

it is an expanding demand. It is very difficult to say that it will meet the entire demand in the country. With regard to the capacity of the plant, I haven't got the details with me.

**Shri Shivananjappa:** May I know when it is going into production?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I think it is ready for going into production. I think some sort of trial tests have already taken place.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Has the Government of India rendered full assistance to the Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravati, or is it treated differently from the other factories in the private sector like Tatas and the Indian Iron and Steel Company?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** The two cases are not comparable at all.

**Shri Shivananjappa:** May I know whether any foreign experts were engaged for this plant?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I am afraid, I haven't got that information. Coming back to the capacity of the plant, it is 17,000 tons of spun pipes per annum.

#### War Damage Compensation

\*779. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the claims of compensation for war damages pending with the claims Department in Manipur have all been disposed off;

(b) the amount of pending compensation claims still not disposed off;

(c) whether the claims department has been abolished; and

(d) if so whether the claims will be dealt with by any other department?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) Yes, Sir, with the exception of 31 claims.

(b) Rs. 12,657.62 nP.

(c) Yes.

(d) The claims will be settled by the Manipur Administration.

**Shri L. Achaw Singh:** May I know what has happened to the claims for compensation of damages caused by enemy action during last war and has Japan offered anything by way of compensation?

**Sardar Majithia:** That question was answered in the last Parliament. Anyhow, I don't mind repeating it. We did not take anything from Japan by way of compensation.

**Himachal Pradesh Territorial Council**

\*780. **Shri Y. S. Parmar:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a Resolution unanimously passed by the Members of the Himachal Pradesh Territorial Council in a Session held in October, 1957; and

(b) whether it is a fact that formal orders for the transfer of subjects allotted to it have not yet been issued?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):**

(a). Yes.

(b) No formal orders for the transfer of subjects and institutions were issued in August last.

**Shri Y. S. Parmar:** May I know whether the Government have taken any decision and, if so, what on the resolution?

**Shri Datar:** It is not necessary at this stage to take any further action. In fact they ought to have worked this Act for some time and then made suggestions.

**Shri Y. S. Parmar:** May I know whether the district Panchayats with their assets and liabilities have been transferred to the Territorial Council but the gram panchayats have not been transferred?

**Shri Datar:** I should like to have notice on this specific question.

**Shri Y. S. Parmar:** Is it not a fact that after the Territorial Council had started functioning, elections were taken in hand for the gram panchayats by the administration without the knowledge or approval of the Territorial Council which has to supervise and control them.

**Shri Datar:** So far as this particular question is concerned, I am not aware of it. But we are acting entirely under the rules and the Act.

**Shri Tyagi:** Sir, on a point of order. I would submit that the question is of a very general nature and casts aspersions on officers in general.

**Mr. Speaker:** Which question?

**Shri Tyagi:** The question which has just now been called, No. 783. It says: "whether Government are aware that officers traveling on official business obtain tickets for rail and air journeys bought by non-officials in many cases" etc. This is too general an allegation, and unless it is a matter of common knowledge, such questions, I hope, should be declared as out of order.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Where is the point of order? It is within the Speaker's power.

**Mr. Speaker:** Among thousands of questions that we receive, some such questions escape our notice. There is no good asking such general questions whether all traders are bad or whether all officers are bad or whether all officers are travelling without obtaining tickets etc. No doubt, if I had had time to apply greater scrutiny, I would have disallowed this question. There is no purpose in asking generally whether the whole Government is bad or whether all the officers are bad. If the hon. Member has any particular instance, he can bring it to my notice and if it is very serious I will allow it. Otherwise, he can ask the Minister and bring it to his notice. Such general questions lead us nowhere.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Sir, may I point out that the word "some" between the words "that" and "officers" has been left. As you know, Sir, we also write several hundred questions, and it is an omission. It is never my intention to cast an aspersion on all officers. I request you to correct the question like this, "whether Government are aware that some officers etc."

**Mr. Speaker:** I can make that correction, but even if it is "some officers"...

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** We do not have Private Secretaries and we write the questions in haste.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not quarrelling about it. As we commit mistakes, hon. Members also commit mistakes, and Office also commits mistakes. I am not quarrelling about that. On the other hand, what I say is, having regard to the general nature of the question, it leads us nowhere. There are some, there are not—how does it help us?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** May I know whether Government is prepared to answer it? Before that is known, discussion is going on.

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the harm?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** We must know the attitude...

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. Member assumes too much. That is not the way. An hon. Member raised the question that this is of too general a nature and it leads us nowhere. The hon. Member who tabled that question says that the word "some" has been inadvertently omitted. Even with respect to that, so far as this matter is concerned, even if that correction is made, I was pointing out the general nature of the question. Now, the hon. Member to the right says that we are spending away the time and, not coming to the point. It is very wrong.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Sir, I apologize if I have been misunderstood.

**Mr. Speaker:** No misunderstanding.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** I only wanted the House to be enlightened regarding the attitude of the Government on this.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is only after I allow the question and make up my mind to take it up. The hon. Member should not advise me.

Anyhow, so far as this matter is concerned, this question having been admitted, let it be answered with this correction, "whether Government are aware that some officers etc."

#### Travelling Allowance

\*783. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some officers travelling on official business, obtain tickets for rail and air journeys bought by non-officials in many cases and that for such travel, the officers claim T.A. at sanctioned rates, without having to spend any money from their own pocket;

(b) how Government ensure that such abuses are not resorted to by touring officers who have patronage; and

(c) whether Government have considered the desirability of introducing the system of Government warrants for all travels by officers to make such travels "foolproof"?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):**

(a) and (b). Any officer indulging in such abuses would have to act in the full knowledge that he is committing fraud and is also guilty of corruption thus inviting upon himself the punishment of dismissal as well as a criminal prosecution. That these consequences are a sufficient deterrent is indicated by the fact that no such

cases have come to Government's notice.

(c) The system of issuing Government warrants already exists in certain Departments. The experience of such Departments would indicate that the extension of the system to all duty journeys by all Government servants would create serious administrative and accounting difficulties and would further involve unnecessary expenditure.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Sir, one supplementary. The hon. Minister has said that the issue of warrants will create many administrative difficulties. For the Defence personnel, which is quite a pretty number, warrants are issued and no administrative trouble is experienced.

**Shri Datar:** Our number is larger. The number of government officers on the civil side would be far larger.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** This refers only to officers, not clerks and others.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Even for the police officers of the State, warrants are issued. What is the difficulty if you make it foolproof and do not give any room for misunderstanding or doubt?

**Shri Datar:** That question was considered and it was found to be very expensive and to a certain extent impracticable also.

**Shri V. P. Nayar rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** We cannot argue this.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** He has misunderstood the question. We asked about officers—some officers—and it is not a question of the rank and file. The officers by themselves will not number much. In Defence, warrants are issued for all the personnel. There should be no administrative difficulty at all.

**Shri Datar:** Anyway this is a suggestion for consideration.