

Shri K. D. Malaviya: On the suggestion of the Chief Minister of Madras, consideration of this scheme by the C.A. Board was postponed.

Mr. Speaker: Question No. 1074.

Next question.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Sir, there is my question—1074.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member did not stand when called upon. I am sorry. We will take it up after all the questions are finished.

GRAM STOCK IN PEPSU

***1075. Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state what was the stock of gram with the Government of PEPSU when the Civil Supplies Department was disbanded?

(b) What was the value of these stocks?

(c) In how many places were these stocks lying?

(d) To whom has this work of Civil Supplies Department been entrusted?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Approximately 1,68,820 maunds.

(b) Approximately Rs. 18,57,020.

(c) These stocks were lying in the mandies in the various Districts.

(d) Mainly to the Deputy Commissioners.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What was the stock for which partial payment had been made by the Government when those stocks had been sealed?

Dr. Katju: I have no information about it.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that a good portion of those stocks for which partial payment had been made had been procured at one price, and were released and allowed to be sold to private traders at a much higher price?

Dr. Katju: Will the hon. Member give notice for such information? I really do not know.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Has the Government received complaints that some stocks were released by the Adviser, to be sold by the traders at a much higher price to gain profits and part of which would be available to the Congress party for the next election?

Dr. Katju: None whatsoever. This information should never be repeated.

COMMODITY PRICES IN PEPSU

***1076. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rates of the commodities that were procured and brought to the markets in PEPSU were fixed by the Procurement Staff of the Civil Supplies Department;

(b) whether any agency has been discharging these duties since the abolition of this department in toto; and

(c) whether any complaints have been received from markets in PEPSU that the producers are being denied proper prices for want of any agency to look after their interests?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What is the agency that has been brought about to see that the rates are fixed?

Dr. Katju: The question was: whether any agency has been discharging these duties since the abolition of this department in toto. The answer to it is: an agency has been established.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What is the agency?

Dr. Katju: The question is: whether any complaints have been received from markets....