

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I am not responsible for any report of alleged statements made by my colleague, but to the best of my knowledge he made no such statement and if any such statement has appeared in the papers, then he has been misreported.

**Shri T. S. A. Chettiar:** May I know, Sir, the amount of loan and grant asked for by the Madras Government for the current year and last year and how much has been sanctioned by the Government of India?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** The position is this. The Madras Government sent a letter on the 17th April 1953 through the Ministry of Food and Agriculture giving an account of the cost of relief measures undertaken so far in the drought-affected areas of Madras State from 1st October, 1951 to 28th February, 1953. The total given was Rs. 916 lakhs. Now this includes some items which are admissible for a contribution either in the form of a grant or a loan from the Centre and other items which continue to be the concern of the State Government. So far as the items which are eligible for assistance are concerned, their total comes to nearly Rs. five crores. Of that Rs. 320 lakhs is for relief works and about Rs. 100 lakhs is for gruel centres, fodder operations, and so on and so forth. This latter is entitled to a grant of about half the amount, and Rs. 1 crore and 47 lakhs have been given to the Madras State as a grant.

In regard to relief works, that is to say Rs. 320 lakhs accommodation has been found by the Centre by the purchase of the Government securities owned by the Madras State to the extent of Rs. 2 crores, which is in excess of the 50 per cent. assistance that is undertaken by the Centre.

**Shri Kelappan:** Is Government aware that almost famine conditions prevail among the fishermen folk in the western coast due to scarcity of fish?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I am sorry I am not aware of this, but I shall take steps to find out if there are any special pockets of scarcity or famine conditions such as those mentioned by the hon. Member.

**Shri Raghuramiah:** Arising out of the answer given by the hon. Minister may I take it that the Madras Government have apprised the Government of India about the existence of acute famine conditions in Rayalaseema and particularly the coastal districts like East Godavari?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Sir, the Madras Government have placed all the material that is available with them at our disposal. If there is any difference of opinion it is in regard to the form which assistance from the Centre should take, and in that matter there are bound to be different points of view where the Centre has its own responsibilities and the Madras Government has its own responsibility. Our attempt should be to try to find out some kind of a *via media* for reconciling these two views so that relief is carried to the people who are entitled to relief.

#### STONE-AGE RELICS

\*2191. **Shri Madhao Reddi:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Stone-Age relics estimated to be about 200,000 years old, have been unearthed by the Archaeologist of Saugor University, at Deori, a village 22 miles from Saugor?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): Some red sandstone palaeoliths have been discovered but their date can be specified only after the geological stratification has been carefully examined.

**Shri Madhao Reddi:** May I know whether this matter has been referred to the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology for taking steps to exercise the necessary care of archaeological sites?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I am not aware that the matter was referred to the Advisory Board, but the Department has kept itself in close touch with all the developments and they know all about it.

**Shri Madhao Reddi:** May I know whether Government propose to take steps for further intensive survey of that area and for the excavation of the remains?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Yes, Sir, if necessary a programme in consultation with the Director of the Archaeological Department will be made for the survey.

#### FOREIGN PERSONS IN INDIAN ARMY

\*2192. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether there are persons of foreign nationality holding honorary rank in the Indian Army and if so, how many and what are their ranks?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, for what reasons and what are the qualifications necessary for such honorary ranks?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) and (b). There are three holders of honorary rank in the Indian Army who are not citizens of India, namely, His Majesty the King of Nepal, who holds the honorary rank of General, and two ex-Prime Ministers of Nepal who hold the Honorary rank of Lieutenant General.

These ranks were conferred because of the close association of Nepal with our Armed Forces.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether there is any reciprocal arrangement with Nepal in such matters, whether any Indian citizen has also been given an honorary rank in the Nepalese Army?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** General Cariappa.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** There is no question of reciprocity in this. It is an award which is conferred by the Government of India and nothing is demanded in return.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether it is the policy of the Government to confer honorary military ranks on persons coming from countries which are closely connected with India?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** As I said in the main reply, there are only three dignitaries on whom these ranks have been conferred and who hold the same at present. It all depends upon the merits and special considerations at a particular time.

**Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Is Government contemplating to give honorary ranks to Indian nationals also, to those who are interested in the Defence Department or the Defence organisation?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** That is already done, for the information of my hon. friend I may say that there are about ninety persons holding honorary ranks in the country.

**Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Government confer these honorary ranks on those who were already having those ranks but from whom those ranks have been withdrawn?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is a suggestion for action.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I do not know what the hon. Member means. If he puts a specific question the answer could be given.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. There is too much of subdued noise in the House—it is not even subdued, it

is a loud noise. Let all Members settle down.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether any honoraria are paid for these honorary ranks, and may I also know whether these honorary officers can exercise any powers over the Indian Army and, if so, what are such powers?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** They hold honorary ranks which itself implies that they are not paid anything.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I know the distinction.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** That is what he has replied.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I said honoraria.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He is exactly giving what he wanted.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Obviously the King of Nepal is not paid anything for holding this rank. That is implied in the answer. The only thing is that due honour and courtesies are shown to them when they visit our troops.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I asked something more. I want that to be answered.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It won't be answered. Hon. Members are not at all satisfied with the answers.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I want to know whether they can exercise any powers by virtue of the honorary ranks conferred upon them. That is what I had asked.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. A question is put, it is in English, so all hon. Members can understand it. An answer is given. Whatever is not given, let the hon. Member come to any conclusion. But he cannot cross-examine as in a court of law.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I am pointing out.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Hon. Members can put supplementary questions. It is open to the Minister to answer or not to answer. But I cannot allow a cross examination if an hon. Minister is floored or an hon. Member is floored on this side.

#### COLLECTION OF FINE IN VILLAGES OF MANIPUR

\*2193. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Manipur imposed col-