

(b) Gypsum is at present worked from four areas.

CHOWKIDARS

*1260. **Shri Valkatharas:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that chowkidars working in the barracks and stores are not allowed to avail themselves of the weekly and gazetted holidays and recess for meals;

(b) whether hours of work have been fixed for the chowkidars and if so, whether such hours are enforced;

(c) whether it is a fact that these employees are graded as temporary, regular temporary and casual workers and whether it is the policy of Government to keep them non-permanent;

(d) whether the employees have been allowed to avail themselves of their earned leave since 1st August, 1949; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Chowkidars employed in Store Yards and Store Depots are allowed the weekly and gazetted holidays by rotation. Those employed to look after vacant buildings are allowed to stay on the premises with their families and are not given holidays regularly, though leave of absence is granted when required. Although technically on duty all the 24 hours, the entire period for them is a recess.

(b) They are generally employed for 8 hours a day except those looking after the vacant buildings.

(c) They are classified as permanent, quasi-permanent, temporary and casual. Some of them become permanent when vacancies are available.

(d) Yes.

(e) Does not arise.

LAND ACQUISITION

*1262. **Shri Kanavade Patil:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages have lost their crop-cultivating lands due to

the acquisition of the same by the Government of India for the purpose of Karjune-khare Armament Ranges in Alunadnagar District;

(b) whether it is the intention of Government to return all or some of these lands in the near future, and

(c) whether the Government of India have granted any compensation for the acquired land?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) The number of the villages is 13. The lands have not so far been acquired but continue to be held under requisition.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise as lands are not acquired. The land owners are paid recurring compensation on account of requisitioning.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

*1263. **Shri Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government Servants are not banned from raising subscriptions or participating in such activities in the Community Project Schemes, under the Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Karja): There is no such general ban. A copy of the relevant orders on the subject is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 49.]

CONFIRMATION OF EMPLOYEES

*1264. **Dr. Iyanka Sundaram:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a large number of employees recruited during war in certain subordinate Departments of the Government of India have been confirmed although they did not possess the minimum academic qualifications?

(b) Is it a fact that this concession has been denied to some of the senior clerks of the same category in the Secretariat and if so, why?