

appointments of such persons were terminated under section 11(2) of the Life Insurance Corporation, Act, 1956. The appointments of persons, who were above the age of retirement fixed by the Corporation, were also terminated.

Central Harijan Welfare Board

*348. **Shri Thimmaiah:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) how many meetings of the Central Harijan Welfare Board and the Central Advisory Board for Tribal Welfare were held since their inception; and

(b) the subjects discussed and the decisions arrived at?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House, [See Appendix II, annexure No. 53.]

Kundara (Kerala) Clay

*350. { **Shri V. P. Nayar:**
Shri P. K. Kodiyam:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any systematic investigation of the Kundara area of Kerala State for China clay and refractory clay deposits; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Reserves of 7.5 million tons have been proved so far. The results of the investigation made by the Geological Survey in 1956-57 are not yet available.

Surplus Capacity in Ordnance Factories

*351. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent of surplus capacity in ordnance and clothing factories at present; and

(b) what steps are being taken to utilise that capacity for civil production and civil trade?

The Minister of Defence (Shri V. K. Krishna Menon): (a) While in some factories, there is no surplus capacity at all in others the surplus ranges between 30 per cent to 50 per cent of the installed capacity.

(b) Some of the specialised plant and equipment provided for armament production cannot be alternatively utilised for civil production. Most of the general-purpose plant which is capable of being utilised for civil production work is already being so utilised to the extent they are available subject to Defence Services requirements.

Accommodation for Defence Employees

*352. { **Shri Kodiyam:**
Shri Warrior:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a majority of civilian personnel working in Defence establishments have not been provided with accommodation; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any programme of housing for them?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes. Government have not accepted responsibility for the provision of accommodation to civilian personnel working in Defence Establishments.

(b) In certain stations where accommodation is not easily available and adequate transport facilities do not exist, Government are considering the question of provision of accommodation for some of the civilian personnel on the permanent establishment of those stations.