

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Scarcity of Currency on Indo-Nepal Border

4589. **Shri P. C. Borooah**: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether one and two-rupee notes and small coins in the Indo-Nepal border town of Bairagnia (Bihar) have of late been scarce; and

(b) if so, the reason for the same?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai)**: (a) and (b). No complaint on the matter has come to the Government of India. Reports have, however, been called for from the State Government and the Reserve Bank of India.

#### Quasi-Permanent L.D.Cs. in A.F.H.Q.

4590. **Shri S. M. Banerjee**: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Quasi-Permanent L.D.Cs were transferred to Armed Forces Headquarters, New Delhi from other Defence Installations during the period 1954—1958; and

(b) if so, whether their Quasi-Permanent status has been cancelled by the Armed Forces Headquarters Administration when they joined it;

(c) whether Ministry of Law has been consulted in this matter; and

(d) if so, what was their opinion?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon)**: (a) Yes, Sir. The transfers were made in consequence of the personnel becoming surplus and after acceptance of the new appointment by the persons concerned, who were in the alternative to be discharged.

(b) No order expressly cancelling the quasi-permanent status was made in any case but it has been decided that the previous quasi-permanent status was lost on the date on which

the person concerned was struck off the strength of the lower formations in which he was serving. Such persons however are considered for quasi-permanency in the Armed Forces Headquarters with effect from the 1st July following their date of appointment in these Headquarters. For this purpose they are given the benefit of their previous service in the lower formations as admissible under the rules.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Welfare Officers in Ministry of Defence

4591. **Shri S. M. Banerjee**: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) what are the qualifications prescribed for the posts of Welfare Officers in Ministry of Defence and Armed Forces Headquarters; New Delhi;

(b) whether the present incumbents possess those qualifications; and

(c) if not, when do the Government propose to replace them?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon)**: (a) to (c). The posts of Welfare Officers in the Ministry of Defence/Armed Forces Headquarters are tenable by officers of the rank of Under Secretary/Civilian Staff Officer (Grade I). The selected officers draw pay in their respective grades, no extra emoluments being admissible. The work of the Welfare Officer requires that he should be conversant with general administrative problems and that he should possess an aptitude for welfare work. Although no qualifications have been prescribed as such, in making appointments, the above considerations are kept in view.

#### Political Sufferers in Government Service

4592. **Shri S. M. Banerjee**: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state what are the concessions