

SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT: i I have not been able to follow the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who are all invited to this conference and how are the selections made? That is the question.

SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT: In order to get over all these embar- rasing questions, we are not holding any conference hereafter.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Sir, I could not follow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The last conference was held in 1952 and the Home Minister says that he does not propose to hold any conference hereafter.

SHABARIMALA TEMPLE FIRE INCIDENT

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

(a) whether a Committee was constituted by the Government of Travancore-Cochin to enquire into the Shabarimala Temple fire incident; and

(b) if so, whether the Committee has since submitted its report and whether a copy of the Report will be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: May I know, Sir, if any officer was deputed either by the Central Government or at the instance of the Central Government and has he made any report?

SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT: This incident happened about five or six years ago. Many enquiries were held and the Travancore-Cochin Government deputed one of its own Deputy Inspectors General to investigate the matter and look into it carefully. After considering everything

they came to the conclusion that no action could be taken against anyone.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Is the Government aware that three is a strong public feeling in the State that this burning of the temple was part of a move to incite communal feeling and that prominent personalities were involved in that?

SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT: I hope that all will combine together to get over that communal feeling now that more than five years have passed and public interest requires that men should apply their minds to constructive work and not harbour such feelings any longer.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: The feeling persists now, because certain personalities are shielded. Is the Government aware of that?

SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT: I have not followed the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The feeling persists because certain personalities are shielded—that is what he says.

SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT: Well, I am not aware of anyone being shielded.

SERVICE CONDITIONS OF TEACHERS IN TRAVANCORE-COCHIN

*392. SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that service conditions of teachers in private and Government-managed educational institutions in Travancore-Cochin are not uniform;

(b) if so, what are the details of the anomalies; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce Public Service Commission tests for selecting teachers for private schools in that State; if so why?