

proportion of staff to work as Enumerators and Supervisors as the several Ministries of the Central Government and the State Government had issued clear instructions. There was, however, some difficulty with quasi Government bodies like Life Insurance Corporation which tried to wriggle out of the obligation to provide personnel for Census on the plea that the instructions relating to Central Government Departments were not made specifically applicable to them. It was only after I pointed out that in the event of the Life Insurance Corporation not making available for general Census work at least one Enumerator per 120 employees and one Supervisor for 600 employees, it may have to shoulder the complete responsibility for the Census of all its employees and their dependents under Section 7, that I was able to get some officials of the Life Insurance Corporation for census work. My successor who will organise the next census count would find his task simplified somewhat if the Central Ministries make it clear that not only the Central Government Offices but also the offices of the autonomous corporations etc., functioning under the respective Ministries should spare a reasonable proportion of their employees for census work. I would also suggest for examination from now alone the question of amending Section 7, so as to make it obligatory on the part of the person in charge of any factory, firm or establishment, which cannot itself undertake the enumeration of its employees, to place at the disposal of the authority empowered under Section 4 (4) to appoint Census Officers, such number of its employees as may be required reasonably, having regard to the work-load assigned to each census officer, to enumerate the employees of such factory, firm or establishment. The law as it stands at present imposes an obligation on all officers and members of staff of any factory, firm or establishment to give assistance towards the taking of a Census of persons who are, at the time of the taking of the Census, in the premises of factories, firms and establishments. This provision is useful in the enumeration of

industrial employees housed in compact colonies near their place of work, but it does not enable the Census authorities to require each establishment to spare some of its employees for general enumeration work where the employees of the establishment in question are mixed up with the general population as in big cities, like Bangalore.

The Bombay Government had promulgated in 1950, the Bombay Local Authorities Census Expenses Contribution Act, applicable to all District Municipalities. The Bombay Corporation Act itself contained a provision rendering the Corporation liable to contribute towards census expenses. My first impression was that no provision for making the Local Bodies liable for census expenditure existed in respect of the other integrated areas. But on a closer examination, I found that Section 16 of the Mysore Census Act and the corresponding Section of the Hyderabad Census Act did impose a similar responsibility on the Local Bodies in these areas also. Even though the State Census Acts were repealed with the passing of the Central Census Act, 1948, these particular provisions relating to subjects which are in the State list of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution continue to be in force as they have not been specifically repealed by the State Legislature. The State Government having also been entirely in agreement with this view instructed the Local Bodies to assist in house-numbering and houselisting taken up as a preliminary to 1961 Census. Even though this seems to be the plausible legal position, it appears desirable that the State Government is moved well in advance of the next census to get through the necessary legislation making it an obligatory duty of the Local Body to meet the expenditure on Census.

Under Section 15, of the Census Act of 1948, no entry in any register, book, record or schedule made by a Census Officer in the discharge of his duty as such shall be admissible as evidence in any civil proceedings whatsoever, or in any criminal procedure other than a prosecution under the Census Act or any other law for any act of omission which