

on such a gigantic scale. That is all that I meant.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES RESIDING IN 'C' AREA

*927. **Shri P. Subba Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the merger of half the dearness allowance with the pay adversely affected the employees drawing salary from Rs. 76 to Rs. 107 in the matter of house-rent allowance for persons residing in 'C' areas such as Waltair, Kharagpur and Tatanagar?

(b) Do Government propose to extend the protection given to employees in 'A' and 'B' areas to those in 'C' areas as well?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) and (b). "Persons residing in 'C' areas and drawing salary from Rs. 76 to Rs. 107 per month would have been adversely affected in the matter of house-rent allowance by the merger of half the dearness allowance with the pay, but protection has been given to them just as it has been given to employees in 'A' and 'B' areas similarly affected".

Shri P. Subba Rao: May I know what sort of protection has been given?

Shri M. C. Shah: Any immediate drop in the emoluments caused by the inclusion of the dearness pay should be protected by the grant of a personal compensatory allowance which will be absorbed in increases in emoluments consequent on drawing of increments, promotions etc.

ATOMIC WEAPONS

*928. **Shri Buchhikotiah:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Army Commanders and Chiefs of Commonwealth countries met in August, 1953 to study the use of atomic weapons; and

(b) if so, whether the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army attended the above meeting?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) The Chief of the Imperial General Staff's Annual Exercise was held in the U.K. from 11th to 13th August 1953. Details of the discussions are not available.

(b) Yes.

Shri Buchhikotiah: What are the countries represented in the conference?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Commonwealth conference!

Shri K. K. Basu: May we know whether our representative had not yet submitted any report as to his participation in the conference?

Shri Tyagi: Our representative is to return to India after four or five days.

NATIONAL INCOME

*929. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have taken any steps to publish annually a statement regarding the position of National Income in India along with the publication of the Progress Report of the Five Year Plan; and

(b) if not, what steps Government propose to take to assess the National Income position along with the progress of the Plan?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). The question of publishing an annual statement regarding the National Income of India along with the Progress Report of the Five Year Plan will be considered after the recommendations of the National Income Committee in their final report become available. This report is expected to be finalised shortly.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know whether the Committee has been given any instructions as to the necessity of determining this position of national income in urban areas and also in rural areas and other figures according to different income groups?