

(c) During 1961-62 (April, '61 to February, '62) Rs. 2.15 crores have been earned in foreign exchange.

Derequisitioning of Houses in Calcutta

*909. **Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that houses in 'K' site plot at Anwar Shah Road, Tollygunge, Calcutta belonging to small plot holders and middle class people were requisitioned under the special powers granted during the war emergency and still remain with Government;

(b) how many persons' properties are thus affected;

(c) whether it is also a fact that they have been urging for a long time to get back those properties for their use;

(d) the reason for refusing to derequisition them so many years after the war is over; and

(e) the action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) and (b). A large number of plots of land were requisitioned in 1941. Most of the plots were restored to the respective owners after the termination of the war and at present only 49 plots owned by 31 persons are held under requisition.

(c) Yes.

(d) and (e). The property could not be derequisitioned as it was unauthorisedly occupied by the displaced persons from East Pakistan and continued to be encroached upon. The question of eviction of those persons, as well as the release of the property to the owners is still under consideration.

Catering in Constitution House and Western Court

*910. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the food supplied in Constitution House and Western Court is far from satisfactory;

(b) if so, whether several complaints have been lodged by the residents of these places; and

(c) since how long the contractor has held this contract?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna):

(a) and (b). No, Sir. The complaints are of a minor nature.

(c) Since 1952 in the case of the Constitution House and 1956 in the case of the Western Court. The contracts have been extended from time to time on the recommendations of the Joint Committee of Chairmen of House Committees of both the Houses of Parliament.

Withdrawal from Provident Fund

*911. { **Shri Indrajit Gupta:**
Dr. U. Mishra:
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether facilities for industrial workers to take loans from their Provident Fund accounts in cases of illness have recently been withdrawn; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes.

(b) The reasons are—

(i) The frequent abuse of the facility by worker-members; and

(ii) the increasing coverage of the Employees' State Insurance Scheme, benefiting the members of the family also.