

RECOMMENDATIONS OF TEK CHAND COMMITTEE ON PROHIBITION

370. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK:
SHRI B. K. MAHANTI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have arrived at any decision regarding the recommendations of the Tek Chand Committee on Prohibition; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The recommendations of the Study Team on Prohibition cover a very wide field and Government have considered them in the light of the comments of the State Governments. There was a large measure of agreement in regard to the recommendations for supporting measures to make the programme a success, e.g., education propaganda and publicity, prevention of the misuse of molasses and medicinal and toilet preparation. The State Governments have been requested to take steps to implement these recommendations. At the Centre action is also being taken on those recommendations which require action by the Central Government. The recommendations for better implementation of the prohibition laws in force involve amendments to various laws both substantive and procedural, and these are under examination. The recommendation regarding extension of prohibition to wQt areas raises policy issues and has to be discussed with the Chief Ministers. This will be done as early as possible.

NEW TELEPHONE EXCHANGES AT KANPUR

371. SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to build new telephone exchanges at Kanpur has been accepted by Government;

(b) if so, the progress made in constructing the buildings; and

(c) whether any target date has been fixed for commissioning of these telephone exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGANNATH RAO): (a) Telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened at Kanpur at:

- (1) Benajabhar.
- (2) Nayaganj.
- (3) Lajpat Nagar.

(b) (1) *Benajabhar*.—The building design has been completed and the preliminary building estimate has been sanctioned. Due to stringency of funds, the building work cannot be undertaken in the current financial year. It is expected that the building work will commence in the next financial year and the building would be ready by September, 1969.

(2) and (3) *Kanpur-Nayaganj and Lajpatnagar*.—Sites have been selected and they are under acquisition. Building can only be constructed after the land is acquired and taken possession of.

(c) (1) *Kanpur-Benajabhar*.—The exchange is expected to be cut over in 1970.

(2) *Kanpur-Nayaganj and Lajpatnagar*.—Target dates cannot be assessed as lands are not yet acquired.

VIEWS OF SHEIKH ABDULLAH

372. DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to ascertain the present views of Sheikh Abdullah regarding the accession of the State of Jammu and Kashmir to India; and

(b) what are the reactions of Government on the views expressed by

Shri Jayprakash Narayan regarding the release of Sheikh Abdullah?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) There has been no occasion for Government to ascertain the views of Sheikh Abdullah in the matter.

(b) There is no proposal at present to remove the restrictions (of internment) imposed on Sheikh Abdullah.

PLANT TO PRODUCE LIGHT DIESEL-OIL FROM GUJARAT REFINERY

373. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat have requested the Government of India for setting up a plant to produce light diesel oil from the Gujarat oil refinery; and

(b) if so, what is the decision of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) The Government of Gujarat had suggested that the production of Light Diesel Oil may be undertaken at the Gujarat Refinery.

(b) Production of Light Diesel Oil will be commenced from January 1967.

ADULTERATION OF DIESEL OIL IN PUNJAB AND DELHI

374. SHRIMATI LALITHA (RAJA GOPALAN): Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state the steps that have been taken by Government to prevent adulteration of Diesel oil in Punjab and Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): The State Governments have organised raids and taken samples of Diesel Oil to detect adulteration. Certain alleged offenders are being prosecuted.

REVISION OF PAY SCALES IN KERALA

375. SHRIMATI DEVAKI GOPIDAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all sections of Government servants in Kerala are dissatisfied with the revision of pay-scales as there are anomalies in the pay scales allowed to officers of the same category under different Departments; and

(b) if so, what are the steps contemplated by Government to remedy the defects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. S. NASKAR): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The pay-scales of the State Government employees were revised with effect from 1st January, 1966. Immediately after the issue of the orders in this behalf, representations were received by the State Government from several Service Associations, demanding further revision of the scales of pay and also pointing out certain anomalies and disparities arising out of the revision of pay scales. On examination of these representations, it was found that the Service Associations had sought to compare the better scales sanctioned to some categories of employees on special considerations such as technical qualifications, the added importance of their role in the developmental side of administrative activities etc., with lower scales of pay sanctioned to some other categories, although both the categories were having the same scale before the revision. In any scheme of general pay revision, it is not unlikely that separate scales of pay are sanctioned for different categories of employees who might have had the same scales of pay before the revision and such variations cannot be treated as anomalies or disparities. The anomalies and disparities