

think one in the Damodar Valley Corporation.

**RECRUITMENT OF GURKHAS FOR BRITISH ARMY**

**\*324. Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any centres exist at Ghum and Jalapahar in Darjeeling District for recruitment of Gurkhas for the British Army;

(b) whether any British Army Officers and other ranks are employed in either of these centres;

(c) if so, their respective numbers in each of these centres;

(d) whether these centres are supplied with rations, fuel, kerosene, D.D.T., petroleum and other articles at prices much below the market price; and

(e) if so, who supplies these articles?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) There is no centre at Ghum. There is an establishment at Jalapahar but it is not used as a recruiting depot and is temporary. Recruitment of Gurkhas for the British Army is now done entirely in Nepalese territory.

(b) and (c). There are seven British officers at Jalapahar.

(d) and (e). Rations and fuel are supplied by the Indian Army Supply Corps on their own scales: their rates are generally higher than market rates. Petrol is procured by the British Army in the market and not through the Indian Army.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** May I know, Sir, what steps Government have taken to assure themselves that these depots are not used for recruitment purposes?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** We are very definite that there is no recruitment of Gurkha soldiers for the British Army on our soil.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** May I know whether in June 1953, 400 gallons of

petrol were supplied to that depot at Rs. 2-6-0 or Rs. 2-5-0 a gallon, while the market rate was Rs. 2-10-0?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** So far as our information goes, the British Army personnel at Ghum procure their own petrol from the market. But I shall certainly look into the allegation made by the hon. Member here.

**GOA**

**\*325. Dr. N. B. Khare:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many big firms have nominal branches in Goa which are used as the means of evading income-tax and for smuggling operations;

(b) whether Government are aware that Goa is used for smuggling into India large quantities of foreign exchange like American Dollars without the knowledge of the Government of India; and

(c) whether Government are aware that some firms who conduct mining operations in Madhya Pradesh are mulcting the Government of revenues in a large measure in this manner?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) Some Indian firms have branches in Goa, but Government have no information to show that these branches are located there for the purpose of smuggling and evading income tax.

(b) It is true that in spite of the measures taken by the Government, there is considerable smuggling from Goa into India, and it is possible that dollar currency is one of the items smuggled. There is, however, no information to indicate that large quantities of American currency is being smuggled into India.

(c) Government have no information

**Dr. N. B. Khare:** May I know whether the Government will look into the matter?