

COUNCIL OF STATES

Monday, 23rd February 1953

The Council met at two of the clock in the afternoon, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ESTABLISHMENT OF A LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY IN MANIPUR STATE

*64. SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether during his recent visit to the State of Manipur, a deputation on behalf of the people of that State presented to him a memorandum praying for the establishment of a Legislative Assembly in the State; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. K. CHANDA): (a) and (b). Yes, the Prime Minister received a large number of memoranda. Some of these suggested the establishment of a Legislative Assembly. Government have given careful consideration to these memoranda and other matters and have for the present come to the conclusion that a Council of Advisers should be established. Preliminary action for this purpose has been completed and it is hoped that an announcement will be made in the near future.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: May I know Why full responsible self-Government cannot be introduced there at present?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: We thought that at this stage this would be the proper step to take and we have taken it.

SHRI C. G. K. RELY: "A Council of Advisers", what exactly does this mean? Will it be a nominated body, and if so, in what manner would the various interests and sections of opinion be represented in this Council?

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SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The members have to be nominated because there is no means of electing advisers, but in nominating them, various organisations are consulted.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: What is the difficulty in electoral colleges being set up in Manipur and Tripura as the *de facto* Legislative Assembly for these States as it has been done in other Part 'C' States?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: It is rather difficult to get into details about these matters. As a matter of fact not only did the Home Minister go there personally to enquire into the matter but a little before that I was there too and saw many people there. The difficulty is that there are various interests which conflict with each other and which pull in different directions, and we considered that perhaps the sounder policy would be to go step by step instead of possibly having to get into some kind of difficulty right in the beginning. It is the Government's intention to go further a little later, but we thought that it would be better to take this step now and the other steps later. The House will remember that these areas are not very homogeneous. They comprise of hill areas, plain areas, tribal folk and non-tribal folk.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH: Is it due to Communist Burma being near this area that full responsible Government cannot be given to that State?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: No, it has nothing to do with Burma. Responsible Government is a very good term, but it has something to do with the area involved, how big or how small. You may call a village responsible, a village republic. In these days economic and other considerations overstep these small boundaries.

SHRI B. GUPTA: Is it not a fact that all local interests are opposed to the appointment of an Advisory Council instead of electoral colleges?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I do not think, Sir, this can be said of all

of them. Some might be, but if you meet them separately, they express different opinions.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: Does this apply to Tripura also?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I believe to all of them.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE: Is it not a fact that they are all agreed on the point that! they want responsible Government?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: If I may say so, so are we all agreed upon it, but the question is about the time and the manner of doing it.

NON-INDIAN TRADE REPRESENTATIVES OF INDIA ABROAD

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

(a) the number of non-Indians appointed as India's Trade Representatives abroad; and

(b) the places where they are appointed and the salary or the commission each of them is drawing?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNA -MACHARI): (a) None of the Indian Trade Representatives abroad is a non-Indian.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Are there any firms in India who appoint their representatives abroad in addition to the Government representatives?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I cannot understand. Does the hon. Member mean that firms here should not appoint representatives in other countries?

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What is the question, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question was whether there were non-Indians among India's Trade Representatives abroad, and the answer was, "No."

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: The supplementary?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are there firms in India who appoint their representatives abroad? That question does not really arise out of this.

PROPERTIES AND BUILDINGS OWNED BY INDIA ABROAD

*66. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of buildings and other immovable properties owned by the Government of India in each of the foreign countries;

(b) the value (in rupee::) of each of such immovable properties including buildings; and

(c) the number of buildings—

(i) that are being constructed; and

(ii) that are proposed to be constructed in the near future, by Government in foreign countries?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a), (b) and (c). Two statements are laid on the Table of the Council. [See Appendix IV, Annexures Nos. 28 and 29.]

SHRI M. VALIULLA: In one of the tables, the cost of some of the buildings is not given. May I know the reason why the cost is not known?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON : Those buildings were taken over from the British, and except for maintenance, the Government has not spent anything on them.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The hon. Member refers to the buildings in Tibet, in Southern Tibet, in places like Gyantse and Yatung. We have