

putes arise about this uncultivated territory.

My hon. friend opposite talked about firing resulting in no casualties. There are two types of firing, if I may be permitted to point out. Sometimes of course there is what might be called a conflict where firing takes place between two groups, whatever they may be—small groups or big. But normally what happens is there is this uninhabited territory in-between and when somebody is seen to come the border patrol fires, not at him so much, as in the nature of a warning and either captures him or the person runs away. That sort of firing often takes place. The border patrol is trigger-happy or rather trigger-conscious and when they hear some rustling or some such thing they fire. That is one sort of firing. The other is the one which sometimes is deliberately done—which is more objectionable—which might cause occasional casualties.

Shri T. N. Singh: In view of the large number of such incidents, has either the Pakistan Government or the Government of India ever discussed any proposal for final demarcation of the territories?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes, demarcation is taking place in many places.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it a fact that the area of land taken possession of by Pakistan on the ground that it was not cultivated, was not cultivated by our cultivators because of the fact that the Government of India which used to give protection to these cultivators later withdrew that protection?

Mr. Speaker: I think he is making a statement.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I say, Sir, that normally speaking—I cannot speak of these 22 acres consisting, maybe, of jungle and all that—but normally speaking our cultivators cultivate right up to the border.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Is there any barbed wire fencing?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no such demarcation.

Mr. Speaker: It is hundreds of miles.

GOODS PURCHASED FOR GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

*685. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of indigenous goods purchased for Government departments during the first half of the year 1952-53; and

(b) the total value of foreign goods purchased during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) and (b). The value of goods purchased for Government Departments during the first half of the financial year 1952-53 is—

Indigenous Stores	Rs. 18.30 crores.
Foreign goods	Rs. 41.88 crores.

Shri B. K. Das: What are the principal items of indigenous and foreign goods purchased?

Shri Buragohain: The main types of foreign goods purchased during the period through the Central Purchase Organisation here are motor vehicles and parts, railway materials, machine tools, power plant, cables and wires, paper insulated power cables, paper insulated telephone cables and heavy chemicals. With regard to indigenous stores, they were jute and jute products, motor vehicles and parts, cement, paper and paper products, railway materials, machine tools, power plant, cables and wires and heavy chemicals.

Shri B. K. Das: Is there any particular item which has been purchased entirely from the indigenous goods?

Shri Buragohain: I should like to have notice of that question.

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): May I add, Sir, that jute products and cement are the ones purchased entirely from indigenous sources?

Shri B. K. Das: What is the basis of the choice made as between indigenous and foreign goods?

Shri Buragohain: It is the policy of the Government to purchase indigenous products as far as possible provided they are of suitable quality and can be obtained at a reasonable price. Even where the price of the indigenous product is slightly higher than the price of the imported product preference as a rule is given to the Indian product, other things being equal.

Shri B. K. Das: Do I understand that price is the only consideration on which the purchase is made?

Shri Buragohain: Quality and the question of delivery are also considered among other things.

Shri B. K. Das: Are the purchases made through contractors or through the purchasing department of Government?

Shri Buragohain: By the Central Purchase Organisation of the Government.

Shri Dabhi: May we know the value of Khadi purchased by Government?

Shri Buragohain: I cannot say of Khadi but some handloom cloths are purchased through the Textile Commissioner.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: May I know, Sir, whether Government contractors are required to give an undertaking that they would give preference to Indian material?

Shri Buragohain: I do not follow.

Mr. Speaker: Whether Government contractors also are required to give an undertaking that they would give preference to Indian material?

Shri Buragohain: So far as contractors are concerned, there is no question of their giving an undertaking that they would give preference to Indian material because we, as purchasers, can always ensure that.

Mr. Speaker: Whether Government enforce it as a condition of the contract that the contractors will use only Indian made goods. That seems to be the point.

Shri Buragohain: That is the policy, Sir.

Shri Alfekar: May I know whether tenders are invited for the articles purchased?

Shri Buragohain: Yes, Sir. That is done.

SHIFTING OF OFFICES FROM DELHI

*686. **Shri A. N. Vidyalankar:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government are investigating the possibility of shifting some of the offices at present situated in Delhi, to some other localities?

(b) Which offices are proposed to be shifted?

(c) Which are the new stations that have so far been selected?

(d) Will the new arrangement permanently cost Government extra expenditure and if so, what is the estimate?

(e) What would be the estimated cost of building etc., at the new stations?

(f) Will the Minister-in-charge of the department so shifted, also shift his headquarters from Delhi, or a skeleton department would be kept in the capital also?

(g) What will be the approximate number of employees that will be shifted out of Delhi under this scheme?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):

(a) Yes.

(b) It is proposed to shift such offices as are not integral parts of the Secretariats of the various Ministries and whose location outside Delhi is feasible. The selection of these offices has not yet been finalised. In the meantime, however, it has been decided to shift (1) Salt Commissioner's Office and (2) the office of the Director of Agricultural Marketing and Inspection. The office of the Narcotics Commissioner has already been shifted to Simla.

(c) Simla, Mt. Abu, Dalhousie, Mussoorie and Faridabad are among the probables.

(d) There will be some extra expenditure but the amount thereof would be capable of calculation after the decision to shift a particular office is firmly taken, depending upon the requirements of that particular office.

(e) It is not for the present proposed to construct new buildings at new stations.

(f) No. The Minister will not shift, nor will it be necessary to keep a skeleton Department in the Capital.

(g) This will depend on the offices proposed to be shifted.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the experience of keeping offices at the hill stations has not been encouraging in the past?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Opinions, Sir, differ on that point.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: Will the Government see that residential accommodation to all its transferred employees is given and that the educational and other facilities that are available to its employees at Delhi will also be made available there?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Government will ensure that its employees are not worse off in the matter of residential accommodation or other facilities as a result of these shifts.