

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: As I said, we do not render any assistance to any objectionable film. First of all, the scripts are gone through and passed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and then by the Ministry of Defence. So, there is no question of giving aid or assistance of that kind to any type of objectionable film.

TRAINING SCHEMES OF DEFENCE MINISTRY FOR STUDENTS PURSUING ENGINEERING COURSES

*105. SHRI P. N. RAJABHOJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry have undertaken training schemes for students pursuing engineering courses;

(b) if so, the number of students, who will be given such training; and

(c) whether these trainees are likely to join the Army as Commissioned Officers after the successful completion of the training?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 3090 are at present attending courses.

(c) The training is not given with a view necessarily to absorb them in the Army but would be entitled to apply for Service posts if they are qualified.

REVIVAL OF CASE OF THE DEATH OF PROF. MANGTANI AT N.C.C. OFFICERS' TRAINING CAMP AT KAMPTEE

*106. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 424 in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th August, 1961 and state:

(a) whether the case regarding the death of Prof. Sugnomal Mangtani of the Bhavsinghji Polytechnic Institute while at the National Cadet Corps Officers' Training Camp at Kamptee on the 20th May, has since been reviewed or reconsidered by Government; and

(b) whether Government have any proposal under consideration for giving any compensation to the members of his family?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON): (a) GOC-in-C, Southern Command, was deputed to carry out a special investigation into the circumstances leading to the death of Prof. S. K. Mangtani. After examining witnesses and all relevant evidence he has come to the conclusion that Officer Cadet Mangtani died as a result of Heat Hyper Pyrexia and that no person was to blame in any way for his death.

(b) No, Sir.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Sir, will the fine-brained Defence Minister not think it advisable to show a little compassion in the case of a young Professor who was forced to take a long run cross-country under the pretext of training as a Cadet Officer?

SHRI V. K. KRISHNA MENON: He was not forced, Sir.

PRIVY PURSES PAID TO RULERS OF FORMER INDIAN STATES

*107. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) in how many cases Government have reduced or abolished the privy purses paid to the Rulers of former lished or reduced the amount of al: for; and

(b) whether Government have abolished or reduced the amount of allowances paid to any of the Rulers of

former Indian States who were drawing allowances as Rajpramukhs since the abolition of the institution of Rajpramukhs and in how many cases Government continue to pay the same allowance to them even thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): (a) In 13 cases privy purses have been reduced in accordance with the Covenants/Merger Agreements signed by the Rulers concerned or by separate agreement and in three cases privy purses have been abolished as the Rulerships have been allowed to lapse for want of heirs.

(b) With the abolition of the institution of Rajpramukhs after the reorganisation of States, the allowances which were being paid to some of the Rulers for performing the functions of Rajpramukhs have been discontinued.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: In how many cases have privy purses of persons who announced their intention to take part in politics like that of Bastar been curtailed?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, that is not a question which is relevant here.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a separate question.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: My question relates to privy purses, what they are and how they are curtailed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you want information about any particular case, you may table a separate question.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Surely, this arises as a supplementary question.

SHRI B. N. DATAR: In 13 cases they have been reduced and in three cases they have been abolished.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: In how many cases, when the rulers an-

nounced their intention to take part in politics, were they reduced? That was the question.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: I am sorry the hon. Member is badly mis-informed. Bastar's privy purse was withdrawn when he was deposed. It was not on account of any political reasons that the privy purse was withdrawn.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: All right; I will alter the question then. In how many cases were the rulers deposed because they announced their intention to take part in politics?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is a different question.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Has the hon. Member any case in mind? I do not think that it has been done.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: I referred to the case of Bastar clearly.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may table a separate question.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Sir, the hon. Minister is willing to oblige.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The hon. Minister stated in reply that the privy purses have been reduced in the case of 13 rulers in accordance with the Covenants. I would like to know whether it is a fact that against the terms of the Covenants also privy purses have been reduced.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: It has been reduced by negotiation, by agreement.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Was it because of succession they have been reduced by negotiation or under what circumstances were they reduced?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: By negotiation; that was the answer.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Negotiation at the time of succession?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Yes; at the time of succession.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Previously we knew that quite a good part of this privy purse used to be spent on race horses and in Monte Carlo and so on. Now, they are spent on Swatantra elections. May I know, in view of the fact that the Princes do not need so much privy purse—it is quite evident from the fact that they are making over so much money to the Swatantra Party . . .

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: The Maharaja of Baroda is in the Congress; he is not in Swatantra.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: whether the Government has considered the advisability of reducing immediately these privy purses which enable the Princes to build up their organisations?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Suggestion for action.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: No, no. I ask whether they have considered the advisability of doing so.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is your suggestion.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Does the Government know—I will put a question about the Government's knowledge—that a good part of the privy purse today is being used by these Princes to bolster the election fund of the Swatantra Party in India?

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: What about Maharaja of Baroda's funds?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: And what about Maharani of Gwalior?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You have kidnapped all of them—Maharaja, Maharani—all of them.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, this question is about the reduction of privy purses, not about how the privy purses are used.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: This is very important, because they are used to bolster reaction in the country, right reaction. We do not want the privy purses given by the Government to be used for that. After all, we pay the money; the tax-payer pays the money. Let us hear the Home Minister on the subject.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: My question is this. Why on earth, in view of the fact that these Princes are now using the privy purses in addition to other wrong and improper uses to build up this reactionary junta or whatever you call it—the Swatantra Party—is the Government not reducing it as a matter of social policy? They do not need these funds.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is a suggestion for action.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Am I to understand from the Government's answers that it is the considered policy of the Government not to withdraw or curtail the privy purses of Princes if they took part in politics? I want to know whether the Princes have the freedom to take part in politics in any way they like.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: It was not quite clear.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are the Princes free to take part in politics in any way they like? That was his question.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: They are free to take part in politics.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know whether the Government has any intention of stopping these privy purses for anti-national activities of these Princes?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: If there is any anti-national activity, Government will have to give thought to that matter certainly.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Is it not a fact that at the time when the Covenant or agreement—whatever it is—was arrived at between the Government of India and those Princes when they merged with the country into our system the privy purse was given on a certain basis, on certain claims and calculations and, if so, whether in those agreements this was foreseen that such purses would be used in this manner? I would like to know whether there was any stipulation as to why the purse was being given to them and the basis on which it was being given.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You must look into each agreement.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: But the agreements are shared between them and the Princes just as the princes are shared between the Swatantra Party and the Congress.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Of course about anti-national activity, as I said, we have to be very careful not only in regard to the Princes but also in regard to other citizens in the country. As for anti-national activities or activities which will harm or injure the interests of the country as a whole action has to be taken and will be taken. In regard to the princes taking part in political activities or taking part in elections, of course no ban is imposed as on any other citizen of this country. Shri Bhupesh Gupta need not feel upset; he should really sympathise with those people who consider it advisable to associate themselves with any reactionary parties.

*108. and *109. [The questioner Shri Jugal Kishore) was absent. For answers, vide cols. 464-66 infra.]

*110. [The questioner (Shri Dayaldas Kurre) was absent. For answer, vide col. 466 infra.]

ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO DEATH ADMINISTRATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

*111. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have given any assistance to the Delhi Administration recently for the construction of houses for the Police Department, specially meant for the constables; and

(b) whether the constables of the Delhi Police, who have not been provided with any accommodation and who come from a long distance, are given any cycle allowance?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA): (a) Yes. In the last two years, sanction has been accorded for the construction of 562 residential quarters for constables. All constables in Delhi are entitled to rent free accommodation or house rent in lieu thereof according to rules.

(b) Conveyance allowance is not admissible for journeys between residence and place of work. The city compensatory allowance which is paid to all Constables in Delhi is intended to cover any additional expenditure of this sort.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether the hon. Minister has got any information as to how many houses have been really built out of these 500 houses sanctioned about two years back?

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: The performance is poor but our main bottleneck is non-availability of land. On whatever land we had, the Delhi Administration is going ahead and building houses. They are also trying to get 1,002 acres of more land in South West Extension area and that would help in construction of police lines.