

RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, 13th December 1955

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ASSESSMENT OF ENGINEERING PERSONNEL

266. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have asked the State Governments to undertake a quick assessment of the availability and the requirement of engineering personnel in their respective States;

(b) whether any reports have been received from the States; and

(c) if so, what is the position in each State?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING (SHRI S. N. MISHRA): (a) The Engineering Personnel Committee set up by the Government has made such a request.

(b) Reports have been received by the Committee from most of the States.

(c) The information received from the States is being scrutinised by the Committee.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether this committee has submitted an interim report?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: It is expected to submit the interim report by the end of this month.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know the names of States which have submitted their recommendations?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: Sir, the States with which discussions have taken place are West Bengal, Bihar, U.P., Madras, Andhra, Madhya Pradesh, Mysore, Hyderabad, Bombay and

Saurashtra and the reports from others that are being received are being scrutinised.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know the categories of engineering personnel about which this assessment was required?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: They were in respect of the higher grades and of supervisory personnel.

PROF. G. RANGA: Is it not a fact that there are certain States where there are too many unemployed engineers and in other States there are not enough of them and that there is no co-ordination with the result that those unemployed people remain unemployed while the other areas are suffering from want of properly trained engineering personnel?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: There is no surplus in States generally because most of them have been reporting shortages but there is of course some lack of co-ordination in this respect and also there is the factor of immobility.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: When did the Government write to the States?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: Sir, I cannot give the date. The Committee was set up only recently.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: Is it not a fact that some of these engineering personnel— young men who have qualified themselves abroad—have had to seek jobs outside India?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: I have no information about that.

PROF. G. RANGA: Is it not a fact that the Government of India have received reports about unemployment prevailing among engineering graduates who have graduated from the engineering colleges during the last four or five years?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: About that question of unemployment we have

not got much information because most of the States have been reporting shortages.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Is it not a fact that in the Employment Exchanges in the State of Madras qualified engineers are registered as unemployed?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: It may be in Bombay too but it all depends upon the categories. But I think that some of them are being recruited in other States too.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Is it not a fact that in Bihar there is a dearth of qualified engineers?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: In Bihar mostly Madras engineers have been recruited.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know whether the Government proposes at least now to take any action to coordinate and have a service for engineering?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: May I answer this question? The question of pooling and having a common service so far as irrigation engineering is concerned has been taken up and a subcommittee of the Ministers of the various States has been appointed at a meeting of the Board of Co-ordination of Ministers. That Committee has not yet met. It was only in October last that that Sub-Committee was appointed. Similarly, the Planning Commission has also appointed a Committee. These Committees will look into the question of the co-ordination of the various common services.

PROP. N. R. MALKANI: Has any assessment been made of the skilled labour which has had some engineering experience of such projects and which could be used in other projects?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: No actual survey of the skilled labour has been made.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: Is it a fact that in some projects where the works have been completed such skilled labour has been thrown out of work?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Actually some people in the D.V.C. apprehend that they will be thrown out but we are trying to employ them on other projects. They have not yet been retrenched.

SHRI V. VENKATARAMANA: Is there any such scheme to employ them?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Yes.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Is Government starting an engineering service cadre?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think we have another question on that.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: The hon. Deputy Minister said that there was shortage. May we know in what particular branches there is shortage of engineers?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: The particular branches are civil, mechanical and electrical. There is shortage in the civil engineering side.

EXPERTS COMMITTEE FOR ALUMINIUM INDUSTRY

*267. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) when the Committee of Experts for the Aluminium Industry is expected to submit its report; and

(b) whether the present capacity of aluminium plants is fully utilised and if not, to what extent it is not utilised?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) The Committee has been constituted in October 1955 and at this stage it is too early to give any indication of the