

take the question to the U.N.O. if the demand for their return is not accepted by the British Government?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This aspect of the question has not come before the Government.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: May I know whether the historical Peacock Throne is one of these articles?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir, the Peacock Throne and Koh-i-Noor are certainly among those articles.

BUILDINGS IN BAHLOON CANTONMENT

*1817. **Shri Ram Dass:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government, Military and Civil buildings in Bahlool Cantonment and Dalhousie Municipal Committee areas that are lying vacant for want of occupants;

(b) the steps that Government are taking or intend to take in the near future to make use of these buildings; and

(c) the amount that Government annually spend on the repairs of these buildings?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) 31.

(b) The vacant accommodation is proposed to be allotted to troops who are to be moved there shortly.

(c) Rs. 3000/- approximately.

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL PROCEDURES

*1818. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the existing financial procedures are being reviewed and examined in co-operation with the Planning Commission with a view to ensure that (i) no wastage of resources occurs, (ii) that public money is not misapplied and (iii) that for money spent adequate results are obtained?

(b) If so, what progress has been made in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) and (b). Existing financial procedures have been drawn up with a view to achieve the objects mentioned, and these are reviewed and examined, as and when necessary, with a view to effect improvements. The Planning Commission has made certain recommendations in this regard, and these are now under consideration.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether there is any proposal to set up a special agency for this purpose and, if so, how long it will take to come to a decision in this regard?

Shri M. C. Shah: As I said, they are under examination. A Committee consisting of certain Secretaries to Government with the Finance Secretary as a member is now examining this matter. They are meeting even today, they have held four meetings, and they will be recommending certain things.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India has been consulted or is likely to be consulted in these matters?

Shri M. C. Shah: If necessary he will be consulted.

Shri T. N. Singh: May we know the principal directions in which the Planning Commission contemplates change in the financial procedure so far followed?

Shri M. C. Shah: The recommendations are there in the Planning Commission's Report, and I would refer my hon. friend to page 36 of the Summary wherein he will find all the information.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the results, or the expenditure and loss incurred, in the various State trading concerns have been examined by this Committee or is likely to be examined by this Committee?

Shri M. C. Shah: All the procedural matters regarding financial control will be examined by this Committee.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND CANADA REGARDING CANADIAN WHEAT

*1820. **Shri L. J. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether there were any agreements entered into between India and Canada as to the Canadian wheat supplied to India?

(b) If so, what are the main features of the agreement?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). There were no formal agreements. Wheat was supplied by the Government of Canada as part of their aid to India under the Colombo Plan Programme during 1951-52 and 1952-53. The only condition attached to this assistance was that the counterpart rupee funds arising from the sale of wheat be used by

Government of India for economic development.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know whether the Canadian wheat was supplied to India as a gift to the Indian people?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It was grant-in-aid, I would call it, not gift.

Shri L. J. Singh: What is the amount earned by the sale proceeds of the Canadian wheat?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Rs. 7.50 crores—that is the counterpart rupee fund.

Shri L. J. Singh: Is it a fact that the sale proceeds of the Canadian wheat have been earmarked by the Government of India for partially financing the Mayurakshi project in West Bengal?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The counterpart rupee fund of Rs. 7.50 crores arising from the sale proceeds of this wheat have been used to finance part of the cost of the West Bengal irrigation project for erecting a dam across Mayurakshi. The total cost of the project is Rs. 12.44 crores and only a part of it, viz. Rs. 7.50 crores, is being met by this.

Shri L. J. Singh: What are the special interests of the Canadian Government in this project?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: There is no special interest. The priority is determined by the Five Year Plan and it is we who select the project.

Shri Kelappan: The hon. Minister said that it was not a loan but a grant-in-aid. Have we to return this amount?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: This is under the Colombo Plan Programme. It is an assistance, grant-in-aid.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not to be returned.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know whether the Canadian Government have imposed any special conditions in the giving of this wheat?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: As I said, the only condition is that the proceeds have to be used for economic development. There is no other condition.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

*1821. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the total strength of our Territorial Army (State-wise) as it stood on the 31st March, 1953?

(b) What further steps are being taken to develop it?

(c) Is there any special agency for its recruitment propaganda?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) It is not advisable to disclose this information.

(b) A considerable amount of publicity has been done in order to encourage people to join the Territorial Army. Recently a Central Advisory Committee has been formed to advise Government how the Territorial Army can be developed further. The State Governments concerned have also been advised to set up similar Advisory Committees in each State in order to enlist public co-operation.

(c) The normal recruiting organisation of the regular Army is also responsible for the recruitment of the Territorial Army. There is a Territorial Army Directorate in the Army Headquarters who are in overall charge and who have done a considerable amount of publicity and propaganda for the Territorial Army.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Are Government satisfied with the progress that has been made by the recruiting agency for this purpose?

Shri Satish Chandra: The progress has not been very satisfactory—I should admit it. But there are two types of units in the Territorial Army, namely Provincial Units and Urban Units. Progress has been rather satisfactory in Provincial Units, it has not been so satisfactory in the case of Urban Units.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Do Government propose to have some paid agency working in the countryside for the purpose?

Shri Satish Chandra: I submitted just now that the progress in the countryside has been quite satisfactory. The recruitment is limited by the number that we are prepared to take and the number of persons who offer themselves for recruitment. I think there is a good response in the rural areas.

सरवाल ए० एल० सहगल : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि टैरिटोरियल आर्मी में शहरों के सिर्फ टैकनीशियन लिये जाते हैं और जो नीजवान हैं उनको भर्ती नहीं किया जाता ?