

troops had been massed on the border near Ferozpur, the Government of India informed the Pakistan Government that the allegation was entirely unfounded and that on the contrary, they were informed that there was a heavy concentration of Pakistani armed forces at that place. There have been reports in the Pakistani Press that the Pakistani Foreign Office has denied this but no reply to this effect has so far been given to the Government of India. With regard to patrolling of the border by the Pakistan Border Police, the Government of India also pointed out to the Pakistan Government that there was information that Pakistani regular troops had been stationed in forward positions at Ferozpur. No reply has so far been received from the Pakistan Government regarding this.

Shri Gidwani: What is the information of the Government of India in the matter?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: We understand that heavy concentration of Pakistani Army personnel disguised as police officers are over there and they have built a sort of turret opposite our right bank bund. These are the main allegations.

Shri Gidwani: What steps are being taken to remove them from those places?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): On either side of the border there are troops. No body likes troops on the other side and no body can remove the troops on the other side; so there they remain.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

*2430. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to give subsidy to the State Governments to implement their rural electrification schemes; and

(b) if so, the estimated amount of subsidy needed for that purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) Yes, Sir.

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(b) The amount of subsidy, for the purpose, will be estimated only after the proposal has been accepted by the Government.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government consider the charges for the power supply to the rural areas as reasonable?

Shri S. N. Mishra: To make it more reasonable the subsidy is contemplated to the extent it is desirable.

श्री० भक्त दर्शन : क्या राज्य सरकारों को इस सम्बन्ध में अनुदान देते समय यह शर्त लगाई जायगी कि उन इलाकों का पहले ध्यान रखा जाय, जहाँ पिछली पंच-वर्षीय योजना के आधीन बिजली का एक बल्ब भी नहीं पहुंच पाया है ?

श्री० एस० एन० मिश्र : यह बात तो राज्य सरकारों पर निर्भर करती है कि वे उन क्षेत्रों का ज्यादा ध्यान रखें, जिनमें ज्यादा जरूरत है।

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether any basis for granting this subsidy has been decided upon?

Shri S. N. Mishra: It has been suggested to the State Governments that they should find the resources necessary for rural electrification themselves in the first instance. In case they are not able to do so, they should submit the scheme to the Planning Commission and it would consider making provisions for the same.

Short Notice Question and Answer WOMEN SATYAGRAHIS IN GOA POLICE CELL

S. N. Q. No. 18. Shri M. D. Joshi: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mrs. Sudha Joshi and other women Satyagrahis now imprisoned in Goa, have gone on hunger-strike since the 9th May 1956, as a protest against their continued detention in Police lock up;

(b) if so, the present state of their health; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to ensure their safety and removal of their grievance in prison?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Government have seen