

for Planning (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman): (a) 31,536 educated persons (matriculates and above) remained on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges.

(b) Scheduled Castes .. 2,687
Scheduled Tribes .. 7

Indian Emigrants for U.S.A. and Canada

750. Shri Inder J. Malhotra: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians who migrated to U.S.A. and Canada during 1963-64; and

(b) the nature of their educational qualifications and professional trade?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) (i) U.S.A.—The exact figure regarding the number of Indians who migrated to the U.S.A. during 1963-64 is not available. However, during the period from 1st July, 1962 to 30th June, 1963, 1,173 Indians were given facilities for permanent settlement in the U.S.A. by the Government of the U.S.A.

(ii) Canada.—860 Indians emigrated to Canada during the year 1963. No information is available for January—February 1964.

(b) (i) U.S.A.—No information is available regarding their qualifications and professional trades.

(ii) Canada.—Persons who emigrated to Canada comprised of Engineers, Doctors, Scientists, Teachers, Managers, Agriculturists and Clerks, etc. Their educational qualifications are not available.

Heavy Earth-Moving Equipment Factory

751. Shri N. R. Laskar: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the site for the proposed Heavy Earth-Moving Equipment Manufacturing Factory in Mysore State has been selected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the factory will go into production?

The Minister of Defence Production in the Ministry of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) to (c). It has been decided to establish the factory at Kolar in Mysore State. Further details are under examination.

12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

(i) EXPLOSION IN MILITARY AREA NEAR TEZPUR

Shri Swell (Assam—Autonomous Districts): I call the attention of the Minister of Defence to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

“The explosion in military area near Tezpur on the 21st February, 1964, resulting in several deaths and injuries.”

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): On the 21st February, 1964, at 10-30 a.m., a land mine exploded at Misamari near Tezpur where training exercise was in progress.

I regret that as a result, one JCO and two O.R.'s were killed on the spot, and two more O.R.'s are in the hospital. 12 other soldiers received injuries. Two of them have since been discharged from the hospital and have rejoined duty. The next of kin of the deceased persons have been informed. A court of inquiry has been ordered.

Shri Swell: I am intrigued by the date of occurrence of this explosion, namely 21st February, because on the very next day, namely the 22nd February, 1964, a large amount of explosives and live cartridges were recovered at Rangiya, an important

[Shri Swell]

railway and military centre at Assam, not very far from Tezpur, and on the same day, that is, the 22nd February, 1964, a large number of pistols and live cartridges were discovered from Hojai in Assam. May I know from the hon. Defence Minister whether there is any connection between all these incidents, and whether it gives room for suspicion that it was a case of sabotage?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: No, as far as my information goes, there is no connection between the two events.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Before the inquiry concludes, may I know whether the family members of those who have died as a result of this accident have been paid some *ad hoc* compensation, and if so, the amount paid?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: Immediate action has been taken to give them certain terminal benefits.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): In view of the fact that the hon. Minister is not categorical about this explosive substance and to whom it belonged, may I know whether after the unilateral withdrawal of the Chinese from our frontiers, especially NEFA and Ladakh Government have tried to spot out and at the same time destroy the mines and explosives that the Chinese might have planted in those strategic areas, and if not, why not?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: No, it was something which belonged to us, and it was used in exercise, and then it exploded.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah (Adoni): May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to the news item published in *The Statesman* that nearly 17 military personnel have been killed while transporting these explosives, and if so, how far it is true? The hon. Minister has mentioned in his statement that only two persons died.

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I have already given that information.

Shri Krishnapal Singh (Jalesar): I would like to know if this particular mine-field was not marked, and whether our personnel who were conducting the exercise were not aware of the mine at that particular spot where the explosion occurred. As a rule, mine-fields are marked, and our own troops know where they are.

Mr. Speaker: He says that as a rule, our people must have been aware of where the mine was and they ought to have taken precautions in that respect. He asks whether this fact was not known to them?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: All these facts will be disclosed during the proceedings of the court of inquiry. Before that, it is rather difficult to form an opinion.

Dr. M. S. Aney (Nagpur): He was asking whether the mine-field was not marked.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister says it would be known after the inquiry.

Shri Hem Barua: We have been losing our man like anything. Recently we lost some of them because of an air disaster in Kashmir and all that . . .

Mr. Speaker: He need not refer to other things.

Shri Hem Barua: Here also we have lost. Why is it that Government have not instructed them to be more careful and more particular?

Shri Y. B. Chavan: We have already instructed them.

Mr. Speaker: I will also make the same request to the hon. Member.

Papers to be laid on the Table.

Shri Hem Barua: I do not have to be afraid of mines.

Mr. Speaker: Papers to be laid on the Table.