

MR. CHAIRMAN: He asks, what is meant by a substantial excess over a lakh—is it ten, hundred, thousand or what?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Something like a clear margin which is likely to remain—15 per cent. over one lakh—that was suggested by the sub-committee and it was accepted.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that the Central Pay Commission in 1947 had decided that cities having a population of 1 lakh will be granted this allowance and have circumstances changed so much and also the cost of living changed to justify this departure?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: The Central Pay Commission recommended that in the costlier areas and cities some sort of house-rent allowance should be granted to the employees at a prescribed scale appropriate to the salary. So this question does not arise here.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that in some of the cities in Class 'C' the population is about four to five thousand in excess of one lakh?

SHRI M. C. SHAH: Certainly. It may be so. We have stated that there can be an excess of 15 per cent. over and above 1 lakh. That percentage was considered to be necessary.

SHRI B. RATH: The excess is 5,000 I say.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it a fact that.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, the Question Hour is over.

SHRI B. RATH: A few more.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no.

SHRI B. RATH: Sometimes the time is extended also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will not be extended.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

AGE OF RETIREMENT

*536. SHRI R. C. GUPTA: Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to raise the age of retirement of Government Servants; and

(b) whether Government have taken any decision in the matter; if so, what?

THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND STATES (DR. K. N. KATJU): (a) and (b). The matter has been recently reconsidered and has been decided that no change should be made in the existing rules relating to the age of compulsory retirement of Government servants.

REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF EDUCATION

92. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a uniform standard pattern for reporting the progress of education to the Centre is followed by all States;

(b) whether annual reports on progress of education in Part C States are being issued; and

(c) the latest year to which the annual report of Government in the Ministry of Education on the progress of education in all States relate?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD): (a) Yes.

(b) No. In some of the States, however, education is covered in the Annual Administrative Report.

(c) 1948-49.

REPORTS ON THE INCREASE OF LITERACY

93. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of literacy for all-India as per 1951 census;

(b) the percentage of literacy in each of the States of Bihar, Hyderabad, Punjab, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Madya Bharat, PEPSU and Rajasthan for whom Central grants for primary education are being given as recommended by the Finance Commission;

(c) the percentage of literacy in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) whether Government in the Ministry of Education receive reports on the increases in literacy and in the number of school-going children from the States receiving primary education grants?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD): (a) 16.6 per cent.

(b) The percentage of literacy in the States mentioned as given in the Census Report of 1951 is as follows:—

Bihar	12.2 per cent
Hyderabad	9.2 "
Punjab	16.5 "
Orissa	15.8 "
Madhya Pradesh	13.5 "
Madhya Bharat	10.8 "
Pepsu	12.0 "
Rajasthan	8.4 "

No grants are, however, being given by the Centre to these States for primary education.

(c) 10.8 per cent.

(d) Government receive annual reports from all States giving information about the number of school-going children. Figures of literacy are, however, compiled at the time of the Census.

PURCHASE OF HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS AND DOCUMENTS

94. SHRI B. RATH: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many offers were made by Government for the purchase of historical manuscripts and documents from persons during the year 1952-53;

(b) the names of persons to whom such offers were made;

(c) what were the manuscripts and documents for which the offers were made; and

(d) what are the manuscripts and documents which have been purchased, and the names of persons from whom and the cost at which they have been purchased?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD): (a) to (d). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, Annexure No. 153.]

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

THE INDIAN MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1952

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report to the Council the following message received from the House of the People, signed by the Secretary to the House:

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the House of the People, I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the Indian Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 1952 which has been passed as amended by the House at its sitting held on the 27th April, 1953."

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table.

STATEMENT RE STRIKE IN THE HINDUSTAN SHIPYARD

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Reddy will make a statement on the Hindustan Shipyards.