Sardar Majithia: They have been given some compensation according to what they were qualified to.

Oral Answers

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Are the Government aware that there was a preliminary order which was suspended when a writ was moved in the Travancore-Cochin High Court and it was during the pendency of this writ that the President passed orders disbanding these persons?

Sardar Majithia: I do not think that is correct.

Sardar Hukam Singh: It may not be in the public interest to disclose what number has been recruited afresh. But can we know whether any number out of these demobilised personnel has been absorbed against any recruitment?

Sardar Majithia: As I said, only those people were absorbed who were found suitable and fitted into the plan. Others were not.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Once when the Travancore-Cochin State Forces have been integrated into the Indian Army, is it not necessary that persons discharged from the ex-Travancore-Cochin army should also be given the same facilities for resettlement?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is arguing.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF BIJAPUR

- *361. Shri R. G. Dubey: (a) Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state whether any detailed geological survey of the mineral wealth in the District of Bijapur, in Bombay State has ever been made?
- (b) If so, is it a fact that gold was found in the bed of the River Malaprabha, traces of copper discovered near Khajji-doni in Bagalkot Taluka; and iron ore and manganese are richly available in the parts of the district south of the Krishna river?
- (c) Is it a fact that rich varieties of stones particularly a beautiful rose coloured granite equal in appearance to the best Aberdeen or Mount Sorrel granite and the dioritic green stone known for retaining its polish for centuries are available at Bilgi in Bijapur district?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement giving the information collected by the Geological

Survey of India as a result of the surveys carried out by its officers is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 38]

Shri R. G. Dubey: May I know. Sir, when this survey was carried out?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I cannot fell you the exact time, but the survey has been completed exhaustively.

Shri R. G. Dubey: May I know what action Government propose to take on the results of this survey?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: They cannot do much, because the results of the investigations go to show that there is not much of a possibility of exploitation of these minerals from the economical point of view.

Shri R. G. Dubey: Is it a fact that there is a possibility of developing iron ore on a small scale? If that is so, do Government propose to take any measures in this respect?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir. So far as iron ore is concerned, there are possibilities of smelting iron industry on a cottage scale. Further investigations in this regard will be undertaken.

CONDITIONS IN P.E.P.S.U.

*363. Dr. Rama Rao: (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether he undertook a tour of the Pepsu State recently?

- (b) Did the tenants all over Pepsu represent to him regarding lawlessness by landlords?
- (c) Did he get first-hand report from the actual peasants or their representatives, regarding the atrocities perpetrated by the landlords?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). I gave interviews to numerous deputations and had a long tour in the countryside and received many complaints both from tenants and landlords against each other.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know. Sir, whether Government have taken into consideration that part of the Venkatachar Committee Report saying that there are throughout the States, strong allegations and counter-allegations between the tenants and biswedars?

Dr. Katju: My hon. friend asked me about my tour and not about Venkatachar Report.

Dr. Rama Rao: This Committee was instituted by the Government of India.