

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: There are only Fijians and Indians and the tax is levied on Indians.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Are there no persons apart from Fijians and Indians?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Hardly any.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी वृषी निगम : क्या मैं जान सकती हूँ कि १९५४-५५ में कितने फिजी निवासी भारतीय भारत में आए ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I want notice.

**VACANT POSTS OF ASSISTANT ENGINEERS
AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS IN ALL INDIA
RADIO**

570. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Assistant Engineers and Technical Assistants which remained vacant in the All India Radio since the beginning of 1954;

(b) what steps have been taken to fill up these vacancies; and

(c) with what results?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN) : (a) 24 and 30 respectively.

(b) Requisitions for filling these vacancies had been duly sent to the Union Public Service Commission.

(c) Selection by the Union Public Service Commission of candidates for Assistant Engineers' posts has been completed and their nominations are awaited.

24 more candidates for posts of Technical Assistants who have been selected by the Union Public Service

Commission are expected to join shortly.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, since how long these 24 posts were remaining vacant?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: From the beginning of 1954.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Is it not true that by the first September 1954 there were 84 vacancies?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: I do not think so.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know what arrangement is made for recruitment in view of the fact that the Public Service Commission reported that they were unable to find suitable candidates?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: Sir, it is not a question of delay on the part of the Ministry. We advertised in March 1954 for the posts of Assistant Engineers and the interviews by the U.P.S.C. were over only on 19th September 1955. As for the technical assistants we advertised in November 1954 and the interviews were over only recently.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, whether the question of getting engineers trained in 'his line has been taken up and whether any arrangement has been made?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: This is not a simple question. The difficulty has been that we have not been able to get engineers of requisite qualifications for the work of maintenance and other work in the radio stations. The qualifications that have been put as the minimum are such that there are only a few technical institutes in the country who train candidates up to that standard. In view of the continuous paucity of such personnel the question of taking candidates with lesser qualifications and training them up by giving them two years' training has now been seriously taken up.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know in which institutes these training facilities have been given?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: There are three—I have not got the names—Universities and two technical institutes in the country who give the minimum standard required.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: There was a scheme for training them on a subsidy of Rs. 150 per mensem. May I know whether this scheme is in force?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: I require notice.

PROP. G. RANGA: Is there any scheme with the Government to start a training institute on their own, on behalf of the Government?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: As I said, the question of having, not a training institute, but a training school for this is under serious consideration.

PROF. G. RANGA: Has any effort been made by this department in particular to take up this matter with the Union Public Service Commission, in order to minimise this delay that is taking place between the time that they advertise and the time by which the selections are made by the Union Public Service Commission?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: We have put it to the Commission. The Commission says that the number of Members that have been given to them according to the Constitution is so small in comparison with the thousands of posts for which they have to recruit people, that they cannot help it. But they have promised to expedite matters and I hope that in the future we will be able to do these things much more quickly.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: What is the present requirement of the department and what is the estimated

future requirement of such assistant engineers?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: For assistant engineers, degree in telecommunication or radio engineering.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: He asks—what is the present strength and what is the estimated strength in future?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: I require notice, Sir.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Is it not true, Sir, that they require these engineers for the P. and T. and Defence departments also?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: P. and T. and Defence department recruit separately and their requirements are not exactly those as ours, though in certain matters there is overlapping.

INDIANS WORKING IN THE EXTERNAL SERVICES DIVISION OF A.I.R.

*571. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many employees are working at present in the External Services Division of All India Radio;

(b) how many of them are Indians; and

(c) what are their scales of pay?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN): (a) 301.

(b) 246.

(c) A statement showing the scales of pay of the Indian employees is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix X, Annexure No. 106.]

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, why these scales of pay differ from person to person and why they have not been graded?