

culating the pensions of Jawans, Ratings and airmen which brought uniformity in the three services and parity with civil Government servants after 25 years of service?

(c) If so, have Government accepted this recommendation?

(d) Are Government aware that acceptance of the Gadgil Committee report will further liberalise the pension of the civil servants and increase the disparity between the pensions of military and civil servants?

(e) Do Government propose to apply the recommendations of the Gadgil Committee to the Defence Service personnel?

**The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi):** (a) to (e). The report of the Armed Forces Pension Revision Committee was submitted to Government on the 1st August 1950. The recommendations of the Committee were not unanimous. The pensionary rules are numerous and complex and their revision involves considerable financial implications. The detailed examination of the Committee's recommendations has now been practically completed and it is hoped that final conclusions on various aspects of the revision of the present pension code will be reached within the next 3 months. Meanwhile, the present rates of pension, which have been in force from various dates since 1947, continue to be payable, supplemented, in the case of small pensions of Rs. 100/- and below, by temporary increases sanctioned to meet the extra cost of living. The recent decisions of Government on the report of the Gadgil Committee will be duly taken into account in formulating the new pension code for personnel of the armed forces.

#### RENT CONTROL ACT IN TRIPURA

\*1293. **Shri Biren Dutt:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Rent Control Act in Tripura State; and

(b) if not, what steps Government propose to take to give protection to the tenants against ejection by landlords?

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

(b) The question of the extension of the West Bengal Rent Control Act to Tripura with suitable modifications is under the consideration of the Government.

#### RENEWAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

\*1296. **Shri Buchhikotalah:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether any circular has been issued recently regarding the "Renewal of scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students" during the year 1953-54?

(b) If so, what are the contents of the circular?

(c) When was it issued?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) Yes.

(b) A copy of the circular letter is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 4]

(c) The circular letter accompanied each letter of payment of 1st half-yearly instalment for 1952-53 scholarships issued from October, 1952 to March, 1953.

#### LACCADIVE ISLANDS

\*1302. **Shri N. P. Damodaran:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether Government have considered for purposes of the defence of our country, the importance of the Laccadive Islands, off the Coast of Malabar, in the Arabian Sea?

(b) If so, what steps have Government taken for the defence of these islands?

**The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi):** (a) and (b). As the hon. Member would expect, our defence plan takes note of these Islands but obviously the details cannot be divulged without detriment to public interests.

#### STORES PURCHASED BY THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

\*1304. **Shri Bansal:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing details of the stores purchased by the Ministry during the financial years 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53?

(b) Had adequate consideration been given for finding supplies in the country at the time of purchasing stores from abroad?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) A statement giving the broad categories and value of stores purchased against Defence requirements is placed on the