

January when it is proposed to finalise the selection of this officer.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA: Sir, is it not a long time that since 1956 no officer of education has been appointed for the Andaman Islands?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I do admit that there has been delay, but that was due to the fact that it was difficult to find a person who would know both Bengali and Hindi equally well, and they wanted an officer of this kind, because the people are speaking both Bengali and Hindi.

*391 and 392. [The *questioner (Shri Mati Yashoda Reddy)* was absent. For answers, vide cols. 2203-2204 infra.]

BEATING OF WORKERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONFERENCE BY POLICE

*393. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on or about the 18th November, 1957, at the time of scrutiny of the nomination papers at Sopore Town Area Committee, two prominent leaders and other workers of the Democratic National Conference were severely beaten by the Central Reserve Police; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR) : (a) and (b). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

RELIEF TO POLITICAL SUFFERERS

*394. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given or propose to give any relief by way of political pensions or by giving lands to political sufferers who parti-

cipated in the freedom struggle of our country; and

(b) if so, in what manner Government have implemented or propose to implement those schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): (a) and (b). Relief by way of pensions or land grants is given to political sufferers by the State Governments. Government of India only give nonrecurring cash grants in suitable individual cases. It is not proposed to take over any recurring liability for relief in cash.

In the Union territories, for which Government of India are directly responsible, the local Administrations in Himachal Pradesh and Manipur have been authorised to make land grants to political sufferers.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Am I to understand that the purpose of such relief to political sufferers is to provide them with some sort of means, and if that is so, then is it not wrong on the part of any Government to give financial aid or land to political sufferers who have substantial property, and is it not still worse if such aid is given to their wives, sons, daughters, sons-in-law and daughters-in-law etc. etc?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: May I point out, Sir, that political sufferers are granted some help only if they are in indigent circumstances?

DR. R. B. GOUR: Have they laid down any rules, that lands that are of importance for community purposes, like grazing lands etc. should not be allotted to such political sufferers?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: That is a question for the State Governments because lands are given by them.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: What is the biggest amount that the Central Government has given to any one of the political sufferers?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I haven't got the figures here before me today.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Wha-; is the total amount given by the Central Government by way of help up till now?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: For the year 1955-56 it is Rs. 2,35,200. For the year 1956-57 it is Rs. 1,74,700 and for the rurrent year up to 30th October it is Rs. 94,000.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Is it given Ftatewise or on the basis of merit?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: On merits, Sir. Not Statewise.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: May I know if the Central Government has received any request for assistance from the family of the late Shri P. Vasu Menon, who was President of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I am not aware of having received it.

SHRI V. VENKATARAMANA: Have the Ministry received any represerta-tion from the people regarding the allotment of communal land to any political sufferers who are already rich?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I am not aware of having received any such representation.

SHRI V. VENKATARAMANA: Is the Government prepared to take any action if such representation is received?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a hypothetical question.

DR. R. B. GOUR: Has it been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister that land in the Bhimavaram taluk of "West Godavari District, which is community grazing land, has been allotted to political sufferers when the people of the same village have been denied the same land for construction purposes?

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SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, this matter is entirely for the State Government concerned. It is not a matter for us.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: May I know whether the Government has received any deputation to the effect that land of that nature has been allotted?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I am not aware of it.

SHRI M. H. SAMUEL: Is it not a fact that these lands are being allotted to political sufferers for -the losses that they incurred while in detention and other sufferings during their period of detention?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, all the circumstances are taken into account.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Is it a fact that some political sufferers from Sind also applied for relief two years back and nothing has been done so far?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Yes. In one case, I remember we have referred the matter to the State Government.

SHRI D. A. MIRZA: Why don't the Government allow the Congressmen to occupy all the vacant lands in the country just as our friends have allowed in Kerala?

(No reply.)

SHRI H. D. RAJAH: Sir, is it not desirable that this problem should be tackled by the Union Government instead of allowing the State Governments to do it in order to avoid discrimination?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: It is entirely a matter for. the State Governments to give lands.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

इंजिनियरिंग संस्थाओं की स्थापना

***३६५. श्री राम सहाय : क्या शिक्षा तथा वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्री शिक्षा तथा**