

Government to appoint him, and if so, whether the Central Government have done anything to see that he was not appointed?

Shri Datar: This question is entirely premature. Mere accusation against a man does not mean that he is guilty.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Government consider the desirability of placing this officer immediately under suspension? (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All of you will put questions? I won't allow any place for emotion.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Was the concerned Secretary under house arrest during the pendency of the police enquiry? (*Interruptions*).

Shri Namdhari: On a point of information, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Was the concerned Secretary under house arrest for sometime during the pendency of the police enquiry? (*Interruptions*).

Shri Datar: I did not follow the question, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. I do not know why there should be so much of emotion. No doubt it is an interesting question. But questions should be orderly put and answers elicited. What is the question of the hon. Member?

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Is it a fact, Sir, that the concerned Secretary was under house arrest pending police enquiry?

Shri Datar: Not to my knowledge.

Shrimati A. Kale: May I know the qualifications and length of service of this gentleman?

Shri Datar: He is a member of the Indian Civil Service, if I mistake not. I am not aware of the length of service.

Shri Bogawat: What is the reason for not suspending this gentleman?

Shri Datar: The Government have not considered it necessary to place him under suspension?

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether in reverting this officer to the State service, the Central Government had written to the State Government that his conduct had been very reprehensible and that an enquiry was to be instituted?

Dr. Katju: They know it already.

Shri Kelappan: Is that official now the first Member of the Madras Revenue Board?

Shri Datar: I should like to have notice.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know many more persons are involved? (*Interruptions*).

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Is it a fact that this officer was under suspension at the time the enquiry was started?

Dr. Katju: This is not generally the practice. Every case is taken into consideration on its own merits.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: In this particular case, was the official under suspension when the enquiry started?

Shri Datar: I am not sure that he was under suspension.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: What does the hon. Minister mean when he says 'I am not sure'.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: Will the Government make an enquiry.....(*Interruptions*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Question-hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN TRIPURA

*789. **Shri Biren Dutt:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether any development scheme has been undertaken by the Central Government in Tripura?

(b) Has it been publicised in Tripura for people's co-operation?

(c) Has any attempt been made to organise a body of workers according to the directive principle laid down by the Central Government?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). Development schemes relating to agriculture, road construction, education, medical and public health and welfare of tribal areas have been undertaken. The broad features of these schemes have been given due

publicity in the State through the local press.

(c) The Development Board of Tripura consists of the Chief Commissioner, the Secretaries of the Departments and two non-official members. A Development Committee consisting of officers of various Departments and a number of non-officials has also been formed. Bharat Sevak Samaj is also being organised.

INDIAN ARMS ACT

*796. **Shri U. C. Patnaik:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of liberalising the Indian Arms Act has been considered; and

(b) if so, on what lines Government propose to amend the existing Act?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) No

(b) Does not arise.

SUPREME COMMAND OF DEFENCE FORCES

*797. **Shri U. C. Patnaik:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the powers of the Supreme Command of the Defence Forces of India vesting in the President under Article 53(2) have been regularised after the passing of the Constitution; and

(b) if not, under what authority the President issued the two notifications terminating India's war with Germany and Japan?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) and (b). The powers to declare war and peace do not vest in the person holding the supreme command of the Armed Forces. They are the functions of the Supreme executive. They fall within the Union executive field under Article 73(1) read with entry 15 in the Union List in the Seventh Schedule, and the executive power accordingly vests in the President under Article 53(1) of the Constitution. In other words, the President acts here in his capacity as the Head of the State and not by virtue of his being vested with the supreme command of the Armed Forces.

PROPERTY DEPOSITED IN FOREIGN BANKS

*805. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the amount of property deposited

by Indian citizens in banks outside India during the period 15th August 1947 up to date (as far as possible)?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): No property has been permitted to be deposited by Indian citizens in banks outside India during the period 15th August 1947 up-to-date

FAMINE RELIEF (TAMILNAD)

*806. **Shri Balakrishnan:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether military personnel were posted in Tamilnad for famine relief work;

(b) whether military men were sent to Palni Taluk for relief work; and

(c) if so, what kind of relief work was done by the military personnel in the distressed areas?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Three Field Companies Engineers were employed on famine relief work in Tamilnad.

(b) One platoon of a Field Company was employed for relief work at Palni.

(c) 96 wells were deepened and a satisfactory yield of drinking water was obtained.

SYNTHETIC RICE

*897. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the terms of reference of the Committee set up to investigate the possibilities of large scale production of synthetic rice and to formulate a detailed scheme for achieving the most economical and expeditious development in its manufacture;

(b) whether any quantity of such rice has been produced in India; and

(c) if so, by what agency and how far it compares with the ordinary rice?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) The Committee was appointed to investigate the possibilities of large scale production of synthetic rice and to report to the Government of India on the technical and commercial aspects of the production of synthetic rice on a large scale and to suggest the necessary arrangements for marketing it.