

that Government have organised co-operative societies for the benefit of ex-Service men?

(b) If so, what is the nature of these societies?

(c) What are the sources of finance for the said societies?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes.

(b) The Societies are of two types:

(i) Tenant Farming Co-operative Societies.

(ii) Transport Co-operative Societies.

(c) In the case of (i) above, grants are given by the Centre, States and State Post-War Reconstruction Fund Committees. Ex-servicemen colonists also contribute towards the expenditure of the Colony. If the above resources are not sufficient the Central Government gives a loan to the State Government.

Regarding (ii) above, loans are given by the State Post-War Reconstruction Fund Committees and Central Government. Settler members also contribute towards the cost of the Scheme.

CANTEENS

*1252. **Shri B. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state how many contractor-run Canteens have been replaced by Military Unit-run Canteens up to 31st July, 1953?

(b) What has been the result of this policy in the way of benefits to the Units concerned?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) 940 by the 30th November 1953.

(b) The net monthly profits of a unit of Infantry Battalion strength in terms of monetary gain are approximately Rs. 600. The benefits accruing from the policy in general are more efficient service and additional amenities to the troops.

BACKWARD CLASSES COMMISSION

*1253. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain State Governments have not been able to supply necessary statistics in conformity with the terms of reference of the All-India Backward Classes Commission; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken to accelerate the work of the Commission?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes for the present.

(b) The State Governments have been requested to fully cooperate with the Backward Classes Commission and extend every possible assistance in their work. It has also been suggested that, where possible, a Special Officer may be appointed by the State Governments, for a short period to prepare detailed replies to the questionnaire and also to furnish the information asked for by the Commission.

TRIBAL CONFERENCES

*1254. **Shri Bheekha Bhai:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many Tribal Conferences have so far been organised by the Government of India through their Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes; and

(b) whether any expenditure thereon was incurred by Government or whether they were organised by voluntary agencies?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) One.

(b) The expenditure incurred by the Government amounted to Rs. 2,090,771-

CENTRAL STATISTICAL ORGANISATION

*1255. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Decennial Census figures are taken into account or fresh