

(b) if so, what are the reasons underlying this decision; and

(c) whether this decision has evoked protests from students and why it is that this spreading the course for longer periods is limited to B.A. and M.A. courses only?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a), (b) and (c). No, Sir.

SHRIMATI DR. SEETA PARMANAND: Sir, as there are so many questions with regard to Education, we would very much appreciate it if the hon. Minister for Education would grace the House with his presence.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: If there is a Minister for Education at all. We have not seen him for some time.

SHRIMATI DR. SEETA PARMANAND: He has long experience of the Department and I hope you will kindly convey this to the hon. Minister.

FORMATION OF STATES ON LINGUISTIC BASIS

*260. SHRIMATI SHOILA BALADAS: Will the Minister for STATES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a representation from 25 members of Parliament regarding the merger of Kharswan and Seraikella into Orissa has been received by Government; and

(b) if so, what action is proposed to be taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND STATES (DR. K. N. KATJU): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

DR. P. C. MITRA: Are Government aware that these two States were first merged into Orissa and then some controversy arose and after due deliberation—by the late Sardar Patel,

these States were finally merged into Bihar?

DR. K. N. KATJU: I am very familiar with the old history to which the hon. Member refers.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Is it not a fact that when these two States were temporarily merged with Orissa, there was great agitation and shooting by the Orissa police in which some 300 Adivasis were killed?

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Shooting by Orissa people?

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: And thereafter, the whole question was reconsidered and these two States were then merged with Bihar?

DR. K. N. KATJU: My hon. friend's version of old history is both perfect and imperfect.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Sir.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Mahanty is our Member for Orissa.

MR. S. MAHANTY: Did the Government of India, in the States Ministry appoint a tribunal under Mr. Justice Bavdekar in 1948 to go into the whole controversy and give an Award, and if so, did that Tribunal give an Award, in that case; what was that Award, and if not given, why not?

DR. K. N. KATJU: The hon. Member is again recounting the whole history with which we are all familiar. A tribunal was set up, but before it started functioning, both the State Governments said to the States Ministry, which was presided over by Sardar Patel, that they would rather have a decision from the States Ministry than from somebody else. So there was an enquiry and a decision was taken.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: No, Sir, I contest what the hon. Minister has said now and.....

SHRI B. RATH: Instead of going through old history, may I know, after receiving this memorandum.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rath, one at a time.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: I contest what the hon. Minister has said just now and say that it is not a fact. I say with all the emphasis at my command that there was no enquiry held and the States Ministry proceeded with the matter *suo motu* and transferred the States to Bihar. Why should they not again proceed *suo motu* now and give these States back to Orissa?

(No answer.)

SHRI H. D. RAJAH: Where is the answer? We want an answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All questions will be answered together by Dr. Katju.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Is it not a fact that an overwhelming section of the population in these two States consists of Adibasis and that they want to remain united with Bihar?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not want the controversy between Bihar and Orissa to be staged in Parliament by means of questions.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: Out of these 25 representatives, Members of Parliament, how many are from Orissa State?

PROF. G. RANGA: How many are from Orissa? That is the point.

DR. K. N. KATJU: I hold every Member of Parliament in equal affection. I am sorry I have not analysed that fact from that angle.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: Regarding this question, I want to know how many are from Orissa?

DR. K. N. KATJU: I confess that I have not analysed the number 25 in that light.

PROF. G. RANGA: Very good; you are exonerated.

DR. K. N. KATJU: Whoever he is and whichever part he comes from, once he is a Member of Parliament, I consider him to be a representative of the whole of India.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Would the hon. Minister be prepared to receive a representation on this point from 76 Members of Parliament from Bihar?

DR. K. N. KATJU: May I just say one word, Sir? At the time that this controversy was going on, I happened to be, in another capacity, in Cuttack itself, and I am very familiar with the whole history both in Cuttack and in Patna.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: I want to know if the Orissa Assembly has passed a resolution?

(No reply.)

FLYING OF UNION JACK ON THE OCCASION OF THE CORONATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

*261. SHRIMATI SHOILA BALADAS: Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state what principle was followed when the Union Jack was flown side by side with the Indian Tricolour Flag on the Central Secretariat Buildings in New Delhi on the occasion of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II of England?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): The Union Jack was flown side by side with the Indian National Flag on the Secretariat Buildings in New Delhi on the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II as a matter of courtesy towards a friendly country and also because the Queen is the head of the Commonwealth.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: What is the constitutional provision in our Constitution, to which all of us, Ministers and Members, have sworn allegiance, which says that the Queen of Great Britain, whoever she may be, is the head of the Commonwealth?