

Shri Humayun Kabir: We have not as Government received any offer of assistance for education from the Rockefeller Foundation. When we receive an offer, we shall certainly consider this allocation.

Army Trucks

*723. **Shri Parulekar:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an order for supplying 1,500 3-ton 4x4 Dodge vehicles was placed with Messrs Premier Automobile Company Limited, Bombay in 1952;

(b) whether any complaints were received that defective vehicles had been supplied;

(c) if so, whether Government have investigated into the complaints made against the Company; and

(d) if so, the decisions taken on the investigation report?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Two orders for the supply of 1500 3-ton 4x4 vehicles were placed with the firm in 1952.

(b) to (d). A complaint regarding supply of defective vehicles was received and it was investigated by the Special Police Establishment. After investigation, it was found that no charge under the Criminal Law could be established against the firm. The case was departmentally investigated and it was found that the firm had used some reworked parts. The firm have given a guarantee to replace the reworked parts free if they fail prematurely within a period of three years although the normal warranty is for three months only. These instructions have been modified and Army Inspectors will no longer be allowed to pass any vehicle as new which contains any reworked part.

Shri Parulekar: May I know whether it is a fact that the person who brought these matters to the notice of

Government has been victimised by the Premier Automobile Company?

Sardar Majithia: That does not concern Defence in any case and it is not within the knowledge of the Defence Department.

Shri Nath Pai: In view of the fact that this company has supplied defective parts to our Armed Forces, will Government still consider giving orders to the company for the supply of further vehicles?

Sardar Majithia: As I said, there were no defective parts, but they were re-worked. I am quite sure the hon. Member knows what that means. When the parts are received in the knocked-down condition, there might be slight dents which are pruned by the machines. This is the standard practice not only here but in the U.K. and the U.S. as well.

Shri Jadhav: May I know whether the vehicles asked for were to be new or reconditioned ones?

Sardar Majithia: The vehicles were new; but certain parts were re-worked; and I have already mentioned what re-worked is.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Central Zonal Council and Dacoit Menace

☐ * 694. { **Shri V. C. Shukla:**
Shri Ramachwar Tandia:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1730 on the 18th April, 1958, and state:

(a) whether the problem of dacoit menace in Madhya Pradesh and U.P. was taken up for further consideration in any subsequent meeting of the Central Zonal Council; and