

SHRI H. V. PATASKAR: The Election Commission has fixed no such dates yet.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Has any consultation been held with the Election Commission in this matter by the Government?

SHRI H. V. PATASKAR: No consultation has been held between the Government and the Election Commission regarding this matter.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: The hon. Minister stated that the election will come about March 1957

SHRI H. V. PATASKAR: No, Sir.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: But he has stated that the election may be held in time between March and May. May we know

SHRI H. V. PATASKAR: I did not say that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He did not say that. The period will expire about May and elections must be held before May and now the date contemplated is March 1957—that is how he put it.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: How can the date be contemplated by the Government? That is a date to be fixed by the Election Commission. That is why I ask whether consultation has been held with the Election Commission.....

SHRI H. V. PATASKAR: The Election Commission will fix the date and the programme of election.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: How does the hon. Minister say that it should be in March without having consulted them and without having obtained information from them?

SHRI H. V. PATASKAR: That is my surmise. The hon. Member may have his own idea.

LACCADIVE AND MINICOY ISLANDS

*296. SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have so far been taken by Government to repeal the Minicoy and Laccadive Islands Regulation Act of 1912 and various other laws relating to the above Islands to bring them into conformity with the provisions of the Constitution of India; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR) : (a) Madras Government have examined the laws governing the Laccadive and Minicoy Islands and have found them in conformity with the Constitution.

(b) The question does not arise.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the recent judgment, of the Madras High Court declaring this particular Regulation to be *ultra vires* of the Constitution?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: May I point out to the hon. Member that the Madras High Court have held, in respect of the writ petition that was filed before them, that those rules are valid and *intra vires* of the Constitution.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: It is *ultra vires* of article 19, clause (1) (d) and (e); that is, what we could understand from the report of the judgment published in the papers.

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I may point out to the hon. Member that the writ petition was on the authority of article 19 (5) of the Constitution and then this is the opinion of the Madras High Court. They have held section 37 of the Laccadive and Minicoy Islands Regulation Act of 1912 to be valid and *intra vires* of the Constitution.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Is the Minister referring to the judgment delivered by Justice Raja-gopalan and Justice Rajagopala Ayyanagar on the 1st of April?

SHRI B. N. DAT AR: What is this judgment referred to? I did not follow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is that the judgment given by these two judges on the 1st of April?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I have not got the date.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: I have got the press cutting here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And he has got the official judgment.

SHRI B. N. DATAR: If he will pass it on, I shall look into it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You pass it on and he will enquire.

*297. [The questioner (Shri N. C. Sekhar) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 2860-61 infra.]

EXPANSION OF SCOUTS AND GUIDES MOVEMENT

*298. SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state the amount proposed to be spent by Government on the expansion of Scouts and Guides movement during the next five years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI) : A sum of rupees one crore has been proposed in the second Five Year Plan.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Has the Planning Commission agreed to it?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, Sir.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: How is it that while Government have, for a few thousand people in the N.C.C. and

A.C.C., set aside Rs. 8 crores, in the case of the scouts they have set aside only Rs. 1 crore?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: At the rate at which the scout movement is progressing, it is not likely that they will be able to utilise more than a crore of rupees. In 1953-54 we gave a grant of Rs. 32,500; in 1954-55, we gave a grant of Rs. 57,500; in 1955-56, we gave a grant of Rs. 95,000. And if the scout movement can utilise more money, it will be placed at their disposal. We are very sympathetic to that movement.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Is my hon. friend aware that even these sums were received from Government with the greatest difficulty and that much larger sums were spent readily on the expansion of the N.C.C. and A.C.C.?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: There is no rivalry between the N.C.C. and the scout movement. They are both useful movements from the point of view of the Government. And the Government wishes to encourage the scout movement as much as they want to encourage the N.C.C. movement. The only difference is that the scout movement is a voluntary organisation. The Government has to requisition certain information and certain statements from the organisation and that sometimes takes time in giving grants. Otherwise, I would like to assure the hon. Member that we would do everything that is possible to encourage the movement.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: How does the Education Ministry propose to educate the Finance Ministry with regard to the importance of scouting and guiding, because the real trouble lies there?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: That is the most important problem before the Education Ministry. The Finance Ministry has to be made Education conscious. Unfortunately most of the Finance Ministries all over the world are not so much education conscious.