

(a) if in view of population figures of Cuttack and Kharagpur towns according to 1951 census, Government have made any payment for House Rent Allowance to the Central Government Employees working in these cities; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE (SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI): (a) and (b) The question of reviewing the classification of towns in the light of the 1951 census figures, for the purpose of the grant of Compensatory and House Rent Allowances is now under the active consideration of Government and the necessary orders will be issued as soon as a decision is reached.

SHRI B. RATH: But, Sir, may I know what is there to consider now? The figures are with the Government and the Report of the Central Pay Commission is also there with the Government, and the report has been accepted by Government. Then what is the matter now left for investigation?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: In fact, when the Central Pay Commission made their recommendations with regard to the giving of special rent allowances to employees on prescribed rates, they also stated that these rates should be decided on the basis of the populations of the various towns. When this recommendation was made the census figures were very old. So when on the 2nd of April 1947 we decided to determine the populations of the various towns, the figures of the Census Report of 1941 were made the basis of our calculations. But after that representations were received from various towns asking Government to review the position on the basis of the existing populations which had increased. As we had no other reliable figures we had to wait and after the recent census we got some provisional figures and we started our re-examination of the position, and since then orders

were issued again on the basis of the provisional figures. But now again the actual census figures have come in and we have now to base our decision on the actual figures of the latest census of 1951.

SHRI B. RATH: In how many cases have the provisional figures varied from the actual figures of population ?

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: Well as an example I may give the case of Kharagpur about which my hon. friend is very anxious to know. According to the provisional figure Kharagpur did not come within the list of towns eligible for additional house rent, but according to the actual figures Kharagpur has a population of 1,29,6315 and therefore we have to include Kharagpur now in the list.

SHRI B. RATH : Out of the

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question hour is over.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI: Luckily the question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO- QUESTIONS

PERMIT SYSTEM BETWEEN INDIA, AND KASHMIR

*87. PROF. DINKAR: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that permit system is operating between India and Kashmir; and
- (b) if so, for what reasons ?

THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI) : (a) Yes.

(b) For reasons of security.

RECRUITMENT IN THE RARE EARTHS LTD.

106. SHRI M. MANJURAN: Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state:

- (a) how many people are at present employed under the Rare Earths Ltd.; and

(b) whether the recruitment of such employees was made through the Employment Exchange ?

THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES & SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD) : (a) Two hundred and fifty four.

(b) In the early stages certain recruitment was made direct as it was not possible to obtain the right type of technical personnel from the Employment Exchange. All vacancies are now being notified to the Employment Exchange and personnel sent by them are tested and selected if found to be technically satisfactory.

PUBLICATION OF FINANCE ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REPORTS

107. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to expedite the issue of Finance Accounts of the Central Government and the Audit Report thereon for periods subsequent to the year 1946-47; and

(b) what are the difficulties in the compilation of the finance accounts for the said period ?

THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH) : (a) and (b) The Finance Accounts of the Central Government and the Audit Report thereon for periods subsequent to the year 1946-47 are held up because of non-submission by certain Accounts authorities now in Pakistan of the pre-partition accounts due from them. The matter is constantly under correspondence with the Auditor General of Pakistan and the accounting authorities under him. The balances under the various heads are required to be carried forward in the accounts for subsequent years. It is only after the accounts for the pre-partition period are finally closed and the balances as on 14th August 1947, distributed between India and Pakistan that the

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accounts for the post-partition period can be compiled,

In view of this I am afraid, it is difficult to say at this stage when the Finance Accounts and the Audit Reports thereon for periods subsequent to 1946-47 may be expected to be issued.

RIHAND DAM PROJECT

108. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have agreed to finance U. P.'s. (Uttar Pradesh's) Rs. 33 crore Rihand Dam Project;

(b) whether the funds for this project are expected to be provided from the United States' Dollar aid to India Programme;

(c) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government propose to repay the sum taken from the Centre for this project with interest; and

(d) whether the levy of any betterment fee in the sixteen Eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh, expected to be served by this project, has been suggested to the U.P. Government?

THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH) : Part (a) The inclusion of the Rihand Project in the Five Year Plan is still under consideration of the Planning Commission.

(b) to (d) These do not arise until a decision on the question of inclusion of the Scheme in the Five Year Plan has been arrived at.

RETRENCHMENT OF MILITARY PERSONNEL

109. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of military personnel that was removed from service as a result of screening; and

(b) what is the number of new per-CBiel that has been recruited to the \ military service since April, 1949?