

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** One more supplementary question, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We have had sufficient questions.

#### CLAIMS AGAINST RAILWAYS

\*1328. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to starred question Nos. 446 and 477 answered on the 13th August, 1953 and state:

(a) whether all or only a few consignees of 36 wagons admitted to have been unladen at Modinagar, laid their claims to the Railway Administration; and

(b) what was the value of the claims laid?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Sir, the Home Ministry sought the advice of the Solicitor-General who advised that the case was not one which would prove fruitful in court. Therefore the prosecution was dropped. May I know whether the special police before recommending that there was a *prima facie* case obtained any legal opinion in support of their view?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** I could not hear the question portion but I heard the argument.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Was any legal opinion taken?

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Was any legal opinion taken by the special police establishment also when they recommended that there was a *prima facie* case?

**Dr. Katju:** The question that was put was that there were 36 wagons which had been diverted to Modinagar and which had been taken over by the Modinagar Factory or as to what were the contents of those wagons and what was the value of the contents. I think the question related

only to that specific item. And the answer was that we were enquiring as to what were exactly the contents of the wagons and what is the value. It is all a matter of record that will have to be collected from the railway authorities who will be in possession of it. We are discussing this matter about compensation between the railway and the Company.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** I have given reference to the question, such and such a question dated August 1953 and the answer given....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It does not matter. I am able to follow what the hon. Minister said. With reference to that question a number of things could have been answered. The hon. Member wants only the answer with respect to the particular items that he has selected out of that answer. I think it does not refer to any legal opinion nor any suggestion that was given regarding the prosecution but only the nature and contents of the wagons etc. I think whatever might have been the answer then, this does not arise out of this question.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** So far as I can recollect the original question as framed by me included this as part of it and it has been scored out.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I will look into it.

**Shri Vittal Rao:** Sir, while answering a supplementary question on this particular Modi industries, the hon. Minister said that he would consider the question of laying a copy of the advice of the Solicitor-General on the Table of the House.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It does not again arise out of this question.

**Shri Vittal Rao:** He has given an assurance a month ago. When is he going to lay it on the Table of the House? Have the Government arrived at a decision regarding this?

**Shri Punnoose:** This is the second time that this comes up before the House. May I know what is exactly

the difficulty in collecting this information?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If this matter came up and an assurance was given, why should it not be followed?

**Dr. Katju:** I gave a complete answer to the question of prosecution. The intention to start criminal proceedings had been dropped because of the legal opinion given by the Solicitor General that the chances of success in that prosecution were extremely remote. Then the question was asked as to whether I would lay that legal opinion on the Table of the House. I said that I would consider that matter. I am considering it. I should like to know as to what procedure has been followed in the past. The opinions are always confidential. Personally I have no objection whatsoever to lay everything on the Table of the House but would the House give me a little more time to learn the opinion of the Attorney-General and the Solicitor General in these matters. After all these are confidential matters.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Next question.

**Some Hon. Members:** The question-hour is over.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We have disposed of only a few questions.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### STUDY OF CERAMICS

\*1315. **Shri B. C. Das:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have sent abroad during the years 1945-53 Indian students on scholarships for study of Ceramics and to specialise in the manufacture of electrical insulators; and

(b) how are the services of such foreign trained persons utilised?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Re-**

**search (Maulana Azad):** (a) Five of the scholars who were sent abroad for the study of Ceramics under the Government of India's Overseas Scholarships Scheme—1945-48 received special training in the manufacture of electrical insulators.

(b) Three of the scholars are suitably employed in Government Departments; one is employed abroad; the employment position of the fifth is not known, as he has not kept in touch with the Government.

### SUBMISSION OF PERIODICAL REPORTS TO PRESIDENT

\*1320. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed any period within which periodical reports required to be submitted to the President under the Constitution or under any law made by Parliament, should be submitted; and

(b) if so, whether such reports are being submitted to the President within the specified time?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) and (b). I lay on the Table of the House a statement containing information in respect of my Ministry. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 36].

Similar information from other Ministries is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

### HOUSING TECHNIQUE AND CHEAP HOUSING

\*1329. **Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the places and centres visited by the Committee appointed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research to study housing techniques and methods for cheap housing; and