

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: It is difficult for me to give any specific answer in regard to this question but I may point out some of the difficulties inherent in the problem. These plants are generally intended to produce articles which are necessary for the defence services. If there is surplus capacity and if it is a general plant which can produce an article for the civil trade we do produce it but we don't necessarily keep such stocks as may not be ultimately saleable and would therefore cause loss to the public exchequer.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Previously, some years ago, the practice was that once or twice in a year some of the goods produced by the ordnance factories used to be exhibited in the precincts of Parliament House. Why has this practice been discontinued now?

SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH: I shall consider this suggestion.

REVISION OF 1951 CENSUS FIGURES OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

*423. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revision of 1951 Census figures of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been undertaken by the Census Department for a few selected States only or for all the States; and

(b) how the revised figures compare with those of the 1951 Census?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): (a) The revision has been undertaken for all the States and Union Territories in general except Jammu and Kashmir, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands.

(b) In the reorganised set-up of States, in the case of Scheduled Castes, there is an increase due to revision in all the States

and Union Territories except Kerala, Madras, Mysore Orissa and West Bengal which have shown a decrease, and Assam and Bihar which have not recorded any change. In the case of Scheduled Tribes there is an increase in all the States and Union Territories except Manipur and Tripura which have recorded no change and Uttar Pradesh and Delhi where there are no Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Am I to suppose that U. P., Himachal Pradesh of Punjab and the Union Territory of Delhi have no Scheduled Tribes at all as they don't record their existence?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: They are treated as Backward Classes and all conveniences are given to them.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Is it also a fact that in the State of Assam the Scheduled Tribes who have migrated from other States to the tea gardens there are not included in the list of Scheduled Tribes?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, may I point out to the hon. Member that this revision was undertaken in view of the amendments in the order regarding Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and on account of certain inaccuracies that were found in the census of 1951? Therefore the figures are based upon such revision.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: My question, Sir, was whether those Scheduled Tribes who migrated to the tea gardens in Assam from other States were considered as Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI B. N. DATAR: It depends upon a number of considerations, as to whether they were there in 1951.

SHRI A. V. KUNHAMBUR: May I know, Sir, if it is a fact that the Pul-aya section of Malabar people are not included in the Scheduled Castes?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I cannot say anything definite so far as a particular tribe is concerned.

SHRI SONUSING DHANSING PATIL: Are there any hard and fast rules regarding the category to which a person belongs because a washerman in Bihar belongs to the Scheduled Tribes or Scheduled Castes whereas a washerman in Bombay side is a man of the Backward Classes? Are there any hard and fast rules?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: It depends upon the degree of untouchability so far as the Scheduled Castes are concerned.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Many Scheduled Caste people have since embraced Buddhism. As such will the list still show them as Scheduled Castes?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: That question has yet to arise.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: I wanted to know in what way the special facilities available to the Scheduled Tribes are afforded to those Scheduled Tribes who are inhabiting the tea garden areas of Assam?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Sir, it is not possible for me to catalogue the whole list here. A number of benefits are extended to them.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, whether there is any difficulty in listing such people as have migrated to the tea gardens in Assam from other parts of India as Scheduled Tribes if they belonged originally to the Scheduled Tribes?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: That can be done provided that in the present Scheduled Tribes Order or Scheduled Castes Order they are enumerated as Scheduled Tribes or Scheduled Castes.

SETTING UP OF IRON PLANT AT SALEM

•424. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an iron plant at Salem for the manufacture of iron from low grade ores;

(b) whether this low grade iron ore has been tested on a pilot plant scale; and

(c) if so, what is the result of that test?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know whether some bulk samples have been sent to Jamshedpur for finding out whether that ore is suitable for a plant to be set up or not?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: A pilot plant is to be set up at the National Metallurgical Laboratory at Jamshedpur for this purpose and based on the results of the tests in this plant Government will take a decision on the location of a plant in Salem.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will that be in public sector or in private sector when it is established?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Much too early to say anything.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know whether any licences have been given to private agencies to start pig iron plants at that place?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I do not know what place is in the mind of the hon. Member but it is a fact that licences for manufacturing small quantities of pig iron have been given to one or two firms.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Without knowing what place I had in mind I do not know how he was able to answer the question. Have licences been given to two firms only or have others also been given?