

Citizenship Clauses In Constitution

DRAFT TO PROVIDE FOR REFUGEES

From Our Special Correspondent
NEW DELHI, July 26: The Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly today heard the views of the representatives of the External Affairs Ministry and some prominent legislators, including Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru, Pandit Lakshmi Kant Maitra, Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava and Bakshi Tek Chand on the Article relating to citizenship in the Draft Constitution.

It is expected that in the light of the problems of Indians overseas and immigrants from Pakistan, the Committee will finalise the Draft tomorrow.

Nearly 15 Articles, which had been left over by the Constituent Assembly during its last session, will be taken up first when it meets here on July 30.

The articles, which have been listed in the Order Paper issued by the Constituent Assembly Secretariat, today, relate mainly to the salary and emoluments of High Court Judges, Provision of a Secretariat for Parliament and Provincial Legislatures, the Constitution of Upper Chambers in Units and the organisation of provincial audit services.

During its recent series of meetings, the Drafting Committee has decided that, with the exception of the provision of free houses to Judges of the Supreme Court, emoluments provided for High Court Judges in the second schedule to the Draft Constitution should remain substantially unchanged.

PROVINCIAL AUDITS

The Committee was also of the opinion that there should be no independent Auditors-in-Chief for the Provinces, but the Provincial Audit Services should continue under Accountants-General who should be responsible to the Auditor-General of India as at present. To that end, an amendment to Article 210 of the Draft Constitution is likely to be suggested.

Regarding Article 150, which deals with the constitution of a second Chamber in the Provinces, it has been decided that the present provision should be deleted and instead Parliament should be empowered to fix details regarding the composition, powers and functions of the Upper House in such Provinces as it deems fit.

Slight changes would also be introduced in Articles 175 and 176 so as to bring the procedure for securing assent of the Governors and the President to Provincial Bills in line with the procedure which would be followed for securing presidential assent to Bills passed by the Central Parliament.