservation of ancient monuments, oriental languages, epigraphy, numismatics, iconography, exploration and excavation, and chemistry.

(c) 13 officers of the Department rank as Superintendents at present. Their names and the subjects in which they are qualified are given in the statement below :

Name.	Post.	Subject in which qualified.
1. Mr. Hargreaves .. ..	Offg. Director General of Archaeology in India.	Research and Conservation.
2. Mr. J. F. Blakiston .. ..	Deputy Do. ..	Conservation.
3. Rai Bahadur Daya Ramsahni	Do. (Explorations)	Sanskrit and Research.
4. Mr. A. H. Longhurst .. ..	Superintendent ..	Conservation.
5. Mr. C. Duroiselle .. ..	Do. .. ..	Sanskrit and Burman Archaeology.
6. Mr. Mohd. Sana Ullah .. ..	Archæological Chemist	Chemistry.
7. Mr. J. A. Page .. ..	Superintendent ..	Conservation.
8. K. B. M. Zafar Hasan .. ..	Do. .. ..	Persian, Arabic and Conservation.
9. R. B. Ramaprasad Chanda	Do. Indian Museum	Sanskritist.
10. Dr. Hirananda Sastri .. ..	Government Epigraphist	Research and Sanskrit Epigraphy.
11. Mr. K. N. Dikshit .. ..	Superintendent ..	Sanskrit and Research.
12. Mr. K. V. Subrahmanya Aiyar	Do. .. ..	Sanskrit Epigraphy.
13. Mr. G. C. Chandra .. ..	Do. .. ..	Conservation.

#### MINIMUM RATES OF PAY FOR SKILLED, SEMI-SKILLED, AND UN-SKILLED LABOUR IN RAILWAY WORKSHOPS.

83. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have collected the information regarding " Minimum Rates of Pay for Skilled, Semi-skilled and Un-skilled Labour in Railway Workshops " ? (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 247 in the Legislative Assembly on the 30th January, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their information to the House ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** Complete information has not yet been collected.

**SALE OF ADULTERATED GHEE IN THE NORTH WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE.**

84. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 285 in the Legislative Assembly on the 30th January, 1929, will Government please state if inquiries have been made in the matter of " Sale of Adulterated Ghee in the North West Frontier Province " ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Yes.

(b) It has been reported by the Chief Commissioner that adulteration of ghee is fairly prevalent in the North West Frontier Province and that preventive measures are under consideration. Persons found guilty of adulterating food-stuffs render themselves liable to punishment under the Punjab Adulteration of Food Act, 1919, which is in force in the North West Frontier Province. The municipalities of Peshawar and Dera Ismail Khan have also framed separate bye-laws under the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, prohibiting the sale of pure ghee and of vegetable ghee by the same vendor on the same premises.

**OVERWORK OF FITTERS AT GUNTAKAL ON THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY.**

85. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have completed their inquiries regarding " Overwork of Fitters at Guntakal on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway " ? [Vide Government reply to starred question No. 343 (a) to (g) in the Legislative Assembly on the 31st January, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**REMOVAL OF ALL RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT IN SUBORDINATE STAFF ON RAILWAYS.**

86. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 364 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th February, 1929, will Government please state if replies from the Agents of various railways on the subject of " Removal of all Racial Discrimination in Employment in Subordinate Staff on Railways " have since been received ?

(b) If so, will they please lay them on the table ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** (a) and (b). Copies of replies received from railways have already been placed in the Library of the House.

**PAYMENT DURING LEAVE OF PIECE-WORKERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS.**

87. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have inquired into the matter of " Payment during

Leave of Piece-workers of the Government of India Press" ? (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 372 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) and (b). The result of the inquiries made was communicated to Mr. S. C. Mitra on the 25th March 1929, and a copy of the letter will be found in the Library of the House. A note has since been added to the rules to make their intention clear and was published in the Gazette of India of the 8th June 1929.

#### PROVISION OF A PROVIDENT FUND FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CURRENCY OFFICE.

**88. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they have come to a final conclusion in the matter of "Provision of a Provident Fund for the Employees of the Currency Office" ? (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 380 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate it for the information of the House ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** The Government of India propose to institute a contributory provident fund, on the usual terms, for the non-pensionable employees in the Treasurers' departments of the Currency Offices. The proposal is being placed before the Standing Finance Committee, which is now sitting, and, if the Committee approves, it will then be placed before the Currency Association. It is hoped that final orders will be issued before the beginning of the next financial year.

#### PENSIONS OF PROVINCIAL AND SUBORDINATE SERVICES.

**89. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** Will Government please state if the Provincial Governments, who were authorized by the Government of India to make rules regulating conditions of service, including pensions, of provincial and subordinate services under their control have since completed the drafting of new rules relating to pensions ? (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 381 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th February, 1929.)

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** The power to which the Honourable Member refers was conferred upon Local Governments by the Civil Services (Governors' Provinces) Delegation Rules, 1926, which were made by the Secretary of State in Council. The Bombay Government have made pension rules which differ in some respects from those in the Civil Service Regulations. The other Local Governments, so far as the Government of India are at present aware, have either made no rules of their own regarding pension, which means that the pension rules in the Civil Service Regulations as they stood in 1926 have continued in force, or have simply made a rule of their own re-affirming the pension rules in the Civil Service Regulations.

### APPOINTMENT OF A PERMANENT INDIAN REPRESENTATIVE AT GENEVA.

90. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) With reference to Government reply to unstarred question No. 188 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th February, 1929, will Government please state if the High Commissioner's proposals regarding "Appointment of a permanent Indian Representative at Geneva" have since been received ?

(b) If so, will they please lay a copy of it on the table for the information of the House ?

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : The idea of appointing a permanent representative of India at Geneva has been dropped pending the Report of the Statutory Commission.

### PROMPT PAYMENT OF WAGES.

91. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) With reference to Government reply to unstarred question No. 189 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th February, 1929, will Government please state if they have come to any decision as regards prompt payment of wages ?

(b) If so, will Government please state what it is ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra** : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

### EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES IN INDIA.

92. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if inquiries were made and the views ascertained from Railway Administrations with regard to certain details on the subject of "Education of the children of Railway employees in India" ? [Vide Government reply to unstarred question No. 190 (b) and (c) in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th February, 1929.]

(b) If so, will Government please state if they have come to any decision ?

(c) If their reply to part (b) be in the affirmative, will they please state for the information of the House what their decision is ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : (a) The views of some Railway Administrations have not yet been received.

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

### RESTRICTION OF RECRUITMENT IN THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT OF BOMBAY.

93. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) With reference to Government reply to unstarred question No. 199 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th February, 1929, regarding "Restriction of Recruitment in the Postal Department of Bombay", will Government please state if the Director General has since considered and come to any decision in the matter ?

(b) If so, will they please state what the decision is ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra** : (a) and (b). The matter is still under the consideration of the Director General.

PRICE OF THE OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

**Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 409 in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th February, 1929, regarding "Price of the Official Reports of the Legislative Assembly Debates", will Government please state if they have inquired into the matter ?

(b) If so, is the price of the debates of the Madras Council, as reported therein, correct ?

(c) If so, will they please state if they have considered the desirability of reducing the price of the official reports of the Legislative Assembly and Council of State debates accordingly ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) Yes, the result of the inquiry was communicated to Mr. Vidya Sagar Pandya in a demi-official letter No. A-332, dated the 19th August, 1929, a copy of which has been placed in the Library of the Legislature.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government have considered the desirability of reducing the price of the Legislative Assembly Debates, but do not see their way to making such reduction.

CONSTRUCTION OF A CULVERT AND OVERBRIDGE AT BARAUNI JUNCTION ON THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

**95. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the Agent of the Bengal and North Western Railway has considered the question of "Construction of a Culvert and Overbridge at Barauni Junction on the Bengal and North Western Railway" ? (Vide Government reply to my unstarred question No. 216 in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th February, 1929.

(b) If so, will they please state what is being done in the matter ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** The Agent reports that there is no town at or near Barauni Junction, and that the main district road crosses the railway at the west end of the station and is connected by an approach road to the platform and that there is therefore no necessity for an overbridge at the station.

RECOGNITION OF THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAYMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

**96. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to my unstarred question No. 217 in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th February, 1929, will Government please state if the Agent of the Railway has inquired into the matter of "Recognition of the Bengal and North Western Railwaymen's Association" ?

(b) If so, will they please state if the Association has since been recognised by Government ?

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

(b) No.

**GRANT OF LEAVE AND PASSES TO THE INDIAN STAFF IN THE ASANSOL DIVISION OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.**

97. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the position of the Indian Staff in the Asansol Division of the East Indian Railway on the subject of grant of leave and passes to them has since been investigated and inquiries made from the Agent of the East Indian Railway in respect of inequality of treatment between employees of different communities ? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 736 in the Legislative Assembly on the 25th February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the results of investigation and inquiries to the House ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**PROVISION OF A PLATFORM AT KANKATHER RAILWAY STATION.**

98. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 763 in the Legislative Assembly on the 25th February, 1929, regarding "Provision of a Platform at Kankather Railway Station", will Government please state if the Agent, East Indian Railway, was supplied with a copy of the question under reference ?

(b) If so, will they please state if the Agent has considered the improvement suggested as essential ?

(c) If the reply to part (b) be in the affirmative, will they please state when the construction of the platform is likely to be taken up ?

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

(b) and (c). The Agent states that there are many other stations whose needs are greater than those of Kankather and that it is not anticipated that this station can be provided with a raised platform for some years to come.

**BETTER COMFORTS PROVIDED FOR EUROPEAN THAN FOR INDIAN PASSENGERS ON THE BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY, METRE GAUGE SECTION.**

99. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the report asked for from the Agent of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway on the subject of "Better Comforts provided for European than for Indian Passengers on the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway, Metre Gauge Section" has been received ? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 766 in the Legislative Assembly on the 25th February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please lay a copy of it on the table for the information of the House ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**CONSTRUCTION OF QUARTERS FOR CLERKS OF THE MOTIHARI POST OFFICE.**

100. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) With reference to Government reply to unstarred question No. 255 (c) in the Legislative Assembly on the 25th February, 1929, on the subject of "Construction of Quarters for the Clerks of the Motihari Post Office", will Government please state if the estimates for the remaining quarters have since been prepared ?

(b) If so, will they please state whether the construction of the quarters has since commenced ?

(c) If not, by what time is the construction work likely to be taken up ?

**Mr. P. G. Rogers** : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Two sets of quarters have already been completed. For financial reasons the construction of all the remaining seven sets of quarters cannot be undertaken simultaneously. The Postmaster General has been directed to proceed with them by instalments, each year devoting a portion of the funds placed at his disposal to this purpose.

**REDUCTION OF PAY OF CLERKS IN THE TRAFFIC AUDIT OFFICE OF THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY AT BOMBAY.**

†101. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if inquiries have been made regarding "Reduction of Pay of Clerks in the Traffic Audit Office of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway at Bombay" ? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 790 in the Legislative Assembly on the 26th February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**NON-RECOGNITION OF THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY AUDIT STAFF UNION.**

†102. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 813 in the Legislative Assembly on the 26th February, 1929, regarding "Non-recognition of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Audit Staff Union", will Government be pleased to state if they have since inquired into the matter ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**RULES FOR THE ISSUE OF FREE PASSES ON STATE RAILWAYS.**

103. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if the information regarding "Rules for the Issue of Free Passes on State Railways" has been collected ? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 797 in the Legislative Assembly on the 26th February, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

†For answer to this question, see answer to unstarred question No. 73.

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

#### GRANT OF FREE PASSES TO EMPLOYEES OF THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETY.

104. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 799 in the Legislative Assembly on the 26th February, 1929, regarding "Grant of Free Passes to Employees of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Employees' Co-operative Credit Society", will Government please state if the position has been ascertained from the Agent of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway?

(b) If so, will they please communicate it for the information of the House?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

#### PAY OF CLERICAL STAFF OF CERTAIN RAILWAY OFFICES.

105. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the report was called for from the Agent of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway regarding "Pay of Clerical Staff of certain Railway Offices"? [Vide Government reply to starred question No. 806 (b) to (f) in the Legislative Assembly on the 26th February, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please place a copy of it on the table?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

#### RULES FOR RECRUITMENT OF ANGLO-INDIAN, INDIAN AND EUROPEAN APPRENTICES AT THE KHARAGPUR RAILWAY WORKSHOPS.

106. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if inquiry has been made from the Agent, Bengal Nagpur Railway, regarding "Rules for the Recruitment of Anglo-Indian, Indian and European Apprentices at the Kharagpur Railway Workshops"? [Vide Government reply to starred question No. 819 in the Legislative Assembly on the 26th February, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

#### REDUCTION OF SCALES OF PAY OF THE CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENT, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, ALIGARH.

107. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 848 in the Legislative

Assembly on the 4th March, 1929, regarding "Reduction of Scales of Pay of the Clerical Establishment, Aligarh Press", will Government be pleased to state if they have arrived at a decision in the matter?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the decision arrived at to the House?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** The proposals for the reorganisation of the establishment of the Aligarh Press are still under the consideration of Government and no decision has yet been arrived at.

**TOWN INSPECTORS OF POST OFFICES REMOVED FROM THEIR SUBSTANTIVE POSTS AND RESTORED UNDER RECENT ORDERS.**

**108. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have collected information regarding "Town Inspectors of Post Offices removed from their Substantive Posts and restored under Recent Orders"? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 850 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate to the House the information received?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) and (b). Yes: and the information obtained has already been supplied to Mr. Kidwai by the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, in the form of a statement, a copy of which has been placed in the Library of the House.

**CONSTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY BETWEEN HAZARIBAGH ROAD STATION AND HAZARIBAGH TOWN.**

**109. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the results of the survey regarding "Construction of a Railway between Hazaribagh Road Station and Hazaribagh Town" have yet been received by them? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 871 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please state when the construction is likely to be taken up?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** The results of the survey have not yet been received.

**ENTRAINING OF PASSENGERS AT THE TEMPORARY STATIONS ON THE POONPON RIVER, EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.**

**110. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 885 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th March, 1929, will Government please state if they have obtained the information regarding "Entraining of Passengers at the temporary stations on the Poonpon River, East Indian Railway"?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the information to the House?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

## INCREASED COST OF MILK IN INDIAN CITIES.

111. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if they have collected information regarding "Increased Cost of Milk in Indian Cities" ? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 889 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their information to the House ?

**Sir Frank Noyce** : (a) Yes.

(b) A copy of the information supplied to Mr. Siddheshwar Prasad Sinha, M.L.A., has been placed in the Library of the House.

## GRANT OF HOUSE RENT TO TOWN INSPECTORS OF POST OFFICES IN CALCUTTA.

112. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if they have since inquired regarding "Grant of House Rent to Town Inspectors of Post Offices in Calcutta" ? (*Vide* Government reply to unstarred question No. 266 in the Legislative Assembly on the 4th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

**Mr. P. G. Rogers** : (a) Yes.

(b) The result of the inquiries was communicated to Mr. S. C. Mitra and a copy of the communication placed in the Library of the House. I may add for the Honourable Member's information that arrangements have since been made to provide all the Town Inspectors in Calcutta with office accommodation on post office premises.

## TUBE RAILWAY FOR CALCUTTA.

113. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the paragraph published in the issue of the *Statesman* of 14th July, 1929 (page 9), under the heading "Tube Railway for Calcutta" ?

(b) If so, will they please state if they are aware of how matters stand at present with regard to the scheme and also furnish their information to the House ?

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

(b) A preliminary report has been received from the Electrical Consulting Engineers to the Government of India and the matter is under investigation.

## CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHAKIA-SIDHWALIA RAILWAY.

114. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if they have since considered the project report regarding "Construction of the Chakia-Sidhwalia Railway" and come to any decision in the matter ? (*Vide* Government reply to starred question No. 923 in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please state when the construction of the line is likely to be taken up ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** Certain details of the project have been under reference with the Agent of the Bengal and North Western Railway. A revised report has just been received and is now under examination.

**UNHEALTHY QUARTERS AT ISWARDI FOR GUARDS ON THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.**

115. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have inquired into the matter of "Unhealthy Quarters at Iswardi for Guards on the Eastern Bengal Railway"? (*Vide* Government reply to unstarred question No. 280 in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th March, 1929) ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**MEMORIAL FROM CLERKS IN THE LOWER DIVISION OF THE POST AND TELEGRAPH ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT.**

116. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if the Auditor General has since considered the question and come to a decision in the matter of "Memorial from Clerks in the Lower Division of the Post and Telegraph Accounts Department"? (*Vide* Government reply to unstarred question No. 282 in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** The memorial has been withheld by the Government of India under the Memorial Rules, but the Auditor General has revised the pay as under :

*Old scale—*

Delhi Rs. 40—3—55—2—65—1—75—5|5—80.

Calcutta and Madras Rs. 40—3—55—2—65—1—75—5|5—80.

Nagpur Rs. 30—3—60—2—70—1—75—5|5—80.

*New scale—*

Delhi Rs. 45—2—95.

Calcutta and Madras Rs. 40—2—90.

Nagpur Rs. 30—3—60—2—90.

**ALLEGED RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN THE PUNISHMENT OF OFFENCES ON THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.**

117. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to unstarred question No. 285 in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th March, 1929, regarding "Alleged Racial Discrimination in the Punishment of Offences on the Eastern Bengal Railway", will Government please state if they have completed their inquiries in the matter ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

#### EXCLUSION OF INDIANS FROM COMMERCIAL SALE ROOMS IN LONDON.

118. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 980 (b) and (c) in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th March, 1929, on the subject of " Exclusion of Indians from Commercial Sale Rooms in London ", will Government please state if the reply has since been received from the High Commissioner, London ?

(b) If so, will they please place a copy of it on the table of the House ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** (a) Government are in correspondence with the High Commissioner on the subject.

(b) Government are not in a position to do so at present.

#### INCREASE OF BOAT HIRE AND ROWERS' ALLOWANCE FOR POSTMEN SERVING IN THE RIVERINE DISTRICTS.

119. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have since completed their inquiry and come to a decision in the matter of " Increase of Boat Hire and Rowers' Allowance for Postmen serving in Riverine Districts " ? [Vide Government reply to starred question No. 1009 (a) and (b) in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th March, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

**Mr. P. G. Rogers :** (a) and (b). The matter is still under inquiry. The Honourable Member will be duly informed of any decision which may be arrived at in this case.

#### GRANT OF SUNDAY AND HOLIDAY ALLOWANCES TO POST OFFICE EMPLOYEES.

120. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 1013 (b) and (c) in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th March, 1929, will Government please state if they have since come to any decision regarding " Grant of Sunday and Holiday Allowances to Post Office Employees " ?

(b) If so, will they please state for the information of the House what their decision is ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** No decision has yet been arrived at.

#### PROVISION OF RUNNING ROOMS FOR INDIAN GUARDS AND DRIVERS ON THE BINA-KOTAH SECTION OF THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

121. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have obtained information from the Agent of the Great

Indian Peninsula Railway regarding "Provision of Running Rooms for Indian Guards and Drivers on the Bina-Kotah Section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway" ? (Vide Government reply to unstarred question No. 322 in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their information to the House ?

**Mr. P. E. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**REDUCTION OF WORKING HOURS AND PAYMENT OF AN ALLOWANCE FOR WORKING ON HOLIDAYS IN THE CASE OF INDIAN BOOKING CLERKS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.**

122. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they have received information from the Agent regarding "Reduction of Working Hours and Payment of an Allowance for working on Holidays in the case of Indian Booking Clerks on the East Indian Railway" ? (Vide Government reply to unstarred question No. 325 in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the information to the House ?

**Mr. P. E. Rau :** (a) I would refer the Honourable Member to Railway Board's letter No. 7965-E., dated 23rd March, 1929, to his address, which contained the information asked for.

(b) A copy of the reply is in the Library of the House.

**APPOINTMENT OF INDIAN LADIES TO THE WOMEN'S MEDICAL SERVICE.**

123. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have completed their inquiries regarding "Appointment of Indian Ladies to the Women's Medical Service" ? [Vide Government reply to starred question No. 1070 (b) and (c) in the Legislative Assembly on the 15th March, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Yes.

(b) It is not a fact that several Indian ladies possessing the degree of M.D. or F.R.C.S. of London or Edinburgh were refused appointments in the Women's Medical Service on the ground of insufficient clinical experience. In 1927, an Indian lady possessing the degree of M.D. (London) applied for admission to the Women's Medical Service, but as she had not held any hospital post or been in charge of patients in a recognised Women's Hospital, she was offered a post in the training reserve with a view to her subsequent admission to the Service proper. She refused this offer. The clinical experience required for admission to the Women's Medical Service is the tenure, for at least one year, of a resident post in a recognised women's hospital. All the non-Indian members of the Women's Medical Service had this experience before they were appointed to the Service.

**APPOINTMENT OF AN INDIAN LADY TO A SUPERIOR ADMINISTRATIVE POST IN THE WOMEN'S MEDICAL SERVICE.**

124. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have since made inquiries regarding "Appointment of an Indian Lady to a Superior Administrative Post in the Women's Medical Service" ? (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 1072 in the Legislative Assembly on the 15th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Yes.

(b) The post of Assistant to the Inspector General of Civil Hospitals, United Provinces, is held by an Indian lady, who was appointed in 1922.

**RULE ON THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY BARRING INDIANS FROM APPRENTICESHIP IN THE LOCO. DEPARTMENT.**

125. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 1085 in the Legislative Assembly on the 18th March, 1929, will Government please state if they have inquired from the Agent, Bengal and North Western Railway, regarding "Rule on the Bengal and North Western Railway barring Indians from Apprenticeship in the Loco. Department" ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

**Mr. P. E. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**SCALE OF PAY OF CERTAIN EUROPEAN AND INDIAN OFFICIALS ON THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**

126. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to supplementary question to starred question No. 1088 in the Legislative Assembly on the 18th March, 1929, on the subject of racial discrimination in the "Scale of Pay of certain European and Indian Officials on the Bengal and North Western Railway", will Government please state if they have since inquired into the matter ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**Mr. P. E. Rau :** The Agent, Bengal and North Western Railway, reports that on that railway there is no racial discrimination in regard to the pay given to Indians, Anglo-Indians and Europeans for work of the same kind, class and degree of responsibility.

**COST OF THE EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN OF INDIAN, ANGLO-INDIAN AND EUROPEAN EMPLOYEES ON THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**

127. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have obtained information regarding "Cost of the

Education of the Children of Indian, Anglo-Indian and European Employees on the Bengal and North Western Railway" ? [Vide Government reply to starred question No. 1089 (b) in the Legislative Assembly on the 18th March, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please lay a copy of the information on the table ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**ALLEGED INTIMIDATION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY FOR JOINING THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAYMEN'S ASSOCIATION.**

**128. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to unstarred question No. 335 in the Legislative Assembly on the 18th March, 1929, on the subject of "Alleged Intimidation of Employees of the Bengal and North Western Railway for joining the Bengal and North Western Railwaymen's Association", will Government please state if they have since obtained information on the subject ?

(b) If so, will they please give the information to the House ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**EMPLOYMENT OF ASSISTANT GUARDS AS GUARDS ON THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**

**129. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have since been able to obtain a cutting of the letter published in the *Forward* of the 17th October, 1928, under the heading "Employment of Assistant Guards as Guards on the Bengal and North Western Railway" ? (Vide Government reply to unstarred question No. 343 in the Legislative Assembly on the 18th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please state if they have considered and arrived at a conclusion in the matter ?

(c) If the reply to part (b) be in the affirmative, will they please communicate their conclusions to the House ?

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

(b) and (c). The question is under consideration.

**GRANT OF BENEFITS OF THE PROVIDENT FUND TO EMPLOYEES IN RAILWAY WORKSHOPS.**

**130. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have collected information regarding "Grant of Benefits of the Provident Fund to Employees in Railway Workshops" ? [Vide Government reply to starred question No. 1205 (b) in the Legislative Assembly on the 22nd March, 1929.]

(b) If so, will they please lay the information on the table ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**PAYMENT OF RENT FOR QUARTERS BY WORKMEN ON THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**

131. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 1206 in the Legislative Assembly on the 22nd March, 1929, on the subject of "Payment of Rent for Quarters by Workmen on the Bengal and North Western Railway", will Government please state if the information required therein has been collected ?

(b) If so, will they please lay the information on the table ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**INTRODUCTION OF AN EXAMINATION FOR PROMOTION TO THE SECOND DIVISION IN THE TRAFFIC BRANCH OF THE TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.**

132. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have reached a decision in the matter of "Introduction of an Examination for Promotion to the Second Division in the Traffic Branch of the Telegraph Department" ? (*Vide* Government reply to unstarred question No. 369 in the Legislative Assembly on the 22nd March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** No decision has yet been reached.

**LEAD POISONING OF WORKERS IN GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESSES.**

133. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to starred question No. 1244 in the Legislative Assembly on the 27th March, 1929, on the subject of "Lead Poisoning of Workers in Government of India Presses", will Government be pleased to state if they have inquired and come to a decision in the matter ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiries to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) and (b). Yes, the result of the inquiry was communicated to Diwan Chaman Lall in the demi-official letter from the Department of Industries and Labour, No. A. 332, dated the 15th July, 1929, copies of which have been placed in the Library of the Legislative Assembly.

**PROVISION OF LATRINES IN SERVANTS' QUARTERS ON STATE RAILWAYS.**

134. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have considered the question of providing latrines in servants' compartments on State Railways ? (*Vide* Government reply to unstarred question No. 379 in the Legislative Assembly on the 27th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** No final decision has yet been arrived at. In servants' compartments of new stock suitable lavatory accommodation is being installed, but there are difficulties in providing such facilities in existing stock. The question how far these difficulties can be surmounted is under consideration.

#### GRANTING OF CYCLE ALLOWANCE TO CERTAIN CLERKS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, DELHI.

135. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have considered the question of "Granting Cycle Allowance to certain Clerks in the Government of India Press, Delhi" ? (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 1317 in the Legislative Assembly on the 28th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their decision to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) and (b). The matter was re-considered by the Controller of Printing and Stationery and he has sanctioned cycle advances to the clerks of the Government of India Press, Delhi, who applied for them.

#### DIFFERENCE IN PAY OF EUROPEANS AND INDIANS APPOINTED TO THE ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT.

†136. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to unstarred question No. 483 in the Legislative Assembly on the 3rd April, 1929, on the subject of "Difference in Pay of Europeans and Indians appointed to the Accounts Department", will Government please state if an inquiry has been made in the matter ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

#### APPOINTMENT OF INDIAN TRADE COMMISSIONERS AT IMPORTANT TRADE CENTRES IN EUROPE.

137. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have considered the proposals and arrived at a conclusion in the matter of "Appointment of Indian Trade Commissioners at important Trade Centres in Europe" ? (Vide Government reply to starred question No. 1437 in the Legislative Assembly on the 2nd April, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate their conclusions to the House ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** The question of appointing Indian Trade Commissioners in Europe is still under consideration.

**NON-ADMISSION OF INDIAN APPRENTICES INTO THE LOCO. DEPARTMENT OF THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**

138. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Will Government please state if they have completed their inquiry in the matter of "Non-admission of Indian Apprentices into the Loco. Department of the Bengal and North Western Railway" ? (*Vide* Government reply to question No. 76 in the Council of State on the 4th March, 1929.)

(b) If so, will they please communicate the result of their inquiry to the House ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** A copy of the reply sent to the Honourable Member who put the question referred to, is, I understand, in the Library of the House.

**APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSIONER OF MEDICAL EDUCATION FOR INDIA.**

139. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the paragraph published in the issue of the *Statesman* of the 17th July, 1929 (page 10), under the heading "Medical Education—Proposed Appointment of Commissioner for India" ?

(b) If so, will they please state if it is contemplated that the Government of India will appoint a whole-time Commissioner of Medical Education for India ?

(c) If so, when is the appointment expected to be announced ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India propose to create a whole-time post of Commissioner of Medical Qualifications and Standards for India on behalf of the General Medical Council, on a temporary footing for a period of one year in the first instance.

(c) It is hoped shortly to announce the appointment.

**GRIEVANCES IN CONNECTION WITH THE BANKIPORE POST OFFICE.**

140. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the letter published in the issue of the *Searchlight* of the 14th July, 1929 (page 12), under the heading "Bankipore Post Office" ?

(b) If so, will they please state if the complaints made therein are correct ?

(c) If correct, do they propose to see that the grievances complained of are redressed ?

**Mr. P. G. Rogers :** (a) Yes.

(b) The complaint relating to the absence of screens in the western verandah of the Bankipore post office is correct. With respect to the suggestion to extend the telegraph counter, this is not considered necessary, as the counter is of a size adapted to public transactions.

(c) Steps have been taken to provide the screens.

**DEPLORABLE CONDITION OF THE SUBORDINATE STAFF OF THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**

**141. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) With reference to Government reply to my unstarred question No. 218 (b) in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th February, 1929, regarding "Deplorable Condition of the Subordinate Staff of the Bengal and North Western Railway", will Government please state if they have obtained necessary information from the Agent, Bengal and North Western Railway, on the subject ?

(b) If so, will they please communicate the information received to the House ?

(c) If no information has been received, will they please see that the matter is expedited ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** The Agent, Bengal and North Western Railway, who was communicated with, as promised by Mr. Parsons, is of the opinion that the allegation that the condition of the subordinate staff in that Railway is deplorable is unfounded. Unless the Honourable Member is able to give me particulars substantiating the allegation, I am afraid there is nothing that I can do in the matter.

**ROYAL INDIAN MARINE EXAMINATION.**

**142; Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the paragraph published in the issue of the *Statesman* of the 25th July, 1929 (page 9), under the heading "Royal Indian Marine Examination to be held in November" ?

(b) If so, will Government please state if the facts stated therein are correct ?

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham :** (a) and (b). The reply to both parts of the question is in the affirmative. The notice in the *Statesman* is an abbreviation of a communiqué issued to the Press by Government. The Honourable Member will find the full text of the communiqué in Marine Department Notification No. 33 in the Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 1929.

**INCLUSION OF INDIAN REPRESENTATIVES IN THE INQUIRY FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC.**

**143. Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the paragraph published in the issue of the *Statesman* of the 26th July, 1929 (page 9), under the heading "White Slave Traffic, Eastern Countries asked to co-operate" ?

(b) If so, will Government please state if the statements made therein, namely, "In the House of Commons to-day replying to questions, Mr. Arthur Henderson, Foreign Secretary, said that if replies of the Governments of Eastern Countries to the query of the Council of the League of Nations whether they were prepared to co-operate in the continuation of the inquiry as regards the traffic in women and children were favourable, the Council would consider the composition of a special body of experts and he would confer with Mr. Wedgwood Benn as regards the desirability of including Indian representatives" are correct ?

**The Honourable Sir James Orerar :** (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India have received information that the matter is now under consideration by the League of Nations.

**AMOUNT RECEIVED BY INDIA AS REPARATIONS FROM GERMANY.**

**144. Mr. E. L. Price :** Will Government be pleased to state the amounts received as reparations from Germany by India since the Treaty of Versailles ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** The total amount received as reparations from Germany up to the 30th June, 1929, is £844,051—2—3.

**COMPLAINT BY THE COIMBATORE MILLS REGARDING FREIGHT ON COTTON YARN.**

**145. Mr. Vidya Sagar Pandya :** Will Government be pleased to state :

- (1) what is the time taken in each case between the filing of a complaint before the Railway Rates Advisory Committee and the passing of orders by Government ;
- (2) whether they are aware of the great delay in the settlement of complaints regarding undue preferences, and whether they are prepared to consider the feasibility of a thorough inquiry into the Indian Railway Tariff policy ;
- (3) how long the mills in Madura under the management of Messrs. A. F. Harvey have, in booking yarn to Calcutta, been paying 25 per cent. less freight for a longer distance when compared to the Coimbatore Mills under the management of Messrs. P. S. Govindasamy Naidu and Sons and others ;
- (4) whether the Railway Companies concerned have, after the filing of a complaint by Messrs. P. S. Govindasamy Naidu and Sons before the Railway Rates Advisory Committee, actually increased the freight for yarn from Coimbatore to Calcutta, and whether they have demanded from them an undertaking not to book their goods by the sea ; and
- (5) whether the Railway Board ever received an intimation of such lightning changes in rates of freight, and, if so, whether the Board ever examines the need and fairness of such alterations ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** (1) The average time taken, taking into consideration all cases in which final orders have been passed, is about 10 months.

(2) Although considerable time is taken in the settlement of complaints referred to the Railway Rates Advisory Committee, it has to be borne in mind that various interests are involved, and that all the issues connected with the subject under examination require investigation before a final decision can be arrived at. I cannot see how a general inquiry into the Indian Railway Tariff policy would expedite the disposal of such cases.

(3), (4) and (5). The information is being obtained and will be furnished to the Honourable Member on receipt.

**TOTAL OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS TO AND FROM INDIA, AND AMOUNT OF CUSTOMS DUTIES COLLECTED THEREON.**

146. **Mr. E. L. Price** : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (1) The total foreign trade of India, (a) Import, and (b) Export, for the year ending the 31st March, 1913, and the amount of customs duties collected thereon, (a) and (b) separately ;
- (2) The total foreign trade of India, (a) Import, and (b) Export, for the year ending the 31st March, 1929, and the amount of customs duties collected thereon, (a) and (b) separately ;
- (3) What estimate can be made of the incidence of this increased taxation, (a) as between agriculturists and townfolk, and (b) as between the peoples of British India and those of the Native States ;
- (4) What proportion of this increased taxation has been imposed, (a) for protective purposes, and (b) for revenue purposes ; and
- (5) What hope there is of reducing the burden of customs taxation on imports and/or exports in the near future ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : (1), (2) and (4). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the "Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India" for the years 1912-13 and 1928-29.

(3) It is not possible to make an estimate which could claim to be either accurate or useful.

(5) Government can make no statement in regard to this. For reasons of public policy and the public interest it is generally undesirable to canvass possible changes in taxation until such have been actually decided upon by the Executive Government, and as a rule it is convenient to deal with proposals relating to taxation only in connection with the annual Budget.

**POLITICAL STATUS OF TRIBES LIVING IN UNSETTLED DISTRICTS ON THE NORTH WEST FRONTIER.**

147. **Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan** : (a) Will Government please state if there are no tribes on the Frontier which owe suzerainty to either the British Government or the Afghan Government ?

(b) If so, will Government please state the political status of the tribes living in the unsettled districts ?

**Sir Denys Bray** : I am not quite sure of the precise meaning of the question, but all tribes on the Indian side of the Indo-Afghan boundary (commonly known as the Durand Line) are under the suzerainty of His Majesty the King-Emperor.

**IMPROVEMENT OF POSTAL FACILITIES BETWEEN KARACHI AND THE REST OF INDIA.**

148. **Mr. E. L. Price** : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is realised that postal facilities between Karachi and the rest of India

are poor in the extreme, and that letters by the existing services from Karachi take practically two days to reach Bombay and four days to reach Calcutta ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** Considering the distances to be covered, Government do not subscribe to the Honourable Member's description of the postal facilities between Karachi and the rest of India. Under present arrangements, mails from Karachi are conveyed to the principal towns of Northern India in from 24 to 36 hours ; to the manufacturing centres of the United Provinces in 48 hours ; to Bombay within 48 hours and to Calcutta within 64 hours.

**POWERS OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE INDIAN MUSEUM IN REGARD TO THE PAY AND PENSIONS OF OFFICERS EMPLOYED THERE.**

149. **Mr. K. C. Neogy :** (a) What are the powers of the Trustees of the Indian Museum in relation to officers and servants who are paid out of the grant made by the Central Government specifically for its establishment ? Are the Trustees empowered to alter the salary of an officer without the previous sanction of the Government of India ?

(b) What is the source from which the pension of officers and servants of the Indian Museum is met, and who sanctions such pension ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to refer to the Annual Return of the Trustees of the Indian Museum, showing a detailed statement of permanent establishment existing on the 1st April for the year 1928-29, and state whether the name of any non-gazetted Government servant is omitted from the Annual Return of the previous year and, if so, the reason for such action ?

(d) What was the scale of pay shown for the post of the said officer ? Can the substantive pay of such an officer be reduced without any allegation of inefficiency or misbehaviour against him ?

(e) Did the said officer make any representations for the redress of his grievances ? If so, with what result ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) The powers of the Trustees of the Indian Museum in relation to their officers and servants, who are paid out of the grant made by the Central Government are defined in section 9 of the Indian Museum Act, 1910 (No. X of 1910), to which the Honourable Member is referred. The Trustees are not empowered to alter the salary of any of their officers without the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council.

(b) Charges on account of pension are met from the fund created by the annual grant-in-aid sanctioned by the Government of India for the office of the Trustees, and pensions are sanctioned by the Trustees.

(c), (d) and (e). The information asked for is being collected and will be supplied to the Honourable Member later.

**CONSTRUCTION OF QUARTERS FOR THE CLERKS OF MOTIHARI HEAD POST OFFICE, BIHAR AND ORISSA.**

150. **Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) With reference to my unstarred questions No. 139, dated 4th September, 1928, and No. 255 of the 25th February, 1929, is it a fact that only two sets of quarters have been constructed for the clerks of Motihari Head Post Office (Bihar and Orissa), out of the six sets of the proposed quarters ?

(b) Is it a fact that out of these two sets of quarters one has been allotted to the Deputy Postmaster, and the other one to a clerk ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Postmaster General, Bihar and Orissa, has submitted his scheme for the construction of these remaining sets of quarters to the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, for his approval, and the grant of additional funds for the purpose ?

(d) If the answers to parts (a) to (c) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for the delay in completing these constructions which causes much hardship to the clerks ?

**Mr. P. G. Rogers :** (a), (b) and (c). The reply is in the affirmative.

(d) The Honourable Member is referred to the answer already given to Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan in reply to his unstarred question No. 100 of to-day's date.

**PAY OF THE HEAD ASSISTANTS, ACCOUNTANTS, ASSISTANTS AND CLERKS EMPLOYED IN THE STATIONERY AND PRINTING DEPARTMENT, CALCUTTA.**

151. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number and pay of the head assistants, accountants, assistants and clerks in Grades I and II employed in the various branches of the Stationery and Printing Department in Calcutta ?

(b) Is it a fact that they submitted a memorial for the betterment of their pay and prospects in February, 1927 ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to refer to the Industries and Labour Department letter No. A-431, dated the 19th July, 1929, and state the number of head assistants, accountants, assistants and clerks in Grades I and II whose salaries have been proposed for enhancement as the result of the memorial ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state the circumstances under which the salaries of the assistants and clerks in Grade I have not been proposed for enhancement as the result of the memorial ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** (a) The information is given in the attached statement.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) The letter referred to by the Honourable Member is a confidential document which cannot properly have been communicated to the Honourable Member, and I am not prepared to discuss its contents.

*Statement showing the number and pay of the Head Assistants, Accountants, Clerks, Grades I and II, employed in the various branches of the Stationery and Printing Department in Calcutta.*

Designation.	Number of appointments.	Scales of pay.
		Rs.
Head Assistants .. .. .	2	300—10—350
Do. .. .. .	4	250—10—300
Do. .. .. .	4	200—10—250
Accountants .. .. .	1	250—10—300
Do. .. .. .	1	200—10—250
Do. .. .. .	2	150—10—250
Do. .. .. .	1	150—10—200
Cashiers .. .. .	2	200—10—250
Do. .. .. .	1	80—80—100—5—150—10—200
Assistants .. .. .	41	80—80—100—5—150—10—200
Clerks (Grade I) .. .. .	157	45—45—50—3—65—4—85—4— 105—5—140
Clerks (Grade II) .. .. .	230	40—40—45—5/2—70—5/2—100
Head Computer .. .. .	1	150—10—200

**NATURE OF DUTIES AND PAY OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE PRINTING AND STATIONERY DEPARTMENT, CALCUTTA.**

152. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of graduates and non-graduates in the ranks of head assistants, accountants, assistants and clerks in Grades I and II employed in the various branches of the Printing and Stationery Department in Calcutta ?

(b) Is it a fact that the assistants in charge of sections in the Central Publication Branch do exactly the same nature of duties as those performed by the head assistants of the Central Stationery Office ?

(c) If the reply to part (b) be in the negative, will Government be pleased to state the number of drafts and cases passed through the head assistant to the Assistant Manager or the Manager of the Central Publication Branch out of the total number of letters issued and cases disposed of in that Branch ?

(d) If the reply to part (b) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the circumstances under which assistants in charge of sections under the branches of the Central Stationery Office are not allowed to deal direct with the officers like the assistants in charge of sections in the Central Publication Branch ?

(e) Is it a fact that to add efficiency to the working of the Printing and Stationery Department, assistants and clerks in Grade I with high University qualifications have been recruited ?

(f) Is it a fact that persons referred to in part (e) are more highly qualified than the head assistants and accountants ?

(g) If the reply to part (f) be in the negative, will Government be pleased to state whether (i) any inquiry to this effect was ever made by any

special officer, or (ii) any orders were passed stopping the recruitment of graduates to those ranks ?

(h) If the reply to part (f) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the circumstances under which the salaries of the assistants and clerks in Grade I have not been proposed for enhancement as a result of the memorial submitted by them in February, 1927 ?

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra :** I propose to deal with questions Nos. 152 and 153 together. The Controller of Printing and Stationery is responsible to Government generally for the efficient administration of the various branches of the Printing and Stationery Department in Calcutta, and Government do not propose to call for information regarding these administrative details, which are matters for his discretion.

**METHOD OF FILLING VACANCIES IN THE STATIONERY AND PRINTING DEPARTMENT, CALCUTTA.**

†153. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether a combined Gradation List of the staff under the Printing and Stationery Department in Calcutta is maintained ?

(b) If the reply to part (a) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state :

- (i) the number of officiating and permanent posts which fell vacant in the Printing and Stationery Department in Calcutta during 1928 and 1929 ;
- (ii) the names of clerks with their position in the Gradation List who were appointed to those posts ;
- (iii) the circumstances under which the seniority in position in the Gradation List was not followed ;
- (iv) the number of applications submitted protesting against the procedure adopted in filling up those vacancies ; and
- (v) the number of applications withdrawn under pressure from the officers of that Department ?

(c) Is it a fact that the above vacancies were filled up by promotions (i) sometimes on the ground of seniority in the Gradation List, (ii) sometimes on the ground of educational qualification, (iii) sometimes on the ground of merit without any previous remark to that effect in the service book or the character roll, and (iv) sometimes on the ground of purely administrative convenience ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state the circumstances under which no uniformity of principle was adopted in filling up the vacancies mentioned in (b) (i) above ?

(e) Do Government propose to inquire into the above matter and frame uniform rules for promotions and filling up officiating vacancies in the Stationery and Printing Department in future ?

VALUE OF THE STORES AND STATIONERY OF THE CENTRAL STATIONERY OFFICE,  
CALCUTTA, CONDEMNED IN THE YEARS 1924 TO 1928.

154. Mr. S. C. Mitra : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the value of condemned stores of stationery during 1924 to 1928, year by year, in the Central Stationery Office ?

(b) Is it a fact that a post of gazetted officer with a fully equipped laboratory is maintained in the Central Stationery Office for regular examination of stationery stores ?

(c) If the answer to part (b) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state (i) the number of cases of complaint from officers drawing stationery from the said office about the inferior quality of stationery supplied ; (ii) the number of cases in which exchanges of supplies were effected ; and (iii) the amount of extra expenditure incurred by Government thereby from 1924 to 1928 year by year ?

(d) Is it a fact that stationery articles are purchased on tenders after the samples submitted by the tenderers are properly examined ?

(e) If the replies to parts (b) and (d) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether the amount of extra expenditure, as mentioned in (c) (iii) above is (i) written off against Government, or (ii) realised from the contractors for supplying defective articles, or (iii) realised from the Store Examiner and Store Keeper of the Central Stationery Office, in view of the Circular issued by the Finance Department of the Government of India recently ?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra : Inquiries are being made and the results will be communicated to the Honourable Member in due course.

SYSTEM OF PURCHASE OF STATIONERY FOLLOWED BY THE PRINTING AND STATIONERY DEPARTMENT, CALCUTTA.

†155. Mr. S. C. Mitra : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total value of the stationery articles (i) manufactured in India, and (ii) not manufactured in India, purchased in India by the Printing and Stationery Department during 1926, 1927 and 1928 ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state (i) the number of complaints from various indenting officers against the quality of such articles, (ii) the value of such articles condemned and (iii) the value of such articles lying stocked in the Stationery Store, as mentioned in part (a) above ?

(c) Is it a fact that these articles are purchased by the Controller of Printing and Stationery on the test reports of the Store Examiner ?

(d) Is it a fact that stationery articles of inferior quality are purchased from certain selected contractors overlooking the superior quality of the same articles tendered by other firms ?

†For answer to this question, see answer to unstarred question No. 154.

(e) Is it a fact that no action is taken against those suppliers even if they fail to deliver the stationery articles within the time stipulated in the order placed by the Stationery Office even though local purchases of those articles are resorted to at a higher price to meet urgent demands of the indenting officers ?

(f) Will Government be pleased to state whether any Committee was ever appointed (i) to inquire into the system of purchase of stationery articles followed in the Central Stationery Office and (ii) to suggest any method to prevent the recurrence of the state of affairs as mentioned in part (b) above ?

#### INTERPRETATION OF THE WORDS USED IN TAKING THE OATH OF OFFICE BY MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

156. **Mr. E. L. Price** : Will Government be pleased to state whether as regards the oath taken by Members of this House and the words " that I will faithfully discharge the duty upon which I am about to enter ", there is any interpretation, authoritative or otherwise, that modifies the literal meaning ?

**The Honourable Sir James Orerar** : There is no interpretation other than the literal one so far as I am aware.

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#### GOVERNOR GENERAL'S ASSENT TO BILLS.

**Mr. President** : I have to inform Honourable Members that the following Bills, which were passed by both Chambers of the Indian Legislature during the Delhi Session, 1929, have been assented to by His Excellency the Governor General under the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 68 of the Government of India Act :

The Indian Limitation (Amendment) Act, 1929.

The Hindu Law of Inheritance (Amendment) Act, 1929.

The Presidency Towns Insolvency (Amendment) Act, 1929.

The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1929.

The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Act, 1929.

The Indian Finance Act, 1929.

The Trade Disputes Act, 1929.

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#### PETITIONS RELATING TO THE HINDU CHILD MARRIAGE BILL.

**Secretary of the Assembly** : Sir, under Standing Order 78, I have to report that forty-seven petitions, as per statement laid on the table, have been received relating to the Bill to regulate marriages of children amongst the Hindus which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on the 1st February, 1927, by Rai Sahib Harbilas Sardar.

*Petitions relating to the Bill to regulate marriages of children amongst the Hindus which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on the 1st February, 1927.*

Number of signatories.	District or Town.	Province.
12	Cooch Behar .. .. .	Bengal.
15	Cooch Behar .. .. .	Bengal.
214	Navadwip .. .. .	Bengal.
21	Sylhet .. .. .	Assam.
90	Sylhet .. .. .	Assam.
1096	Faridpur .. .. .	Bengal.
6257		Bengal, the United Provinces and Assam.
2481		Bengal.
84		Bengal.
2665		Bengal.
1274		Bengal.
1550		Bengal.
63	Burdwan .. .. .	Bengal.
201	Rangpur .. .. .	Bengal.
2463		Bengal.
29	Khulna .. .. .	Bengal.
163		Bengal.
135	Dacca .. .. .	Bengal.
72	Calcutta .. .. .	Bengal.
30	Mymensingh and Sylhet	Bengal & Assam.
5	Sylhet .. .. .	Assam.
63	Burdwan .. .. .	Bengal.
231	Sylhet .. .. .	Assam.
55	Dacca .. .. .	Bengal.
66		Bengal.
128		Bengal.
472		Bengal.
165		Bengal.
65	Sylhet .. .. .	Assam.
274	Mymensingh .. .. .	Bengal.
158	Mymensingh .. .. .	Bengal.
91		Bengal.
38		Bengal.
652	Mymensingh .. .. .	Bengal.
69		Bengal.
617	Murshidabad .. .. .	Bengal.
428	Howrah .. .. .	Bengal.
153		Bengal.
203	Calcutta .. .. .	Bengal.
33	Tipperra .. .. .	Bengal.
221	24 Parganas .. .. .	Bengal.
508	Rangpur .. .. .	Bengal.
335	Mymensingh .. .. .	Bengal.
30	Tipperra .. .. .	Bengal.
140	Jessore .. .. .	Bengal.
130	Calcutta .. .. .	Bengal.
111	Faridpur .. .. .	Bengal.

**Mr. M. K. Acharya** (South Arcot *cum* Chingleput : Non-Muhamadan Rural) : Under Standing Order 78, I beg to present petitions signed by 14,273 persons relating to the Bill to prevent the solemnisation of Child Marriages.

### STATEMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY PORT TRUSTS TO INSTITUTIONS MAINTAINED FOR THE BENEFIT OF INDIAN SEAMEN.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** (Member for Commerce and Railways) : I beg to lay on the table the information promised in reply to a supplementary question by Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh in connection with starred question No. 1195, asked by Mr. Sarabhai N. Haji on the 22nd March, 1929, regarding contributions made by Port Trusts to Institutions maintained for the benefit of Indian seamen.

##### *Calcutta :*

The Port Commissioners have not made any contribution to any institution connected with the welfare of Indian seamen, nor have they ever received any applications for such contributions.

##### *Bombay :*

Apart from certain hospitals to which the Port Trust has contributed, there are no other recognised institutions in Bombay connected with the welfare of Indian seamen. The establishment of an Indian Sailors' Home in Bombay has been under consideration for some time, and a Committee appointed by Government (on which Mr. Nelson is serving as Chairman) is now considering the whole question. The Trustees have already agreed to provide a suitable site or sites free of charge for the purpose and to assist in the furtherance of the project.

##### *Madras :*

The records in the Port Trust's Office do not show that any contribution has been made by the Trust to institutions connected with the welfare of Indian seamen.

##### *Rangoon :*

There is no institution at Rangoon directly for the welfare of Indian seamen. The institutions indirectly connected with that object to which the Port Trust contribute are (1) the General Hospital, (2) the Pasteur Institute and (3) the Kamkrishna Mission Sevashram.

##### *Karachi :*

The Port Trust contributes Rs. 1,200 per annum towards the upkeep of the McHinch Memorial Seamen's Rest at Keamari, the object of which is to promote the welfare of all seamen, irrespective of nationality or religion.

The Rest was built with funds raised by subscriptions from Government, the Municipality, members of the Chamber of Commerce, the public and the Port Trust. The Port Trust also bears the cost of annual repairs to the building.

The Bombay and Rangoon Trusts have specially mentioned their contributions to hospitals, but it does not follow that the other Trusts, who have not mentioned them, do not in fact contribute.

#### PROVISION OF FENCINGS FOR RAILWAY LINES.

**Mr. P. E. Rau** (Financial Commissioner, Railways) : I beg to lay on the table the information promised by Mr. A. A. L. Parsons on the 27th February, 1929, regarding the results of the inquiry instituted by Government on the provision of fencing on railways.

COPY OF LETTER No. 533-W-21, DATED THE 24TH JULY, 1924, FROM THE SECRETARY, RAILWAY BOARD, TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

I am directed to refer to your letter No. D-291-Ry., dated the 9th July, 1921, (Serial No. 1), on the subject of the provision of fencing on railways, and to express the regret of the Railway Board that so much delay has taken place in addressing the Bombay Government further on this matter. In that letter the following arguments were put forward :

- (a) that Railway Administration should not be permitted to keep their lines unfenced for an indefinite period, specially those in the neighbourhood of towns and villages where cattle are numerous ;
- (b) that there is no law under which poor cattle owners can obtain compensation for cattle that are run over, though a Railway Administration can prosecute the owners where cattle are knowingly or wilfully allowed to stray on the line, whether fenced or not ; and
- (c) that railways should be held liable for damages where fences have not been maintained to prevent cattle from straying on to the line, or that measures ought to be taken for enforcing the provision of fencing under Section 18 of the Railways Act by orders of the Governor General in Council .

2. A preliminary reply was given in this office letter No. 553-W-21, dated the 22nd February, 1922 (Serial No. 3), in which it was explained that the heavy and unremunerative expenditure entailed in the provision of fencing on railway lines would not in the opinion of the Railway Board give commensurate advantages in preventing cattle accidents, but that the Board had decided to examine the whole question in consultation with railways. The result of this correspondence, in the course of which all railways were consulted and not only those in the Bombay Presidency, is that the Board have collected a great deal of information on the subject, and I am to forward herewith a summary of the figures available in the tabular statement attached (Serial No. 4|1). This summary shows for broad gauge Railway Administrations, for Administrations having both broad and metre gauge, for metre gauge railways, and for narrow gauge railways separately, the number of miles of line fenced and unfenced and the average number of cattle accidents that occurred annually over a period of three years on the fenced mileage and unfenced mileage under these different categories. It will be seen that out of a total of about 37,000 miles of railway in India about 15,000 miles are fenced, and 22,000 miles are unfenced, that the numbers of cattle accidents on fenced lines were slightly higher than those on unfenced lines in those 3 years, and that the number of such accidents per mile per year is .26 for fenced lines and .17 for unfenced lines. These figures, in fact tend to bear out the view which was held by the Railway Board that the protection obtained by the ordinary methods of fencing railway lines in this country is not such as to encourage Railway Administrations to adopt a more general policy of fencing in the future.

3. The cost of fencing one mile of railway line at present is roughly Rs. 4,000 with the type of fencing which has hitherto been in general use, but it would appear from what is stated above that to be really effective a far superior and more expensive type of fencing would have to be adopted. It is notorious that villagers and others, who are in charge of grazing cattle, are in the habit of cutting the wires of the railway fences or tying them together in order to allow their cattle to get on to the precincts of the railway line, where better grazing can frequently be obtained than is available elsewhere in the neighbourhood, and this is specially noticeable in places and in seasons when fodder is short. The Railway Board, while recognising that there are certain obligations on the railways in this matter, desire to point out that another aspect of it exists in that it is a source of danger to the travelling public when cattle are permitted to graze on the sides of railway embankments, etc., as a cattle accident may, and frequently does, cause the derailment of a train. It is therefore, in the interests of the railway itself to try and prevent cattle from straying on to railway lines, and it has long been the practice to provide fencing along sections of railway where the numbers of grazing cattle are appreciable and where fast trains are run.

4. The adoption of a superior style of fencing, however, has only found favour in a few localities which are very populous and where the danger to human life as well as fear of cattle accidents is considered to make it worth while to incur the very much higher expenditure involved, and in view of the great desirability of setting aside as much money as possible for new lines the Government of India are not generally in favour of an advanced policy of fencing which would involve unremunerative expense.

[Mr. P. R. Rau.]

5. Again, for the reason mentioned in paragraph 3 above as regards the danger to the travelling public caused by cattle grazing on railway embankments, the Government of India are not in favour of providing by statute for compensation for cattle run over, for such a measure, as it seems to them, would be to offer a premium on cattle trespass and would only result in an increase of accidents by making owners less careful of their stock. While, therefore, the Government of India have considerable sympathy with the owners of cattle that may be run over on railway lines they hardly think it advisable to take steps for any such enactment at the present time.

6. There remains the question of taking action under section 13 of the Railways Act, and the Railway Board have been considering whether they could lay down any general principles as to the conditions which require a railway line to be fenced, for instance, by defining the density of railway traffic, the density of population in the adjoining areas or the character of the adjacent land (whether heavily cultivated or desert, etc.), and laying down some general rules for guidance in this form. They have, however, for the time being not found this a practicable solution of the difficulty, and the Government of India have come to the conclusion that the most satisfactory course is to consider the necessity of fencing any particular section of line on the merits of the case. While therefore it is not considered advisable to provide by statute for making railways liable for damages in running over cattle, the provision of fencing can, wherever this is shown to be necessary, be enforced under section 13 of the Railways Act and it is open to the Local Government to represent the need for fencing any particular section.

*Abstract.*

	Fenced.				Cattle per mile per year.	Unfenced.			
	Miles fenced.	Accidents.		Miles not fenced.		Accidents.		Cattle per mile per year.	
		Men.	Cattle.			Men.	Cattle.		
Broad Gauge	9,389·31	..	2,255		9,654	..	1,248		
Broad Gauge and Metre	994·49	..	1,161		1,746·96	..	1,147		
Metre Gauge	4,423·53	..	523	..	8,979·05	..	1,305		
Narrow Gauge ..	44·5	..	5		1,745·02	..	9		
	14,851·83	..	3,934	Per mile per year -26.	22,125·03	..	3,790	Per mile per year -17.	

**STATEMENT BY MR. PRESIDENT *RE* THE DIGNITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHAIR.**

**Mr. President :** I desire to make a statement on a question concerning the dignity and independence of this House and the authority of the Chair which arose out of the address delivered in this Chamber to the Members of the Central Legislature on the closing day of the last session by the Governor General. As Honourable Members are aware, it has been my constant endeavour, since I have been elected to this Chair, to uphold the dignity and independence of this House and the authority of the Chair to the best of my capacity. I have always maintained, and will continue

to maintain, so long as I am in this Chair, that the House and the Chair are, subject to the constitution, supreme within the four walls of this Chamber, and I would be unworthy of the confidence reposed in me by the House if I failed on any occasion to raise my voice in protest against any action, which in my view seemed to challenge or undermine that supremacy. I accordingly thought it my duty to address the following letter to His Excellency the Viceroy on the 8th of May last :

“ HOLCOMBE ”,

*Simla, 8th May, 1929.*

MY DEAR LORD IRWIN,

It was with considerable pain, surprise and sorrow that I listened the other day to your address to the two Houses of the Indian Legislature. Of course, it goes without saying that Your Excellency is entitled under the constitution to summon the Members of the two Houses at any time for the purpose of addressing them, but I am quite clear that Your Excellency's action in utilising the occasion for criticising the Chair's ruling is not only unprecedented and calculated to affect both the dignity of the House and the authority of the Chair, but also constitutes, in my opinion, a departure from constitutional usage and traditions. For these reasons it is impossible for me to acquiesce in the course Your Excellency has thought it right to adopt. Such a precedent might be repeated by your successors, and it is my duty, as President of the Assembly, to enter my strongest protest against it as soon as I can. The only question I am considering is whether I shall be right in making known my protest now by communication to the Press, or whether I should not wait till the Assembly meets and do so more appropriately from the Chair of the Assembly.

Perhaps Your Excellency will agree that, though we have in the past more than once differed on matters relating to the Assembly, such differences have never been publicly displayed. It is a matter of regret to me that Your Excellency should have departed from that practice.

The proceedings of the Assembly would have disclosed that there was, to say the least, room for honest difference of opinion. The person occupying the Chair had, in the circumstances and in the situation that arose, to interpret the rules and lay down procedure as best as he could in the exercise of his undoubted powers, and you yourself were frank enough to admit in your address that the only appropriate person to interpret in either House of the Legislature the rules under which it works is the President of the House himself. In a matter of interpretation of the Rules and Standing Orders, the only safe guide is to go by their language. Your Excellency will agree with me that I could only proceed on the Rules and Standing Orders as they stand at present and according to the best of my lights and could not go in search of an "original intention" apart from the language of the Rules. While so, it is somewhat surprising that, in more than one place, Your Excellency refers to yourself and to your Government not being satisfied as to my interpretation being in conformity with the original intention. The emphasis laid by Your Excellency on my interpretation not being in accordance with the original intention, on my ruling being calculated to interrupt the work of the House, and upon the Legislature being prevented from forming its own judgment on the question whether or not it could usefully conduct its debates, the reference to the technical difficulty created by my ruling standing in the way of your sharing the responsibility of protecting the ordered state with the Legislature, the intention announced in Your Excellency's address that the proper authority will so amend the Rules as to prevent the President of either House from impeding the progress of legislation; all these appear to me, in the circumstances and in the context, nothing short of a censure passed by Your Excellency upon my ruling. I need hardly point out that under the Rules and Standing Orders I am the sole and final authority on all questions relating to order arising in the House (Hear, hear), and if my conduct is to be impugned, it can only be impugned by a direct appeal to the House upon notice of motion properly given, when a straight issue would be laid before the House and an amendment be moved which shall test the judgment of the House. In no other manner and by no other authority could the ruling of the Chair be subjected to any criticism or censure within the Assembly Chamber of which I am the President. ~~(Applause.)~~ Such indeed is the sanctity attached to the rulings of the Chair by constitution and by convention.)

For obvious reasons I do not desire to embark on a discussion on the merits of the point of order before the House, though I still maintain that I was right in the

ruling which I gave and that it was the only possible ruling consistent with the fundamental right of free speech and debate of the Members of the House and with the House functioning as a deliberative Assembly.

It is not my purpose, and indeed it is not within my province, to deal with the question as to the necessity for any amendment of the Rules, nor am I concerned with the point as to whether the occasion warrants such amendment. I need hardly point out that the fact of Your Excellency having to fall back on your powers under section 72 of the Government of India Act in the circumstances that have happened neither enters into the merits of this communication, nor could it be an element in the decision I arrived at on the point of order.

I write this because it is possible that Your Excellency might not be in this country when I make my statement, and I thought it was proper that I should let you know my intentions. (Since you made your speech, I was searching for some precedent from the proceedings of the Parliaments of the Dominions in support of your action, and I am in a position to inform Your Excellency that never before has any representative of the Crown such as you have chosen to criticise any ruling of any Speaker of any of the Parliaments of the Dominions in the manner in which you have criticised my ruling.)

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) V. J. PATEL.

On the 15th of May I received from His Excellency the following reply :

VICEREGAL LODGE,  
SIMLA,  
15th May, 1929.

DEAR MR. PATEL,

His Excellency has received your letter of the 8th May and desires me to thank you for the courtesy that prompted you to acquaint him with your intentions.

The action which you have felt impelled to take is based upon the assumption that, in his address to the Legislature, His Excellency passed criticism or censure upon your ruling. His Excellency feels that there has been in some quarters misapprehension both of the purpose of his address and of the language which he employed to give expression to it, and therefore welcomes this opportunity of making plain in greater detail the precise implications of the action he thought it his duty in very difficult circumstances to take.

Without entering into the question of the merits of your ruling which, as you correctly point out, are not now in issue, His Excellency desires me to say that it was no part of his intention by his address, as indeed within the House he would consider it improper, either to criticise the ruling you had given or pass censure upon you for it, and His Excellency regrets that his words should have been so interpreted by yourself or others. Such an interpretation in the circumstances in which the address was delivered was perhaps inevitable, but His Excellency wishes me to make plain to you, and through you to the Assembly, his entire concurrence with your view that within the House it is the President, subject only to the House itself in the established form as indicated in your letter, who is the sole and final authority under the Rules and Standing Orders on all questions relating to order that may arise. His Excellency indeed defined his position in his address, by emphasising that in his view the only person qualified to interpret within either House the rules under which it works was the President of the House concerned. His Excellency accordingly desired to confine himself to pointing out the practical results that followed from the ruling, and to stating the action which in his view was imposed upon himself and upon Government for the proper discharge of their own responsibilities.

I am desired by His Excellency to add that he fully shares your anxiety to maintain the dignity of the House and the authority of the Chair. He earnestly hopes, and has no doubt that such hope is entertained by the President, that the passage of time may see the gradual establishment around the Chair of the Assembly, in the constitutional conditions of the Indian Legislature, of such a body of tradition, as has, in the sphere of the House of Commons, enabled each of a long line of Speakers to be successively accepted as the impartial guide and trusted friend of all sections of the House. To this end His Excellency trusts that he and the President may continue to co-operate.

[Mr. President.]

Since His Excellency has made it clear that it was not his intention to criticise your ruling, he does not feel it necessary to discuss the argument which you address upon the subject of Dominion precedents.

As regards the question you raise as to whether you should make your position known by publication of your letter and of His Excellency's reply through the Press, or by direct statement in the Assembly, His Excellency would suggest that the more convenient course would be that you should read to the Assembly, on as early a day as convenient, your letter to him and his reply. His Excellency feels that the matter is one in which all Members of the Assembly are directly interested and that it would be proper that the correspondence should be directly presented to them.

Your sincerely,

(Signed) G. CUNNINGHAM."

I breathed a sigh of relief when I read that reply which, in my opinion, constitutes a sufficient vindication of the dignity and independence of this House and the authority of the Chair which I thought had been seriously assailed. The Governor General has here made it plain that he has no intention of criticising or censuring the ruling. He has also said that he would consider it improper for him to do so within the House. And more than that, His Excellency has expressed his entire concurrence with that part of my letter which defines the position in this respect that, within the House, it is only by the House itself that the ruling of the Chair can be subjected to criticism and censure.

His Excellency has further made it clear in the reply that, in the circumstances in which the address was delivered, such an interpretation on his words as I and others have put was perhaps inevitable, and he considers it regrettable that his words should have been so interpreted. In view of what His Excellency has said, I am convinced that it was not his desire to establish a precedent derogatory to the dignity of the House, and I am sure the House will agree with me that the incident must now be treated as closed.

I desire to state, in conclusion, that nothing has pleased me more in His Excellency's reply than the sincere expression of his anxiety to see the establishment in this country of best Parliamentary traditions and conventions and to co-operate with the Chair for that purpose, and I need hardly assure His Excellency and his Government that I fully echo his desire in this respect. (Applause.)

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### THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

#### PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** (Law Member) : Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, for certain purposes.

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### THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY (AMENDMENT) SUPPLEMENTARY BILL.

#### PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** (Law Member) : Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to supplement the Transfer of Property (Amendment) Act, 1929.

## THE INDIAN RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** (Member for Commerce and Railways) : I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Railways Act, 1890, for certain purposes. In a single word, this Bill seeks to empower the Government of India to carry out the obligations that it has incurred under two international conventions regarding the hours of work and the periods of rest of railway servants.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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## THE INDIAN INCOME-TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** (Finance Member) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for certain purposes. It is not necessary for me to give any explanation of the objects of this Bill. I think it is sufficiently explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons published with the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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## THE INDIAN INCOME-TAX (PROVIDENT FUNDS RELIEF) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** (Finance Member) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for certain purposes (Indian Income-tax Provident Funds Relief). I think I owe the Assembly some explanation of why I have thought it necessary to deal with two amendments to the Indian Income-tax Act in separate Bills. The reason is this : I gave an undertaking a few months ago to introduce legislation for the purpose of conferring privileges on private provident funds. I am very anxious that that undertaking should be honoured and given effect to in time at least for the next Budget. The Indian Income-tax (Amendment) Bill that I have just introduced may take some time to pass into legislation. I am hopeful, however, that this second Bill may become law within the course of this Session without delay.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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## THE SALE OF GOODS BILL.

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** (Law Member) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to define and amend the law relating to the sale of goods. I do not desire to say anything at this stage, except that the Bill seeks to revise Chapter VII of the Indian Contract Act, which was enacted so far back as 1872. This branch of the mercantile law in India required revision.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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### THE INDIAN CONTRACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** (Law Member) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend section 178 of the Indian Contract Act, 1872. I need only say that this is consequential on the Bill which has just now been introduced : that Bill deals with sale by ostensible owners ; and the present Bill deals with pledge by ostensible owners.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir Brojendra Mitter** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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### THE INDIAN SOFT COKE CESS BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** (Member for Commerce and Railways) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the levy of a cess on soft coke despatched by rail from collieries in the Provinces of Bengal and Bihar and Orissa. The object of this Bill is to raise funds which can be expended for the purpose of propaganda to popularise the use of soft coke. The original suggestion came from the colliery proprietors who are interested in the production of soft coke, and the Bill has their full support. I do not think I need say more.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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### THE INDIAN CENSUS BILL.

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar** (Home Member) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for certain matters in connection with the taking of the census. Honourable Members are aware that the census, as in most other countries, is taken decennially in India, and in accordance with precedent, this Bill provides for certain matters in connection with the taking of the census, and I hope it will prove entirely non-controversial.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir James Crerar** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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### THE INDIAN BOILERS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra** (Member for Industries and Labour) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, for certain purposes.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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### THE NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** (Finance Member) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, for a certain purpose (amendment of sections 13, 16, 35, etc.). This Bill refers to the amendment of sections 13, 16, 35, etc.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

## THE NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** (Finance Member) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, for a certain purpose (Insertion of new section 85A). In this case also I feel that I owe the Assembly some explanation of why it has been thought necessary to deal with the matter in two Bills. The Bill which I have just introduced is a revival of a Bill which was formerly introduced in 1927. I propose in that case to ask at a later stage for reference to Select Committee, the task here being to deal with a subject which has already been to some extent dealt with. In the case of the present Bill, I propose to ask for leave to circulate the Bill. A different procedure will thus be necessary in the two cases.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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## THE CANTONMENTS (HOUSE-ACCOMMODATION AMENDMENT) BILL.

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham** (Army Secretary) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Cantonments (House Accommodation) Act, 1923, for certain purposes. The statement attached to the Bill and the Notes on Clauses give, I hope, a full and sufficient explanation of the Objects and Reasons of the Bill. It deals with no new principles and is mostly intended to remedy certain defects and to make improvements in procedure and drafting which experience has shown necessary.

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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## THE BENGAL PILOT SERVICE (CENTRALISATION OF ADMINISTRATION) BILL.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** (Member for Commerce and Railways) : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Calcutta Pilots Act, 1859, and the Indian Ports Act, 1908, in order to vest the control of the Bengal Pilot Service in the Governor General in Council.

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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## ELECTION OF THE PANEL FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** (Member for Commerce and Railways) : Sir, I move :

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect in the manner described in the rules published in the Home Department Notification No. F.-49, dated the 22nd August, 1922, as amended by the Home Department Notification No. D.-794-C, dated the 30th January, 1924, a panel consisting of 9 members from which 3 will be nominated to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects in the Department of Commerce."

[Sir George Rainy.]

The Advisory Committee of the Commerce Department, Mr. President, was last constituted as the result of the elections held in the two Houses of the Legislature in September, 1928, and it came into existence in October, 1928. It is necessary, therefore, that at this Session of the Assembly the Committee should be reconstituted for another year. It is for that reason, Sir, that I make this motion.

**Mr. B. Das** (Orissa Division : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I am in no mood to oppose my Honourable friend Sir George Rainy, but as he is always a very sympathetic man, I should like to ask him one very simple question, and it is this. Why does he not take the hint of this House which has helped him on many occasions in matters of this kind. His Honourable colleague, Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra, who is sitting on his left has had to deplore his action on a previous occasion when a panel was to be selected for the Roads Committee. The Honourable Sir George Rainy, in moving his proposition, has quoted some notifications in the Home Department, but as everybody knows, this House is guided by Rules and Standing Orders. Can the Honourable Member quote any legislative rules from the Legislative Manual under which he can ask us to elect a panel from which he can select only three Members as he pleases ? Why does not he ask us to choose three Members to advise the Commerce Department ? I also ask him to take a hint from the fact that another sister Department of his, the Education Department, could not get the Members elected by this method. I submit, Sir, that we on this side are in no mood to be trifled with like that. If he wants us to give him advice, then he should come to us and say, " I want three Members from you ; elect the best three from you ". What I am particularly interested in is this. I want to know under what legislative rules the Home Department issued this particular notification. Specially, what is uppermost in my mind is the particular rule which has been so recently amended by the Secretary of State. Now, if the Secretary of State, His Excellency the Viceroy, and everybody else is so particular about these Rules and the amendment of these Rules, why does not my Honourable friend try to bring this particular Committee under certain Legislative Rules ? Members of the Public Accounts Committee are elected under the Legislative Rules. If you want a committee to advise a particular Department, you should amend the rules. There is your master, the Secretary of State, sitting 6,000 miles away, and he can easily amend the rules for you without consulting us. So I do not want to take any very serious objection, but I want the Honourable Sir George Rainy to reply to me, because he is always anxious to cultivate sympathy from this side of the House. I want to know how long this kind of play will go on on that side of the House. I might tell my Honourable friend that this side will not elect any panel from which he can choose anybody he pleases.

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy** : Sir, I have only a word or two to say in reply to what my Honourable friend, Mr. B. Das, has just said. I quite understand the difficulty certain Members on the other side of the House feel about the panel system of constituting these Committees, and I doubt whether there is any Member of the Governor General's Council who would be prepared to go to the stake in defence of that particular procedure. Knowing as we do the strength of feeling on the subject there is in certain quarters of this House, I am quite prepared to say that we should

be prepared to reconsider the question how these Standing Advisory Committees should be constituted. A more convenient opportunity will perhaps occur for that in the cold weather Session when most of these Committees will require to be reconstituted. Meanwhile, after what I have said, I trust that the House will give me my Committee on the present basis, when I give them the assurance in the classical words that it "is only a very little one."

**Mr. President :** The question is :

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect in the manner described in the rules published in the Home Department Notification No. F-49, dated the 22nd August, 1922, as amended by the Home Department Notification No. D-794-C, dated the 30th January, 1924, a panel consisting of 9 Members, from which 3 will be nominated to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects in the Department of Commerce."

The motion was adopted.

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### ELECTION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROADS.

**The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra** (Member for Industries and Labour) : Sir, I move the following :

"That this Assembly do proceed to the election, for the financial year 1929-30, in such method as may be approved by the Honourable the President, of six members to serve on a Standing Committee on Roads, which will be appointed by the Governor General in Council to advise him on certain matters connected with roads, and which will include in addition a Member of the Assembly to be nominated by the Governor General, a second nominated official Member, and three non-official Members to be selected by the Governor General from the panel of six already elected by the Council of State. The Member of the Governor General's Executive Council in charge of the Department that deals with roads shall be the Chairman of the Committee; and the members of the Committee who are Members of the Legislative Assembly will form the Finance Sub-Committee of the Committee, which will be presided over by the Chairman of the Committee if he is a Member of the Legislative Assembly, and otherwise by the official member of the Committee who is a Member of the Legislative Assembly."

This motion is introduced to give effect to the recommendation contained in paragraphs 79 and 96B (10) (b) of the Report of the Indian Road Development Committee of 1927-28. I brought a somewhat similar motion before this House on the 2nd April last. (*An Honourable Member* : "What what effect?") But in that motion I had provided for the election by this House of a panel of 12 members, from which 6 members of the Standing Committee would be nominated by the Governor General. As I explained to the House on that occasion, in making this provision, I followed what I considered to be the intention of the Indian Road Development Committee, based on the actual wording of a specific recommendation of that body. In the course of the debate in this House, I was, however, told by various Members who had served on that Committee that that was not their intention. In the result the House refused to adopt my motion. I have accepted the statements made on that occasion about the intention of the Committee, and I have also accepted the verdict of the House; and in the motion now before it I have provided that the House should elect its representatives on the Standing Committee in such manner as you, Sir, may approve. I trust that my action will have the approval of the House and that it will be pleased to adopt the motion.

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. President :** I may inform Honourable Members that for the purpose of election of Members to the panel for the Standing Advisory Committee for the Department of Commerce and the Standing Committee on Roads, the Assembly Office will be open to receive nominations up to 12 Noon on Thursday, the 5th September, 1929. The election for the Standing Committee on Roads, if necessary, will take place in this Chamber on Monday, the 9th September, 1929, and the election to the panel for the Standing Advisory Committee for the Department of Commerce, if necessary, will be held on Tuesday, the 10th September, 1929. The elections will be held in accordance with the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

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#### THE INDIAN MERCHANDISE MARKS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** (Dacca Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I beg to move that the Bill further to amend the Indian Merchandise Marks Act, 1889, be continued. I trust that the House will treat this as a formal motion ; it is intended to revive a Bill that has lapsed under the proviso to Standing Order 4 (2). Under that proviso all Bills in respect of which no motion has been made during two successive sessions shall lapse unless the Assembly, on a motion by the Member in charge of the Bill in the next session, makes a special order for the continuance of the Bill. This particular Bill was introduced by me some two years back and it was circulated on a motion carried in this House.....

**Mr. President :** The Honourable Member does not want to treat this as a formal motion ?

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** I just wanted to let the House know the circumstances under which this Bill came to lapse and the stage at which the Bill at present stands. The Bill was circulated on a motion carried in this House and opinions have since been collected. The next motion with reference to this Bill will be to refer it to a Select Committee. I trust the House will be indulgent enough to carry this formal motion.

The motion was adopted.

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, the 3rd September, 1929.