

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: My question is whether your attention has been drawn to it.

DR. K. N. KATJU: Let me reply to that question frankly. One day something appears in the papers and before I can do something about it, it is contradicted. Therefore I keep quiet about press reports.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: May I amplify my question? May I know whether his attention has been drawn to such a report or whether he is aware of any report to the effect that there has been a reduction in the number of districts?

DR. K. N. KATJU: I have already said on the floor of this House that there is not going to be any reduction in the districts.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Are we to assume that today there are eight districts in PEPUSU and no reduction has been effected?

DR. K. N. KATJU: I have said so most clearly. There are eight districts today. Let the hon. Member go there.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: I will go there if the Minister gives me permission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says, "If you give me permission. I will go there."

#### PUNJAB AND PEPUSU GOVERNMENT SERVICES

\*42. SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to organise a joint cadre of Punjab and PEPUSU Government Services; and

(b) if so, what is the purpose of this joint cadre and what are its details?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR):

(a) Yes; but only for the All India Services, i.e., the Indian Administrative Service and the Indian Police Service.

(b) The establishment of joint cadres seeks mainly to ensure an adequate supply of experienced officers for manning the senior posts in both the States at all times. The details are still under consideration.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: May I know whether this joint cadre system has been adopted in any other State?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: A joint cadre system is going to be introduced in Bombay and Saurashtra immediately.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Does it entail a joint Public Service Commission also?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Joint cadre for the services. That does not apply to the Public Service Commission.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: What is the purpose of this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The purpose of this is to ensure an adequate supply of experienced officers for manning the senior posts in both the States at all times.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: I am at a loss to understand how efficiency can be improved by a joint cadre?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: In the case of a joint cadre, a larger number of officers will be available for manning both the States.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Am I to understand that this applies to State services also and not merely to the Administrative Service?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: They apply only to the I.A.S. and the I.P.S.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: The question was about both services.

SHRI B. N. DATAR: The answer is that it is confined only to the I.A.S. and the I.P.S.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is it the policy of the Government to extend this to the other States also?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Whenever there is any request, that will be gone into.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is it done at the request of the States?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Yes, it is done at the request of the States concerned.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Am I to understand that this is the first step towards merger?

SHRI K. S. HEGDE: Legislative sanction may be necessary for a joint cadre; administrative sanction alone may not be enough.

SHRI B. N. DATAR: Subject to correction, legislative sanction is not necessary. Executive sanction is enough.

DR. K. N. KATJU: There is no question of merger at present under consideration.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is this the first step towards that direction?

DR. K. N. KATJU: This is not the first or the second. When it comes, it will be a solid merger.

#### MENTAL AILMENTS IN SERVICE PERSONNEL

\*43. SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mental ailments have been the biggest factor in the invalidation of service personnel since the end of World War II;

(b) whether it is also a fact that approximately 1/5th of the ex-service-

men receiving disablement pensions were invalidated out of service for mental maladjustments;

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, what are the reasons for such a high rate of psychiatric disorders; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to counteract this scourge among our Armed Services?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA):  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Collection of reliable statistics on this point will involve considerable time and labour. In a recent analysis of 75,000 cases invalidated during the last war, and drawing disability pension, it was found that 18 per cent. i.e. approximately one-fifth, were invalidated due to psychiatric disorders. The proportion has considerably decreased since 1946-47.

(c) The factors responsible for mental disorders are too complex to be detailed, but there is no reason to believe that the incidence of mental diseases is higher in the Armed Forces than in the civil population.

(d) With a view to keeping down the number of recruits likely to develop mental diseases under the stress and strain of service in the Armed Forces, a simple psychiatric examination has been made an integral part of the medical examination of each recruit on entry. It is also proposed to prescribe a psychiatric assessment of all recruits at the end of 3 months' training.

On the ameliorative side, increased welfare and recreational facilities are being provided to troops to keep them healthy in body and mind.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: If the statement made by the hon. Minister that the proportion of mental disorders in the military is not more than in the civilian population is correct, am I to