

NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE INQUIRY COMMITTEE REPORT.

713. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh**: Will Government be pleased to state how far the North-West Frontier Province Inquiry Committee has progressed, and when is the report likely to be published?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: The Honourable Member is referred to my reply to Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan's question No. 617, dated the 8th March 1924.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh: Is there no definite time within which the report will be published?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: It will not now be a matter of many weeks before the Honourable Members will see it.

MINOR PROVINCES.

714. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh**: Will the Government kindly place on the table a statement giving the names of the Minor Provinces, the administration of which is directly vested in the Central Government; the years in which they were so formed; as well as their annual revenue and expenditure?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: The Minor Provinces to which the Honourable Member refers are presumably the North-West Frontier Province, British Baluchistan, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. They were formed into Chief Commissionerships in 1901, 1887, 1912, 1871 and 1872, respectively. Information as to the annual revenue and expenditure of each of these Minor Provinces is given in the detailed estimates and demands for grants for the year 1924-25, of which a copy has been supplied to the Honourable Member. I would invite a reference by him to the information on pages 171 to 252 of that volume.

Mr. K. Ahmed: That does not include Berar, Sir, but only Ajmer-Merwara?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: Berar is not a minor administration in point.

Mr. K. Ahmed: What sort of minor administration is Berar then?

The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey: Berar is an administration under the control of the Central Provinces.

LOCAL ALLOWANCES OF POSTAL OFFICIALS IN THE PUNJAB.

715. ***Mr. Chaman Lal**: (a) Will the Government be pleased to state the reason for which the Punjab special local allowance paid by the Local Government to their civil employees in receipt of Rs. 99 and less is denied to the postal and R. M. S. staff working in the said province?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for which the local allowance paid to the postal and R. M. S. staff at the following stations is fixed at a rate lower than that paid to civil employees of the local Government:

1 Murree, 2 Simla, 3 Dharamsala, 4 Kasauli and Khyber area?