

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No. So far as exploitation of mica mines is concerned, we have not promised any financial aid. But according to our original programme, the prospecting may be undertaken, and so far as I have been informed, a field survey party has very recently concluded a part of its work, and the report is now awaited.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The Government of India are aware that there is no prospecting of mica at present, and also that the Government of Kerala have no resources to spare for this purpose. I want to know how in such circumstances, the Government of India expect the exploitation of the mica resources which have already been systematically surveyed.

Shri Ranga: What about private enterprise?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: A systematic survey and a detailed prospecting of certain areas which the Geological Survey of India would like to include in its programme will be taken up. But in a general way the prospecting is to be undertaken by the private miners who will get lease from the State Government. I am informed by the Chief Minister that the mines in Punalur have again hopes of early revival of production.

Shri Kodiyan: It is reported that during the last war, good quality variety of mica, known as the ruby mica, 10" x 12" in size, was obtained from Chovva near Cannanore. May I know whether any systematic survey has been made of this area? This is in the Malabar area.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have no information about that.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know the policy of the Government of India in this regard, whether all the States are going to get the same facilities and the same benefits and the same assistance from the Central Government, or whether any special consideration is being shown to Kerala only?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: All the States are getting a uniform pattern of advantages or help or assistance or aid from the Central Government.

Discovery of Limestone

*980. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:**
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state whether it is a fact that during recent drilling near Chittorgarh in Rajasthan suitable grade of limestone estimated at 70 million tons has been discovered?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): Yes, Sir.

Shri Raghunath Singh: Is that limestone useful for cement work?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes. Judging from the analytical data, the limestone in this area is expected to be suitable for the manufacture of cement.

Team on Irrigation and Power Projects

*981. **Shri J. E. Mehta:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chambal Committee headed by Shri N. V. Gadgil during its last visit to Kotah enquired into the allegations of irregularities, wastage etc; and

(b) if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). It is not the function of the Team to make enquiries into allegations etc. but to study the project with a view to efficiency and economy in accordance with the terms of reference given to it. It has paid several visits to Kotah and its report is expected towards the end of September, 1957.

Shri J. E. Mehta: May I know how far the investigations of this team have confirmed the recommendations of the French experts who looked into this question sometime back?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: The team has not yet reported. How can we compare their report with that of the French experts?

Shri Onkar Lal: May I know whether it is a fact that the process of sheet-piling at Kotah barrage has gone waste, according to the report of the French engineers, and if so, what action has been taken in this respect?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): In regard to the day-to-day working of this project, I think my colleague on my right will be in a better position to answer it. All that I am concerned with is in regard to the particular committee which is enquiring generally into the efficiency of the working of these projects.

Territorial Army

*982 **Shri Mohan Swarup:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state

(a) whether it is proposed to expand the activities of the Territorial Army, and

(b) if so, the action taken so far in this regard?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence (Shri Fatesingh-rao Gaekwad): (a) There are no plans under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Mohan Swarup: May I know how this scheme has been implemented, and how far it has proved successful in imparting military training to the masses?

Mr. Speaker: Leaving alone expansion, the hon. Member wants to know how far the Territorial Army has been fruitful in imparting training.

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): So far as the Territorial Army is concerned, we have imparted training for the limited purposes for which that Army is

meant, and I can say it has been successful.

श्री भगत बहाल: क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि प्रदेशिय सेना के लिए जो लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया था यानी जितन लोग उसमे भरती किये जाने थे, उसका कितना प्रतिशत पूरा हो गया है ?

Sardar Majithia: The strength today is 98 per cent of the authorised strength.

Shri Yajnik: The hon. Member has said that it is 98 per cent of the total strength. What is the target and how much has been fulfilled?

Sardar Majithia: I cannot give the number because that will be a secret.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: The hon. Minister has said that the number of men in the Territorial Army is 98 per cent. Of what?

Mr. Speaker: Of the total target. He is not able to give the figure.

Shri Hem Barua: Without knowing the target, how could he quote the percentage?

Mr. Speaker: He has committed the percentage to memory. We can generally know the percentage without knowing the number.

Janta Policy

*983. { **Shri Gajendra Prasad:**
Shri Heda:
Shri Daman.

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has started its Janta Policy Scheme

(b) if so, the progress made so far;

(c) in how many centres Janta Policy Scheme has been started in the country, and

(d) how its premia compare with other types of policies?