

Certainly, I have no objection to consulting the Indian Federation of Working Journalists.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Shri A. N. Vidyalkar: I am not putting Question No. 649. I am putting Question No. 650.

VERIFICATION OF CLAIMS OF DISPLACED PERSONS

***650. Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a number of displaced persons due to old age, ill-health and other such causes could not appear before the Claims Commissioner in order to get their claims verified?

(b) What arrangements have been made or are proposed to be made to cover such hard cases, and to afford such persons adequate facilities to get their claims verified?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) There is no information that any claimant could not appear before the Claims Officer on account of the reasons mentioned in the question. Even if that be a fact, the claimants had the facility to appear through agents who could be appointed by a simple letter of authority not needing court-fee stamp.

(b) No arrangement is considered necessary.

Shri Gidwani: Are the Government aware that even disabled claimants were asked to appear before the Claims Officers, miles away from their places of residence?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The facilities offered show that the Claims Officers were permitted to tour extensively to undertake verification of claims at places where the claimants were residing. Therefore there is no question of going miles away.

लाला अचिन्त राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी कृपा करके बतलायेंगे कि ऐसे आदमियों की गिनती कितनी है जिन्होंने क्लेम्स के वेरिफिकेशन के लिये रिमाइन्डर 346 PSD.

भेजे हैं और जिन के लिये दफतर में मालूम हुआ कि उनकी ऐप्लीकेशन ही नहीं है।

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : मेरे पास तो इस की कोई सूचना नहीं है। लेकिन जिनके क्लेम्स दाखिल नहीं हुए हैं उन की तादाद बहुत थोड़ी है, चार लाख में करीब चार हजार।

लाला अचिन्त राम : मेरा सवाल मुस्तलिफ़ है।

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : आप ने जो कुछ पूछा उस की सूचना मेरे पास इस समय नहीं है ?

Shri Gidwani: If there are any such hard and genuine cases, where on account of disability the claimants could not appear before the claims officers, and the claims officers also did not care to go to the places where they were residing, will the Government consider the question of giving them facilities?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: In a press note issued on 27th May 1953, an assurance has been given that the claims that were filed, but could not be verified on account of reasons other than the default of the claimants, will be verified, provided a request in writing to that effect has been made before the expiry of the Claims Act.

Shri Gidwani: The 'word' used is default. Supposing a person is a disabled person,—I know personally of a blind person who was asked to go from Kolapur to Sholapur but he could not appear due to reasons of disability. Will this be considered a default on his part?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I will ask the hon. Member to convey this suggestion to the Ministry.

DISPLACED LAND OWNERS FROM N.W.F.P. ETC.

***651. Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that dis-