

BARTER DEAL WITH RUSSIA

*155. **Shri S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in one of the two barter deals with Russia in regard to the import of wheat, India suffered loss; and

(b) if so, to what extent and for what reasons?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). Government of India entered into three barter deals with Russia for the import of wheat. Under these agreements, either party had to supply specified quantities of specified commodities. The full quantities specified in the Agreements were supplied by both the parties concerned and the question of any loss on the deal does not, therefore, arise.

SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD

*156. **Shri S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to set up the Soil Conservation Board at the Centre?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): The establishment of the Board will, it is hoped, be announced soon.

RE-EMPLOYED OFFICERS IN MINISTRY OF HEALTH

*159. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers re-employed under the Ministry of Health, after they had retired from regular service; and

(b) whether before filling up a vacant post by a retired official, the Ministry had made any efforts to find out whether suitable candidates in service were available in the Centre or States?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Six.

(b) Yes, in the case of two officers. Of the remaining four one belongs to the personal staff of the Minister, one is a displaced technical officer and the other two officers specially suitable for appointment in their respective posts on account of their previous experience or training.

OFFICER ON SPECIAL DUTY

*160. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the functions of the Officer on Special Duty, Dr. K. C. K. E. Raja?

(b) When did this officer retire from regular service?

(c) What are the terms and conditions of his present service as Officer on Special Duty?

(d) What are his monthly emoluments in the present post and what is his pension for his regular service from which he retired?

(e) Had Government advertised the post now held by him or was he directly appointed by the Government of India?

(f) If the answer to the latter part of (e) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons for appointing this officer?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) To advise Government on the organisation and general planning of the All India Medical Institute and to assist in its development at successive stages and in this connection to serve as Member-Secretary of the All India Medical Institute Committee.

(b) On the 1st December, 1952.

(c) and (d). His present term of appointment as Officer On Special Duty extends up to the 31st May, 1954, or until six months after the Director of the Institute is appointed whichever is earlier. He gets a consolidated pay of Rs. 2,750/- inclusive of a total pension of Rs. 594/12/- per mensem.

(e) and (f). The post was not advertised. Dr. Raja was specially