

Shri Supakar: What amount of foreign exchange is likely to be saved on account of this restriction?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It is difficult to give a figure. We are assessing the entire situation. We will be able to give that information later on. We had a basic quota of £750 and each individual could use it. Many students used that for which we have no accounts. We can give the figure how much money we have given for the students in this period—Rs 3,11,00,000

Shri Supakar: I am speaking about these non-essential subjects. What amount was spent annually?

Mr Speaker: He has not got the figure and he said so also.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Finance (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Which subjects?

Mr. Speaker: The hon Minister has said that with respect to certain non-essential subjects they do not propose spending foreign exchange. What is the amount saved? I find that the hon Minister has not got the figure.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: When we look into this list, it is very difficult to decide what is essential and what is non-essential. In this matter opinions differ widely. My opinion is that something that is considered non-essential is very essential in life.

Shri Supakar: Why put any restriction at all?

Mr. Speaker: That was being considered.

Shri Hem Barua: From the statement it is seen that accountancy, study of languages, domestic science, painting, etc are dubbed as non-essential subjects.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have just ventured to say that in my opinion some of what they call non-essential subjects are vital for life.

Babina Farmers

*515. **Dr. Sushila Nayar:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state.

(a) the progress made in the payment of compensation to the displaced farmers of Babina villages, and

(b) what help, if any, has been given by the Government of India to enable the displaced farmers to be resettled by the State Government?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) A sum of Rs 46,21,558 00 has been sanctioned for payment as compensation. The Collector, Jhansi, is engaged in apportioning the amount payable to individual landowners.

(b) The Government of India have placed at the disposal of the Government of Uttar Pradesh, a sum of Rs 3 5 lakhs purely on *ex-gratia* basis, for incurring expenditure on breaking soil, digging wells etc at the new site where the villagers will re-settle.

Dr Sushila Nayar: In view of the information given by the hon Deputy Minister a few days ago that the rate of compensation is being re-examined and the same rate as given to Madhya Pradesh is likely to be sanctioned for these farmers also, may I know on what basis this sum of Rs 46 lakhs as compensation has been distributed?

Sardar Majithia: Well, as I said, this is the amount of compensation which roughly works out on the same terms as given to Madhya Pradesh. If there is any discrepancy as I said in answer to the last question, we will certainly look into it.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: The hon Deputy Minister stated that a sum of Rs 3½ lakhs has been placed at the disposal of the UP Government to make the land cultivable where these farmers are being settled. Could the hon Deputy Minister give any information as to how much land has been reclaimed, made cultivable and allotted to these farmers?

Sardar Majithia: I have not got that information with me. If the hon. Member wants I will get it from the Uttar Pradesh Government and pass it on to her.

Forces of Erstwhile States

*516. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of rank and file belonging to the Forces of erstwhile States retrenched as a result of the integration of their Armed Forces;

(b) how many of these have been re-employed and otherwise rehabilitated up-to-date; and

(c) what organisation and agency exist to look after the interests of the retrenched and help them in rehabilitation?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix III, annexure No 40]

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: It has been stated that more than 41,000 persons were retired and they are treated on a par with the ex-servicemen. May I know what reasons weighed with the Government in treating these persons, who were prematurely retired, on a par with those persons who retire in the normal course?

Sardar Majithia: These are the personnel in the State Forces. They were not fully up to the mark the soldiers in the Indian Army. Those who were found fit were absorbed and those who were not found fit were retired.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Sir, my question has not been answered. My question was, what is the Government's justification in treating these persons, who were retired prematurely as a result of integration, on a par with those persons who retire in the normal course.

Sardar Majithia: The justification, as I said, was that these are the people who were not up to the mark and we did not want them. We have certainly checked up each and every case about their fitness. We did not want them, and we could not take them on.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: Is there any connection between this retrenchment and the Bhooswamy Movement of Rajasthan?

Sardar Majithia: No, Sir; not that I am aware of.

Shri Jaipal Singh: In furtherance of my supplementary the other day when I was advised by the hon. Deputy Minister to Table a separate question—now it comes under part (c) of this question—may I know whether there is a specific fund for the resettlement of demobilised persons and, if so, what is the present amount of that fund?

Sardar Majithia: Well, Sir, for the demobilised soldiers we have got various schemes.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I want to know the amount.

Sardar Majithia: Of course, the Reconstruction Fund also deals with them, it is a couple of crores of rupees, if I am not wrong.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know if the hon. Deputy Minister is aware that as a result of integration the Armed Forces have been put at a more disadvantageous position than the civilians who were given more generous terms in the integration and were absorbed?

Sardar Majithia: I was not aware of that; I will look into that question.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: In view of the large number of persons still remaining un-rehabilitated, may I know whether the Government have any effective scheme to give employment to these people and, if so, how many of these people are likely to get employment in 1957-58?