

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.]

adequate as people would like it to be; it may be a little less, but, taking everything into consideration, I do submit, Sir, that we have tried to do more, and succeeded in that, for the I.N.A. personnel than we have done to any Other group or to the vast army of political sufferers in the country whose families had been shattered during the last 30 or 40 years. So that, it does pain and distress me to be accused of treating these people in this way, as though they were traitors and riot respected patriots, as though we had riot tried to help them in every way. This matter has come up repeatedly. This matter is treated as closed. Apart from everything else, whatever help might conceivably have been given, this lapse of time makes it extremely difficult to take the people back into the army after ten years. How are they to be taken back, and where? They did not fit in anywhere as soldiers. We would have to give them special training of all kinds. It simply would not work. I am referring to the Resolution as worded. It cannot to done. With the best will in the world, it cannot be done. There were those difficulties. Now, apart from undoing what the British Government had attempted to do—the stigma, etc., by classifying them into groups" and so on—I will just read out what all has been done. I am talking about the last six years. The stigma attached to the ex-I.N.A. personnel was removed and the individuals were made eligible for re-employment in the Indian army if they were otherwise suitable. Those who were re-enrolled were treated as ex-soldiers of the Indian army to all intents and purposes. In the case of officers who held commissions in the Indian army prior to their joining the I. N. A. the normal rules were relaxed. The officers too were eligible to get *de novo* permanent or short service commissions. Those officers who held permanent commissions in the Indian army were not required to appear before the Services Selection Board. A liaison officer was appointed in the Ministry of Defence to

assist the ex-I.N.A. personnel in mining employment for the personnel under the Government of India and State Governments. Individuals who had been previously dismissed or discharged were granted (1) amounts standing to their credit including deferred pay on the date of their capture by the enemy where not already paid ; (2) amount equal to three months' pay and allowances including deferred pay of the substantive or war substantive rank held at the time of the discharge or retirement; (3) service pension including muster pension and gratuity under normal rules ; (4) war gratuity and contractual gratuity under the existing rules. And in addition to all these, lump sum grants were made to those who were disabled or were dependants of those who died while serving with the I.N.A. On top of that, a sum of Rs. 30 lakhs was set apart for these concessions, and the actual expenditure on this account was Rs. 31 lakhs,

Sir, this is what was done from the Defence Ministry side. You will see that everything possible was done excepting taking them back *en masse* into the Indian army, which at that time, for a large variety of reasons was found very difficult, and, I submit, correctly found to be difficult. It was not a question of their patriotism being challenged. It was a question of getting people into the army who were particularly suited for the army at that time. You can not play about with the army. And normally the door was open. And what was done I have mentioned. A great deal was done, and to some extent it was done with the co-operation and help of the I.N.A. officers and men themselves. In fact there was a committee of their own people who used to advise us and even now it is going on, and even now I am in charge of a fund to give relief to ex-I.N.A. officers and men and hardly a day passes by when some case does not come up recommended by the I.N.A. officers themselves to me, and I deal with the matter, and normally relief is given.

I really do not know what more could have been done or can be done now. In any event I would point out to this House that the Resolution as framed has no relevance to facts and it is not related to facts. It just cannot be accepted.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : May I just ask the Prime Minister for a little assurance, if he can give it even at this late stage ? He said something about rewarding them in other ways. Is it possible, since he has not given us reasons as to how he came to this decision—I shall bow to him : probably he has other Teasons for not giving the reasons,.....

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : Which reasons ?

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : For not taking them back into the army.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : I thought I gave the reasons—that it is very difficult to take them back into the army many years later.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : I am not pressing for the reasons. I was only asking if any time before any weightage was given to I.N.A. people as such. There may be people who got employment because of other qualifications. I want to know whether I.N.A. personnel as such were given weightage for recruitment in services other than the army. Was it done as a rule— not to special people, but as a rule to the whole 14,000 people ? Were any instructions given to the Provincial Governments or Chief Ministers to give weightage, and, if so, with what effect ?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : I thought I dealt with that. We tried to give every weightage. That is to say, instructions were given to give weightage, and actually, to my knowledge, weightage was sometimes given. Speaking from memory, I think apart from the Central office here, we had an office in Lucknow, and an office in Bombay, which specially dealt with the matter,

which kept themselves in constant touch with the State Governments and pressed on their claims with the State Governments. And the State Governments, I know, were favourably inclined and wanted to do it; and in fact my answer to the hon. Member's question is that weightage was given—When the hon. Member referred to the figure of 15,000, I would like to know whether it includes the number who went to Pakistan.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : It is very difficult to divide them.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: That figure is reduced. About one-third or more—if 15,000 is the right figure—I take his figure....

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Please do not take my figure. As the Prime Minister himself said, he has got a lot more information than I have.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : About one-third roughly went to Pakistan and remained there. Let us say, two-thirds are here : let us say, 10,000. A very large number of those got service in the police, in the home guards and other services. Really the number therefore is reduced. I have no doubt at all that even now there are people who are in difficulties. I know personally because cases come to me day after day. They are in difficulties, and we are trying to help them. I do not mean to say that we help everybody generously, but we do try to do so, and I think the problem has been solved, not one hundred per cent., but to a very largi; extent we did meCTthe difficulties that had arisen.

DRI P. C. MITRA (Bihar)

श्री पी० सी० मित्रा (बिहार) : श्रीमान् जी लोभ पाय पापे मृत्यु, न एक भाई ओरन एक भाई ।

पहिले लोभ होता है, उसके बाद पाप होता है और उसके बाद मृत्यु होती है । यही हालत हमारे आई० एन० ए० वालों की