

CALENDAR FOR AUG.-SEPT.

	SUN.	MOON.
Thursday 28	5 58 18 23	15 15 28 58
Friday 29	5 58 18 22	17 1 3 50
Saturday 30	5 58 18 21	17 44 4 41
Sunday 31	5 58 18 20	18 11 5 11
Monday 1	5 58 18 20	19 2 6 20
Tuesday 2	5 58 18 20	19 40 7 8

PHASES OF THE MOON

Sunday August 31 Full Moon 22 4

WEATHER IN SOUTH INDIA

MADRAS, Aug. 27. Weather report for Madras Presidency, Mysore and Madras States:

A depression has formed in the North Bay of Bengal about 150 miles east-south-east of Puri and is likely to move north-west. Widespread rain has fallen in the whole region with locally heavy rain in the Cochin State, Malabar and Coorg. The chief rain-bearing area is Cochin 30", Mercara 26" and Calicut 24".

Forecast valid until the evening of August 28. Widespread rain along and along the West Coast, Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema and Mysore with locally heavy falls in North Kerala, South Kanara, Coorg, West Mysore and North Andhra Pradesh. Rain will occur at many places in North Tamil Nadu and here and there in South Tamil Nadu.

Local forecast: Occasional thunder-showers.

Weather news for farmers: Heavy and occasionally very heavy rain in Coorg, South Kanara, Heavy rain in Malabar, Cochin, Vizagapatnam, East Godavari, Shimoga, Kadur, Hassan. Moderately heavy rain in West Godavari, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Gundur, Kistna, Mysore and Anantapur. Wet spell for three days in Shimoga, Kadur, Hassan, Trivandrum and two days in Vizag, Mysore, Bellary, Kurnool, West Godavari and Gundur. Strong winds in Trichy. Cloudy weather in Tinnevely.

Outlook for the next three days: Active monsoon on the West Coast and West Mysore. Decrease of rain in Andhra Pradesh after two days.

METTUR WATER LEVEL

68.80 feet on August 26.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 1947.

NEED FOR A NEW OUTLOOK

SPEAKING at a meeting in Coimbatore on Monday, Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetti referred to an "entire reorientation of outlook in industry and agriculture" that had taken place during the past year. He was apparently referring to the growing realisation among all classes of people that more money does not necessarily mean more goods and that, in the final analysis, there can be an improvement in the condition of the people as a whole only by an expansion of production. The fact that more and more money buys less and less of goods has no doubt set people thinking about the inherent values of things, but there is little to suggest that there has been a widespread shedding of the "money illusion". Businessmen still regard higher prices as the means to larger profits and workers look to higher wages for bettering their lot, while neither bestows any thought on the state of production, which is the ultimate determinant of their prosperity. In an address at Bombay the other day, Sardar Patel appealed to Indian Socialists to take a leaf out of the book of their counterparts in Great Britain and to concentrate their attention in the present crisis on inducing the workers to produce more rather than on fomenting strikes for increased wages which can only intensify the existing shortages in the country and increase the general distress. That is eminently wholesome advice which the workers and their leaders would do well to heed at the present juncture. It is not, however, the workers alone who have to restrain their ambitions and to apply themselves to their jobs more keenly. Industrialists and businessmen, who have been clamouring for higher prices, have also got to play their part and set an example. The mill-owners, for instance, have been asking for higher prices for cloth. The Government so far have, quite rightly, refused to yield, but what is needed is a concerted effort by the industry to rationalise itself and initiate a movement for lower prices by improved efficiency in cloth production. It is not enough to say that the increases in wages effected during the war and post-war years have raised costs of production to unprofitable levels. For, despite all the increases in money wages, in terms of real wages the mill workers' earnings are barely enough for subsistence. The mill industry must certainly aim at ensuring for its workers a higher level of real income than what they enjoy at present. And it can be done, without hitting the consumer, if the industry strives continually to modernise its methods by measures which have been so successful in the United States and elsewhere. The Finance Minister said that there could be an immediate increase of thirty per cent in the output of the mills if rationalisation was effected and if there was co-operation between labour and capital. Seeing the terrible cloth shortage in the country one wonders why nothing is being done to explore this ready means of producing more cloth. If the mills do not move, it is obviously the duty of the Government to make them move.

Government initiative and guidance, in fact, will have to play a much larger part than has been

the case hitherto if India's economy is to enter on an expanding phase. Our National Government will have to make a clean sweep of the red-tape and laissez-faire indifference of the past and impart a new dynamism and vigour to economic policy. There is much that can be done by way of constant consultation and constructive advice to industry which has not been attempted in the past. In Great Britain for example, what are called the Regional Boards consisting of representatives of the Government, of industries and workers have been doing a magnificent job in helping to increase production by discussions of day-to-day problems of industry in regard to labour, supply of raw materials and the like and by prompt and effective measures to solve them.

An important direction in which the British Government has been helping manufacturers is to bring to their notice the results of researches in various fields and to explain how these can be made use of in industry for raising efficiency. The British Board of Trade Journal has been publishing a series of articles to bring industrialists abreast of the latest researches in various fields. Nothing of the kind has been done in the Indian Trade Journal, which has not changed in content or in its drabness during the past many decades of its existence. It certainly needs a new orientation to make it more useful and purposive. The Government's economic information service also needs to be thoroughly overhauled. We live in a highly competitive world. It will not do to gather our statistics in a leisurely way and to drift along hoping that things will turn out well. The practice of publishing hopelessly out of date trade reviews must belong to the past. Not only should the statistical machinery be enlarged and perfected, but it should be so organised that it gives the public up-to-date facts and figures. Neither businessmen nor the Government can frame their policies with confidence unless they have such a reliable and efficient statistical service. In the creation of such a service we can learn many useful things from the United States, whose commercial intelligence organisation is the envy of the world.

One of the very first acts of the bureaucracy in India after Britain decided to part with power was, it has been stated, to make a bonfire of certain political files before the politicians to whom they may have had reference were admitted into the inner portals of the Secretariat. A similar order appears to have been passed on to all officers in charge of what were deemed key-posts in the country. The nature of the instructions is revealed in the extracts from a letter which a friend of *The Spectator* columnist, "Strix", wrote to him, "an old friend who on August 15 will cease to represent the King-Emperor in an ancient but comparatively little known Indian State". "I have been given," says he, "eight weeks in which to sort out, burn or otherwise dispose of 12,000 files dating back from 1835." "The inevitable result is," the writer deplores, "that much that is of interest and value will go down the drain." His comment on the order—"This doesn't seem to make sense"—is one with which most people will agree. One realises that some of the files may prove explosive if they were now made accessible to those to whom they related. Their disclosure may make bad blood between the new "rulers" and those whom they replace. It may be right, on prudent considerations, to prevent idle curiosity making unnecessary mischief and, for the time being and some years perhaps, to consign to the limbo of oblivion such mischief-provoking files. Why should they be destroyed outright? They may be kept sealed with the injunction that they shall not be opened before the lapse of a quarter of a century or a half. Not the files of the British Indian authorities alone have been thus treated. Similar directives have gone forth, it is to be presumed, to as many of the 365 Indian States as could be easily reached. The files, it has apparently been forgotten, are part of the material with which history is shaped; posterity in the States and elsewhere has reason to cherish them as heirlooms. These little things may have much meaning to the antiquarian, the archaeologist and the epigraphist, and their destruction, later generations may feel, was an act of thoughtless sacrilege. If they are destroyed for the reason that dead flies, like dead men, tell no tales, let it not be forgotten that in their absence all sorts of tales may get about. Vandalism is poor substitute for white wash.

AMALGAMATION OF DECCAN STATES

RULERS AGREE TO PROPOSAL

TRANSFER OF POWER TO PEOPLE

SANGLI, Aug. 26. The Rulers of seven Deccan States, Sangli, Phaltam, Miraj, (Junior) Ramdurg, Bhor, Kurundwad, (Senior) and Aundh, it is agreed, have agreed to form a united "Stan" by merging into a single State, abolishing separate boundaries and having a common executive, a common judiciary and a common legislature.

The decision to form such a "Stan" was taken by the States concerned to bring about a complete transfer of power to the people, thereby bringing the policy of the States in line with the rest of India.

It is proposed to set up a constitution-making body to establish a Parliamentary system of Government under limited monarchy within the framework of the Federation of India.

The new State (Stan) will be called the "United Deccan States" or the "Daxini Samasthan". It will be a democratic State and all powers will be concentrated in the hands of the people. The Rajah will be vested in the Rajpramukh, the Chairman. The legislature will consist of a Loka Sabha and all executive action of the Government will be in the name of the Rajpramukh.

The rulers of these States will form themselves into a board, the Chairman to be called Rajpramukh, whose office will be filled by rotation yearly. There will be a Council of Ministers called "Mantri Mandal" to advise the Rajpramukh who will be vested with powers of appointing and dismissing Ministers. The Government will accredit representatives to the Indian Federation, referring to the Supreme Court of India any question of law relating to its constitution and giving assent to bills passed by the Loka Sabha. The Rajpramukh (the Chairman) will have the power to suspend the constitution for three months. Provision has been made for a High Court consisting of a Chief Judge and such other number of Judges as necessary. The constitution-making body of the "United Stan" will be composed of members elected from each of the States in the proportion of two members for every one lakh of population. Three seats will be reserved, one each for Harijans, women and Muslims.

It is reported that top-ranking Congress leaders like Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya and Mr. Shankar Rao Deo, have approved the general outlines of the draft constitution of the proposed United Stan and it is expected that this draft will be signed soon by the participating States.—A.P.I.

BHOPAL'S ACCESSION

INDIA GOVT'S NOTE

NEW DELHI, Aug. 27. Some doubts have been created in respect of the accession of the Bhopal State to the Indian Union. There is no language used in the Bhopal Government's Communique, states a Communique issued by the State Department.

The position is that His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal signed the Instrument of Accession and the standstill agreement on the 14th August, 1947, but desired that in view of the peculiar position of the State an announcement in this matter should be delayed for some time. This was agreed to.

The Instrument of Accession signed by His Highness is exactly in the same form as the Instruments signed by other rulers and the relationship between the Dominion of India and the Bhopal State arising out of the Instrument of Accession and the standstill agreement is the same as in all other cases.

MR. JINNAH DID NOT GIVE ANY ADVICE

KARACHI, Aug. 27. The following Press Note has been issued by the Press Information Department of the Government of Pakistan to-day: "Statements have appeared in the Press to the effect that Qaid-e-Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah advised His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal to join the Hindustan Union. There is no foundation for this report. In fact, these reports are self-contradictory in so far as they also state that the Bhopal State signed the Instrument of Accession on August 14. His Highness, the Nawab of Bhopal, came to see the Qaid-e-Azam on August 22 and it was purely a friendly visit.

HYDERABAD'S STANDSTILL AGREEMENT

HYDERABAD, Aug. 27. Sir Walter Monckton left for Delhi to-day by air, it is understood, to sign the standstill agreement with the Indian Union on the basis of non-cessation. He may also make the initiative negotiable treaties with the Union on a footing of equality.—F.O.C.

DETENTION OF STATES' SUBJECTS

NEW DELHI, Aug. 27. The Governor-General has issued an order for the adaptation of the Bengal State Prisoners Regulation 1819 for the acceding States as well. This Regulation empowered the Government to detain anyone for "reasons of State". Under the adaptation it would be competent for the Government to detain persons for "reasons of State connected with defence, internal affairs of relations with acceding States or for the maintenance of public order." The effect of this adaptation is that the Government of India, on a request by a Ruler for reasons of State, can detain a subject of the State within the Dominion territory.—A.P.I.

COALITION MINISTRIES

PROSPECTS IN SIND

KARACHI, Aug. 26. The Sind Premier, Mr. M. A. Khuhro, speaking at a Press conference, this evening, referred to the question of forming a Coalition Ministry in Sind and said a Coalition Government could be formed in the province only when such Ministries were set up in East and West Punjab as well as in East and West Bengal.

Mr. Khuhro said that he had appealed to the minority communities to co-operate with his Government and he would give them representation in his Cabinet. This offer, he said, was always open. Mr. Khuhro said that if the minorities, including the Depressed Classes, were given representation in the Cabinet, it would help not only in the smooth running of the administration but also assist in the preservation of law and order.

The Premier said that he had not offered any terms to the Congress for the formation of a Coalition Ministry in Sind. He also said that at present he would not expand his Ministry from four to six.—A.P.I.

MINORITIES IN INDIA

REPORT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE

JOINT ELECTORATES PROPOSED

WEIGHTAGE TO BE ABOLISHED

NEW DELHI, Aug. 26. Abolition of separate electorates and elections to the Central and Provincial Legislatures on the basis of joint electorates: reservation of seats for the different recognised minorities in the various legislatures on the basis of their population initially for a period of ten years: safeguards for the Anglo-Indian community for a period of ten years: these are the main features of the report of the Advisory Committee on Minorities, presented to the Constituent Assembly to-day.

The first report deals with what may broadly be described as political safeguards of minorities, the second report deals with the position of Anglo-Indians in certain services and the grant of special educational facilities for them and the third report is a supplementary report on fundamental rights.

POLITICAL SAFEGUARDS

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman, Advisory Committee on Minorities, presenting the report to the Constituent Assembly to-day on behalf of the members of the Committee, reported that the Constituent Assembly on January 24, 1947, and subsequently nominated by the President of the Constituent Assembly, said that this report should be treated as supplementary to the one forwarded to the President on April 23, 1947 and dealt with by the Assembly during the April session.

That report, Sardar Patel said, dealt with justiciable fundamental rights; these rights, whether applicable to all citizens generally or to members of minority communities in particular, offer a most valuable safeguard for minorities over a comprehensive field of social life. The present report deals with what may broadly be described as political safeguards of minorities and covers the following points:

- (1) Representation in legislatures; joint versus separate electorates; and weightage.
 - (2) Reservations of seats for minorities in Cabinets.
 - (3) Reservation for minorities in the public services.
 - (4) Administrative machinery to ensure protection of minority rights.
- "Our recommendations," said Mr. Patel, "are based on exhaustive discussion both in the Sub-Committee on minorities and in the main Advisory Committee. From the very nature of things, it was difficult to expect complete unanimity on all points. I have pleasure in informing you, however, that our recommendations, where they were not unanimous, were taken by very large majorities composed of all the members of the Committee representing minority communities themselves.

SEPARATE ELECTORATES TO GO

"The first question we tackled was that of separate electorates. We considered this as being of crucial importance both to the minorities themselves and to the political life of the country as a whole. By an overwhelming majority, we came to the conclusion that the system of separate electorates must be abolished in the new constitution. In our judgment, this system has in the past sharpened communal differences to a dangerous extent and has proved a great obstacle to the development of a healthy national life. It seems specially necessary to avoid these dangers in the new political conditions that have developed in the country and from this point of view the arguments against separate electorates seem to us absolutely decisive.

"We recommend, accordingly, that all elections to the Central and Provincial Legislatures should be held on the basis of joint electorates. In order that minorities may not feel apprehensive about the effect of a system of unrestricted joint electorates on the quantum of their representation in the Legislature, we recommend as a general rule that seats for the different recognised minorities shall be reserved in the various legislatures on the basis of their population. This reservation should be initially for a period of ten years, the position to be reconsidered at the end of that period. We recommend a great deal of delay. Government are, however, considering the question of giving an extension to the revaluation beyond 30th September except for purely luxury goods.

PRIORITY FOR CAPITAL GOODS

Attention, however, is drawn specially to the new policy which makes a distinction between goods which will be freely licensed, and goods which will not be licensed at all. Goods which do not fall in either of these categories will be licensed subject to certain monetary ceilings. It is necessary, it is pointed out, for businessmen to familiarise themselves with these categories with a view to saving trouble and avoiding unnecessary effort both on their part as well as on the part of the control officers. The Government will give priority only to imports of capital goods and such essential goods as can contribute to increased production. For other things and specially for luxuries, we must bid good-bye at least for some time. It is stated that unless we restrict our needs to the necessities of life, we shall be faced with a most critical position hereafter. Hence it is imperative to restrict and regulate the imports of even essential goods.—A.P.I.

ALL-INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE

TO MEET AT BOMBAY ON SEPTEMBER 27

NEW DELHI, Aug. 27. The All-India Congress Committee Office announces that a meeting of the All-India Congress Committee will be held at Bombay on September 27 and 28. The Congress Working Committee will meet on September 25 and 26. On September 24 there will be a meeting of the Presidents and Secretaries of all the Provincial Congress Committees which all the Provincial Premiers are also invited to attend.

NEW DELHI, Aug. 26. The External Affairs Ministry which was the stronghold of European officers, has now been Indianised.

Mr. Cripps, Minister of the Department, and other European Officers have retired from service. It is likely that Mr. M. K. Vellodi, Deputy High Commissioner for India in England, will be appointed Secretary of the Department.—U.P.I.

INDIA TO LAUNCH EXPORT DRIVE

RADICAL CHANGE IN POLICY

IMPORTS TO BE CUT TO BAREST MINIMUM

NEW DELHI, Aug. 27. A radical change in the matter of the country's import policy and an all-out export drive are expected to be announced shortly.

The biggest headache of the Commerce Ministry, and Chief Minister H. Bhabha, according to an authoritative source, is to put the country on a forward economic policy. To tide over the crisis occasioned by the difficult foreign currency situation, it is pointed out that our import policy will have to be frequently reviewed and revised more and more in the direction of cutting down imports to the bare minimum. Along with it, plans are under preparation for a large-scale export drive "at all costs" in order to balance our international payments.

Explaining the present hardship of the country, it is pointed out that this was due partly to the sudden reversal of the policy of liberalising imports to one of severe restrictions and partly to the haste with which this change in policy had to be brought about. It is stated in this connection that the import policy was fairly realised during the latter part of 1946 and early in 1947. As many as 400 articles figured in the open general licences covering imports from the U. K. and other sterling countries. Licences issued for imports from hard currency areas during the year ending March 1947 were valued at over one hundred crores of rupees. With the change in financial conditions and the prospect of free convertibility of sterling after July 15 becoming darker, it was necessary to severely curtail these possibly huge trade commitments and to take other measures to restrict imports to what could be paid for from current exchange resources, including a portion of the sterling balances released for current use.

As a background to the present difficulties, it is pointed out that many merchants had under the liberal licensing scheme applied for fantastically large quantities of goods and that even though they had no previous connections or contracts with foreign suppliers, some obtained licences in anticipation of overseas orders. It was deemed to be essential to eliminate such traders in the interests of the proper development of the country's trade as also to get rid of the tight foreign exchange position.

CONSERVATION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE

As a first step towards the conservation of our exchange resources, it is recalled the Reserve Bank issued instructions to the exchange banks in March last not to open letters of credits valid beyond June 30, 1947. Before these instructions were issued, however, certain importers had opened letters of credit which validity extended beyond June 30. In these cases there was a definite commitment made on our exchange resources, which could not be withdrawn. It was, therefore, decided to extend only those licences for which letters of credit valid beyond June 30 had been opened.

Mr. Cripps, Minister of the Department, said that the Government had emphasised, should be clearly understood, that complaints are often made that having instructed the banks to limit the period of credits, it was absurd to make it a condition of revalidation that there should be a letter of credit for a longer period. The Government had decided to open, obviously there was no real commitment. Consideration had to be given also to another class of exchange transactions which required no letters of credit. Generally many importers having long-established connections and contacts with foreign suppliers remit the value of their orders in the form of cash, for example, drawing a bill after shipment. It was decided to give them an opportunity to regulate firm commitments made by them before the date of announcement of the change in policy. Their licences are revalidated up to the 30th September 1947 on the condition that they should be revalidated on the basis of their commitments made before May 16, 1947.

It is stated that applications which came up for revalidation exceeded 150,000. This was much in excess of expectations. A large majority of these applications poured in between the end of the fourth and the end of the fifth month of the year. Among the applicants were numerous who applied ignoring the stipulated conditions, thus causing harassment to the staff. Forms were wrongly filled in and connected papers or previous references were missing. All these needed careful scrutiny and a great deal of delay. Government are, however, considering the question of giving an extension to the revalidation beyond 30th September except for purely luxury goods.

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SEPARATE ELECTORATES TO BE ABOLISHED

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY'S DECISION

MINORITIES REPRESENTATIVES' TRIBUTE TO SARDAR PATEL

The Constituent Assembly discussed on Wednesday the report of the Advisory Committee on Minorities, which was presented by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Representatives of Minority communities welcomed the report as far-sighted and statesmanlike.

The House adopted the recommendation of the Committee to abolish separate electorates in favour of joint electorates with reservation of seats for minorities on a population basis.

MINORITIES REPORT APPRECIATED

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW DELHI, Aug. 27.

The Constituent Assembly took an important decision this morning to abolish communal electorates which had disfigured the constitution and life of India all these years and introduce joint electorates with reservation of seats for minorities on a population basis for a period of ten years. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Home Minister, presenting the report of the Advisory Committee on Minorities, appealed to the House to discuss the report dispassionately, without introducing heat or bitterness in the debate, having regard to the communal tension prevailing round Delhi. The report, which has been hailed as "far-sighted and statesmanlike" by representatives of the minority communities, deals very liberally with the minorities, especially Anglo-Indians and Scheduled Castes in regard to representation in the Services. While a Statutory Commission will be appointed to investigate the condition of backward classes and suggest steps to improve their status, the President of the Union and Governors of Provinces would appoint special officers to report on the working of safeguards for minorities. Dr. P. Oshumkhi, in a brief but pointed speech, warmly congratulated the report, and the President, Sardar Patel, on producing such a magnificent report. While appreciating the generosity with which communities and classes of people known as minorities have been treated, Dr. Deshmukh urged equal consideration for the vast body of population in rural areas in different parts of the country known under various names as Jats, Advhis, etc., which, though classified along with Hindus, were still down-trodden. Mr. V. I. Munuswami Pillai (Scheduled Caste) and Mr. Frank Anthony (Anglo-Indian) paid tributes to Sardar Patel's tact and statesmanship in dealing with the minorities. When the report was taken into consideration, it was left to a Muslim Leaguer from Madras, Mr. Pocker Sahib, to plead for the continuance of separate electorates. While Mr. Pocker offered the League's co-operation in putting down what he described as "subversive elements" in the position of the Anglo-Indians, that community at present enjoyed certain privileges and concessions in certain services such as the railways, posts and telegraphs, etc. To ask them to surrender these concessions at present would put them in a position where they might be prepared for it now, but sufficient time should be given to them to adjust themselves. Certain educational grants were given to them. These grants would be continued to be given, but progressively decreased till they were able to stand on their own legs. In view of the numerical smallness of the community no provision could be made to reserve seats for them in the legislatures. So a provision was being made whereby if they failed to get elected in the normal process of elections, they would be nominated by the Governor-General or the President, as the case might be.

WEIGHTAGE TO GO

On the question of weightage they had agreed that there should be no weightage and the various communities should be represented according to the proportion of their population. They had thought it fit to reserve a certain number of seats in proportion to the population of minorities. Some of the minorities had gladly surrendered their rights. They desired neither separate electorates nor reservation and wanted to merge into the nation and stand on their own legs. He congratulated those who had taken this stand and sympathised with those who wanted to be statutorily helped. The question of representation in public services had also been amicably settled.

ANGLO-INDIANS' POSITION

It was proposed, the Sardar went on to say, to provide some sort of an administrative machinery to see that whatever safeguards provided were given effect to and continuous vigilance was kept up to see that the safeguards were not allowed to become a dead letter. It was the duty of the officer or the administrative machinery to be set up to bring to the notice of the Government or legislative difficulties of minorities in the due exercise of their rights. After explaining the schedule the Sardar referred to the position of the Anglo-Indians. That community at present enjoyed certain privileges and concessions in certain services such as the railways, posts and telegraphs, etc. To ask them to surrender these concessions at present would put them in a position where they might be prepared for it now, but sufficient time should be given to them to adjust themselves. Certain educational grants were given to them. These grants would be continued to be given, but progressively decreased till they were able to stand on their own legs. In view of the numerical smallness of the community no provision could be made to reserve seats for them in the legislatures. So a provision was being made whereby if they failed to get elected in the normal process of elections, they would be nominated by the Governor-General or the President, as the case might be.

In regard to the Parsis they had voluntarily abandoned any claims for concessions. Though small, the Parsis were a very powerful community and administration suffer. Now they were beginning afresh and they must see that where they had to fill posts for administration, they were filled by competitive examination and test. They had, however, made certain concessions to certain communities. On the whole the reports he had submitted were the result of careful sifting of facts. Provision had also been made enabling minorities to contest in addition to their own general seats.

There remained, however, Sardar Patel said, one matter of controversy and that was on behalf of the Muslim League and the Scheduled Castes. A point was raised that members of those communities should poll certain percentage of votes of their community to be declared successful in the elections. The matter was discussed and the Advisory Committee rejected the suggestion by a large majority.

Sardar Patel then presented the reports of the framers of the report on doing away with separate electorates and weightage for minorities. They were beginning afresh and they must see that where they had to fill posts for administration, they were filled by competitive examination and test. They had, however, made certain concessions to certain communities. On the whole the reports he had submitted were the result of careful sifting of facts. Provision had also been made enabling minorities to contest in addition to their own general seats.

REPRESENTATION IN SERVICES

Dealing with the question of representation in services, the Sardar said that the main consideration should be that posts must go by merit. If they were to dilute the principle the general administration would suffer. It was well known that the introduction of the separatist principle had made their administration suffer. Now they were beginning afresh and they must see that where they had to fill posts for administration, they were filled by competitive examination and test. They had, however, made certain concessions to certain communities. On the whole the reports he had submitted were the result of careful sifting of facts. Provision had also been made enabling minorities to contest in addition to their own general seats.

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There was much that was happening around them and it required them to do their business as quickly as possible. Nothing should be said in the House which would add to their difficulties or their neighbours. At present there was bitter strife and their hearts bled with the wounds that were inflicted in one of their best provinces. In considering the reports no extraneous matter should be introduced or

MR. MUNISWAMI PILLAI'S SUPPORT

Mr. Muniswami Pillai said the report must be considered to be the 'majority' of all the inhabitants of the land. He recalled the efforts of Mahatma Gandhi for the uplift of Harijans, and said the presence of Dr. Ambedkar on the National Cabinet was evidence of the change of heart among Caste-Hindus and of the fact that Harijans were no longer neglected.

In his own province of Madras, Prakasham Ministry had set apart a sum