

Department could not afford any officer—we are short of them—and the one we had appointed was a retired Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax. He was doing quite well but, then, the Public Service Commission did not permit us to continue his services after retirement because they were of the view that retired people should generally not be re-employed. Therefore, we are now looking for 3 officers to be appointed at 3 important places.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Have Government recruited any of these officers from those people, the so-called Income-tax Consultants, who really assist the assessee to dodge tax ?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : Therefore, we have not consulted them. I do not know if any of them advise people to dodge ; but we have not yet gone to the market.

PROF. G. RANGA : In view of the fact that these Public Relations Officers—I don't know how this designation was thought of—are needed to guide the assessee in order to fill in their forms and present their case before the Income-tax Officers and thus save themselves and the Administration a lot of trouble, will Government take steps to appoint them in as many centres as possible and, if necessary, approach the Public Service Commission with a case for appointing these retired officers ?

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SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : We made one experiment at Calcutta and it was quite successful. If we have personnel, surely the Government is anxious to appoint as many as they can.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Have the Government any figures of the assessee who have availed of the assistance of these officers ?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : Yes, Sir. The Public Relations Officer at Calcutta had attended to about 418 complaints preferred by the assessee. In each Income-tax Office, an Investigation Branch has been opened

from where enquiries are made. In this particular office at Calcutta 418 complaints were received by this Public Relations Officer and he granted about 800 interviews to assessee.

COLONIZATION SCHEME FOR EX-SERVICEMEN

*45. SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number and location of colonization schemes started in the country for settling ex-servicemen ;

(b) how many persons have so far been settled in these colonies ;

(c) the area of each such colony ;

(d) whether any co-operative societies have been formed in these colonies ; and

(e) whether any complaints have been received regarding the working of these colonies ; if so, what is the nature of such complaints, and what action has been taken in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA) : (a), (b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. (See Appendix III, Annexure No. 5.)

(d) No, except in Jambuvanodi Colony in Madras State.

(e) Nil.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Is it not a fact that a Memorandum was sent by the Jambuvanodi colonisers about corruption that is prevalent there ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : I did not follow the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is it not a fact that a representation was received from that colony about corruption prevalent there ? That is the question.

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : I have already replied to that, Sir, and said no representations have been received by the Ministry.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Has it gone to some other Department ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : I am afraid I could not answer that.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Generally, to whom are the grievances addressed ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : Naturally to the Defence Department.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : Is it a fact that in these colonies which are meant for the settlement of ex-servicemen only, political sufferers are given preference ?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : No, that is not a fact, Sir.

CORRUPTION IN E. P. RAILWAY

*46. SHRI B. RATH : Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a case of corruption was registered against three officers of the ex-E. P. Railway on 23rd May 1950 ;

(b) whether the Inspector-General of the Special Police Establishment suggested the transfer of the officers concerned for facilitating full and free investigations in the case ;

(c) whether these officers were transferred ; if not, why not ; and

(d) at what stage the case now stands ?

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

(b) and (c) Such a suggestion was received, but on examining the facts Government came to the conclusion that police investigation was not likely to be jeopardised by the presence of the accused officers. They were, therefore, not transferred.

(d) On an examination of the evidence collected by the police and after obtaining further elucidation from the Ministry of Railways, Government

decided that there was no adequate reason to attribute any corrupt motives to the officers, and the case was, therefore, closed.

SHRI B. RATH : Is it a fact that in spite of the insistence of the Inspector-General, Special Police Establishment, to get these officers transferred, the Railway Ministry insisted that the officers should be kept there ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : There was no insistence on the part of the Police Officers, but a suggestion had been made and the officers of the Home Ministry, the Police officers and the Railway Department met together and considered that no transfer was necessary.

SHRI B. RATH : What is the difference between insistence and suggestion according to Government ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : Suggestion is mild ; insistence is very strong.

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR : May I know, Sir, whether the railway authorities insisted on these officers not being transferred ?

SHRI B. N. DATAR : No. They put the case before this inter-departmental meeting and the meeting unanimously came to the conclusion that the transfer was not necessary and, secondly, the House may know, Sir, that the evidence in this particular case was documentary and, therefore, there was no question of any obstruction being raised by the presence of the officers at the places concerned.

TRAINING OF INDIAN STUDENTS UNDER THE COLOMBO PLAN

*47. SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA : Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether under the Colombo Plan it is proposed to send a number of Indian students to Britain ;

(b) if the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, what are the details of the agreement governing the scheme ;