

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, 19th February, 1921.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at Eleven of the Clock.
The Honourable the President in the Chair.

The Honourable the President: Members desiring to take their seats, will please advance to the table to take the Oath or to affirm in the manner prescribed.

There being no further Members to take the Oath, we will proceed to questions.

The Honourable the President then called upon Lala Girdhari Lal Agarwala to put Question No. 143.

The Honourable Mr. Moncrieff Smith: The Honourable Member is not here.

The Honourable the President: When a Member is absent, unless, under Standing Order No. 19, the Member of the Government, in charge of the Department concerned, wishes to answer the Question, the Question will lapse, and notice will have to be given of it anew.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ALLAHABAD HIGH COURT.

143. Lala Girdhari Lal Agarwala: Do the Government of India propose to consider the question of securing the appointment of an Additional Indian Judge to the Honourable High Court at Allahabad and transfer the judicial work hitherto disposed of by the Board of Revenue to that Honourable Court?

(This Question was not answered as Lala Girdhari Lal Agarwala was not present.)

CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY COMMISSION.

144. Babu K. C. Neogy: (a) Will the Government be pleased to state when the report of the Calcutta University Commission was submitted to them, and when the report was published?

(b) Is it a fact that on the publication of the report the Secretary of State for India asked the Government of India for a reasoned despatch containing their proposals, and suggested that sufficient time should be given to him to consider the same?

Mr. H. Sharp: (a) The report of the Calcutta University Commission was published on the 9th August 1919. No definite date can be specified on which it was submitted to the Government of India; but before its publication, proofs of it were received by some of the Government officers concerned.

(b) The Government of India are not prepared to give any information on this subject.

REPORT OF THE CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY COMMISSION.

145. Babu K. C. Neogy: (a) Is it a fact that on or about the 27th January 1920, the Government of India published a Resolution on the report

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether any import duty on sugar is levied now, and, if so, at what rate?

(d) Are Government aware of the high price of sugar now? If so, will Government be pleased to state whether the Government are prepared to take any steps to bring down the value of sugar?

Mr. C. A. Innes: (a) In the three years before the war the average imports of sugar into India amounted to 661,221 tons valued for the purposes of import at Rs. 197 a ton.

(b) As far as Government is aware, beet sugar is not now being imported into India in any appreciable quantity.

(c) Sugar is taxed on import into India at the rate of 10 per cent. *ad valorem*.

(d) The Government are aware that prices of sugar in India are high, but the Honourable Member no doubt noticed the considerable fall in the price of sugar in the last three months of last year. The Government of India do not propose to take any steps artificially to regulate the price of sugar.

JAILS COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

192. **Mr. Sambanda Mudaliar:** Will Government be pleased to state whether the report of the Jail Commission has been submitted? If so, when will it be published?

Mr. S. P. O'Donnell: I would refer the Honourable Member to the answer given to the Question No. 174 asked by Mr. T. V. Seshagiri Ayyar.

INDIAN UNIVERSITIES.

193. **Mr. Sambanda Mudaliar:** Will Government be pleased to state whether they intend bringing in any Bill embodying the principles enunciated in the Sadler's University Commission Report?

Mr. H. Sharp: The Government of India have not considered the desirability of introducing any Bill with a view to applying the principles enunciated in the Calcutta University Commission's Report to the Indian Universities in general. As regards particular Universities, legislation has already been undertaken in certain cases which largely applies those principles. The question of their application to some other individual universities is under consideration.

SERVANTS OF INDIAN 1ST AND 2ND CLASS PASSENGERS.

194. **Mr. Sambanda Mudaliar:** Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the servants of Indian 1st and 2nd class passengers travelling to Colombo are detained at Mandapam for some days and kept under observation, whereas servants of 1st and 2nd class European passengers are allowed to go without such detention? If so, do Government intend to do away with such distinctions?

Mr. H. Sharp: Section V of the Ceylon Quarantine Regulations lays down that servants of upper class passengers accompanying their masters may be passed on the guarantee of their masters except in cases where the servant is to be left alone in Ceylon after the departure of his master.

The Regulations do not make any distinction between the servants of European and Indian passengers.

INDIANS IN THE ARMY HOLDING COMMISSIONS.

195. **Mr. Sambanda Mudaliar:** Will Government be pleased to state the exact number of Indians at present in the army who hold commissioned appointments? Will Government be pleased to state whether facilities are given to Indians by the establishment of military colleges in different centres of India for training Indians to hold commissioned appointments in the army?

Sir Godfrey Fell: The total number of Indians holding King's Commissions, permanent and honorary, in the Army (including the Indian Medical Service) is 1,214.

With regard to the second part of the question, the reply is in the negative.

RECRUITMENT TO THE INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE.

196. **Mr. Sambanda Mudaliar:** Will Government be pleased to state whether in the recruitment of the Civil Service—

(a) competitive examinations are to be held in India simultaneously with those in England?

(b) Government propose to appoint by nominations and, if so, what are the principles that guide them for such nominations and how many nominated appointments are assigned to Madras?

Mr. S. P. O'Donnell: (a) A separate competitive examination will be held in India for at least 67 per cent. of the recruits selected in India for the Indian Civil Service, exclusive of those promoted from the Provincial Service or directly appointed from the Bar.

(b) Government are framing rules to provide for nomination to the Indian Civil Service under section 97(b) of the Government of India Act. These rules will be published in due course. The general principles, which it is proposed to follow, are indicated in paragraph 8 of Home Department Resolution No. 2559 of 1st December 1920. It is impossible to say at present how many, if any, nominations will be assigned to any particular province in any year, as this can only be decided after the results of the competitive examination in India are known and it is possible to see what communal and provincial adjustment is required.

DISTRICT MEDICAL AND SANITARY OFFICERS.

197. **Mr. Sambanda Mudaliar:** Will Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is still necessary to continue the system of recruitment of district medical and sanitary officers by selection from among the commissioned officers in the Army?

(b) whether Government propose to consider the question of appointing duly qualified Indians?

Mr. S. P. O'Donnell: (a) It is presumed that the question relates to the employment of Indian Medical Service officers as Civil Surgeons. The Indian Medical Service officers, so employed, have hitherto constituted the war